

Prestige and Ceremonial for the Territorial Gunners at the Guildhall – The 135th Year of the NAA

by Captain D C Bulmer (V)

GUESTS INCLUDING The Lord Mayor of London and Master Gunner were present at the TA Gunners Annual Prizegiving Ceremony of the National Artillery Association competitions of volunteer Field and Air Defence Artillery held on 21 November 1998.

A sunny but cold winter's day welcomed the prize winners, official guests and spectators to one of London's most prestigious and historic locations - the Guildhall in the City of London. The ancient buildings surrounding Guildhall Yard provided a perfect backdrop for the Guard of Honour, who faced the saluting dais framed by two immaculate 25 pounders from the HAC. The guard this year was provided by 214 (Worcestershire) Battery(V) who were on parade with the Band of the Lancashire Artillery Volunteers.

The Master Gunner St James's Park, Field Marshal The Lord Vincent and The Lord Mayor The Lord Levene of Portsocken arrived and were greeted by the Chairman of the NAA, Col M J E Taylor.

Shorts Missile Systems Ltd, proceeded inside the Guildhall for the prizegiving in the Great Hall.

In opening the proceedings Col Taylor welcomed the guests. He spoke of the National Artillery Association and the reason for its existence with its aim to advance and promote the science and practice of Artillery in the Territorial Army. The chairman also thanked the Gunner chain of command for all the hard work in planning and carrying out the competitions.

The competitions can be divided into three main areas. Firstly, competitions arranged for the gun and surface missile regiments and batteries. Secondly those competed for by the air defence regiments and missile batteries. And finally those competitions competed for by the UOTCs. Col Taylor invited The Lord Mayor present the prizes.

The prizes for the Gun competitions commenced first. The competitions involved a different approach this year, it being difficult to establish a level playing field for a test for both 100 and 101

Regiments to compete in due to their totally different equipments, 101 Regiment having re-rolled to MLRS. As such, the Queen's Cup, the National Artillery Cup and the Surrey Goblet were not presented. Suitable replacement trophies were selected in their place. Accordingly, both commanding officers were invited to run their own inter regimental battery competitions.

100 (Yeomanry) (Field) Regiment determined that its gun batteries should enter two teams in the UK OP Competition, three guns into a Regimental Best Gun Competition and a Command post into a Regimental Command Post Competition. The results of these competitions were collated and the winners were 210 (Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire Yeomanry) Battery(V).

101 Regiment devised a competition in which batteries had to field four teams of at least five personnel. The competition took place over a two day period during practice camp which was, the time of the initial regimental conversion to MLRS and took place at Otterburn. The winners were Headquarters Battery (Tynemouth Volunteer Artillery) Battery(V).

The King George V Cup competition was competed for by



Together they inspected the Guard of Honour.

On completion, the principal guests, including The Director Royal Artillery, Brig M G Douglas Withers, Commander 7 Air Defence Brigade, Col S Gledhill, Mr Chase from British Petroleum, and Mr T Stone of

This Page

1. The newly appointed Lord Mayor of London, The Lord Levene of Portsocken, inspects the RA Band.
2. The Guard of Honour provided by 212 (Worcestershire) Battery at the present before their inspection by the Lord Mayor
3. 105 Regt(V) with the Master Gunner and the Lord Mayor show off the SMS Trophy, NAA Air Defence Inter-Regiment Competition Trophy, and the Air Defence HQ Battery Competition Cup





1. Maj A W Russell receives the 100 Regt Inter-Bty Competition Trophy from the Lord Mayor
 2. Maj M S Lloyd receives the King George V Cup
 3. SUO D White receives the King George VI Cup
 4. WO2 Murray receives the 101 Regt Inter-Bty Competition Cup
 5. Maj S C Hitchman receives the BP Trophy from Mr Chase of British Petroleum
 6. 103 Regt show off their prizes (L-R): The CO, Lt Col R Burton, Maj L Forbes with the Manorbier Trophy, Maj A Forbes with the Taurus Trophy, Lt G Mystery with the Dodds Trophy, Col M Taylor, the Honorary Colonel

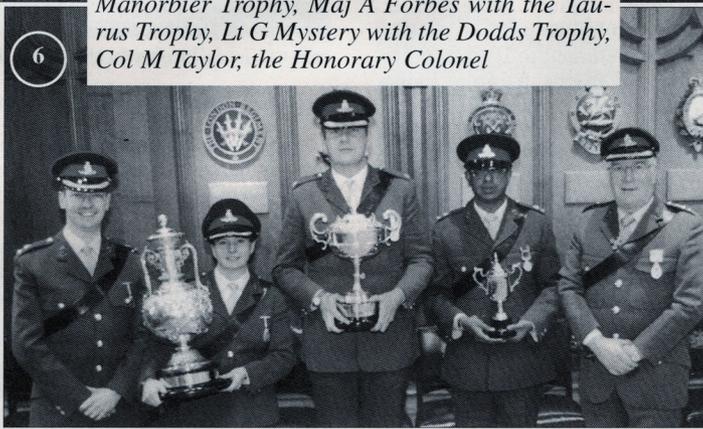
reflects the scores of each of the batteries in each of the individual competitions as well as the conduct of the Commanding Officers orders. This year 105 Air Defence Regiment won for the second year.

Finally, prizes were presented for the UOTC competitions.

The King George VI cup is competed for by the eight University Officer Training Corps. This year the competition was based on two one week training periods at which each OTC deployed two Light Guns one Command Post and an OP party. By a small margin Northumbria UOTC won.

On completion of the prizegiving the Lord Mayor addressed the assembly, and spoke of the proud association of the City of London with the volunteer forces. Lord Vincent then proposed a vote of thanks to Lord Levene for presiding and for allowing the use of the historic Great Hall. In closing he added his own congratulations to the winners.

After a photocall to show off the prizes, there was a reception in the Crypt which concluded a very successful day and another great year for the Territorial Gunners. Already the preparation and planning for the 1999 competitions is well underway.



The Prizes and The Winners

COMPETITION	WINNERS	RECIPIENT
100 RA(V) Inter Battery Competition	201(Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire Yeomanry) Bty RA(V)	Maj A W Russell RA(V)
101 Regiment RA(V) Inter Battery Competition	HQ(Tynemouth Volunteer Artillery) Bty RA(V)	WO2 Murray
King George V Cup	269(West Riding) Bty RA(V)	Maj M S Lloyd
The BP Trophy	214(Worcestershire) Bty RA(V)	Maj S C Hitchman RA(V)
The Manorbier Trophy	216(The Bolton Artillery) Bty RA(V)	Maj L Forbes
The SMS Trophy	206(Ulster) Bty RA(V)	Maj P Shepherd RA(V)
The Taurus Trophy	208(West Riding) Bty RA(V)	Maj A J G Forbes RA(V)
The Dodds Trophy	209(The Manchester Artillery) Bty RA(V)	Lt G Mystery RA(V)
Air Defence Headquarters Battery Competition	HQ(City of Edinburgh) Bty 105 Regt RA(V)	WO2 N Tymoczko
National Artillery Association Air Defence Inter Regiment Competition	105 Regt RA(V)	LT Col J A B Kinloch RA(V)
King George VI Cup	Northumbria UOTC	SUO D White