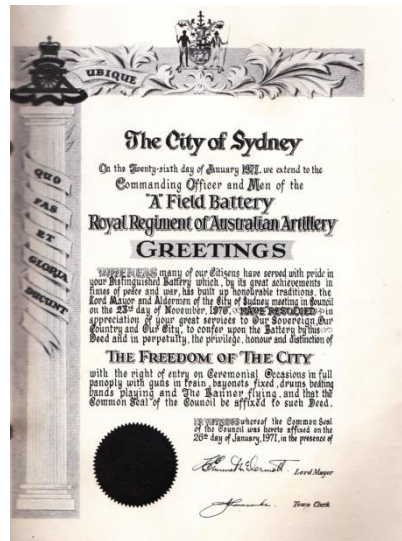


THE KING'S BANNER

(Source: Programme for Freedom of the City of Sydney A Field Battery 26 January 1971)



The King's Banner was presented to the Royal Australian Artillery in 1904 by his Majesty King Edward VII as a special mark of favour in recognition of valuable service in the South African War of 1899-1902 by "A" Battery of the royal Australian Artillery.

General Order 243 of Thursday, 20th October, 1904, published under the heading of "Royal Review", stated:

"This Order notified that a Royal Review of the Metropolitan Troops of the Commonwealth Military Forces of Victoria will be held in Melbourne on Monday 14th November, in Commemoration of the Birthday of His Majesty King Edward VII and that His Excellency the Governor-General and Commander in Chief will present, by direction of his majesty, The King's Colours to 18 Light Horse Regiments, the Royal Australian Artillery and the Australian Medical Corps in commemoration of Services in South Africa."

The Colour was consecrated by Military Chaplains and presented by His Excellency the Governor-General The Right Honourable Lord Northcote, G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E, C.B, to a detachment of an officer and two other members of the Royal Australian Artillery. They were Captain S.E. Christian, the Battery Sergeant Major W Coleman and Staff Sergeant R. Colburne, all members of 'A' Battery.

In later Military Orders the title of the Colour was changed to the "King's Banner".

The Banner is a plain Union Flag with a gold and crimson fringe. Mounted on a pike is an Edwardian Crown surmounted by a Lion. A gold cord and tassel hangs under the Crown. On the pike is a silver plaque with the following inscription:

Presented By His Most Gracious Majesty, The King Emperor

to the

Royal Australian Artillery In recognition of services rendered to the Empire in South Africa 1904