

## **A BUSY WEEKEND FOR THE RESERVE FORCE GUNNERS OF THE WESTERN CAPE**

The weekend's activities commenced with a Tiddler (cocktail party) at the WO's and Sgts Mess of the Cape Field Artillery (CFA) on Friday evening, 23 March 2012.

On the Saturday morning four gunners were afforded the opportunity to fire an 18<sup>th</sup> Century cannon, belonging to the Hout Bay Heritage Trust, at Hout Bay. They were:

Gnr D. Hoole – National Chairman Gunners' Association.  
Col J. Baird – Chief of Staff – ADA Formation.  
CWO D.T.W. Lennie – ADA Formation Sergeant Major.  
SWO M. Rumble – RSM Natal Field Artillery.

They were supported by Maj Gen (Ret) P. Pretorius and Maj Gen R. Andersen, previous recipients of this honour.

On the afternoon of Saturday, 24 March 2012, the activities shifted to Fort Wynyard for a Change of Command Parade at the Cape Garrison Artillery. After a seven year term as Officer Commanding, Major Vidius Archers handed over to Lt Col J.J. Visser at a well structured parade.

The parade was attended by the General of the Gunners, Maj Gen R.C. Andersen, Chief of Staff ADA Formation, Col J. Baird, Honorary Colonel, Sir David de Villiers Graaff as well as Capt (SAN) T. Moram, SSO Reserves in the Western Cape.

The final activity was the emotional but well organised Annual Gunners' Memorial Service in the Gardens in Cape Town. The guard of honour and salvo troop were provided by the CFA. The Chaplain was padre A. Bethke who, having had an illustrious career in the SA Navy in the Regular Force is now a member of the SA Army Reserves.