



The English 9 pounder RML Field Gun (RGF No 1128 Mk II 1871) DURR number 264

The 9 pounder RML Field gun Mark II of 8 cwt was taken into service in England in 1873 and was designated "For Naval Service".

These field guns were not intended for use at sea but were meant for use by naval personnel when they were deployed as land forces.

It is likely that this gun and carriage were transferred to the SA Navy when the Royal Navy left South Africa.

How did the Field gun end at Nitida Cannon Station by Martin Venter.

CAOSA was taking part in the Navy Festival when a Naval Officer approached me and stated there are two field guns standing next to a Navy building, who are in a terrible state and he asked if I could do something about it. I went to inspect the two guns and found them in very poor condition, the wheels were rotten and the guns were going to collapse any day soon if we don't rescue them. I then approached the Flag Officer Fleet, in charge of the Navy in Simon's Town and with his blessing removed the two guns to the Naval workshops for proper assessment and repairs.



Field gun being offloaded at Naval workshops

The agreement between the Flag Officer Fleet and myself was, that if the Navy workshops could repair both then one will remain with the Navy and I can become

the custodian for the other one with the understanding that if there is no more need for the gun, it would be returned to the Navy.

The one gun was then moved to Chavonnes Battery museum, where the gun was in regular use until about three years ago when the gun became an exhibition item only.

After careful consideration I decided to move the gun to Nitida cannon station as this will be the only place where the gun will be fired on a regular basis.



The Gun is being offloaded at Nitida wine farm by Rob Nash (Machine moving and rigging) under the watchful eye of Bernhard Veller owner of the wine farm.

Start of gun restoration

The two wheels were removed and transported in Erick's Landrover to Jurg's house where the wheel restoration took place.



The old gunner hard at work



A number of spokes were loose with gaps up to 3,5mm



First wheel is back to its former glory



Field gun ready for transport to dam wall at Nitida wine farm



Mannie, Klaas, Azziz and Eugene pushing, pulling the field gun up to top of dam wall, assisted by Sjaak, Jacus and Erick



The 9 pounder RML Field gun Mark II in position at Nitida Cannon Station



First firing of 9 pounder RML Field gun Mark II at Nitida Cannon Station on Friday 6 December 2019

Should you be interested in firing a cannon, or would like more information regarding the displayed cannon, please contact us

E mail: info@nitidacannonstation.co.za
Web site: www.nitidacannonstation.co.za