



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

RAEME Association Queensland members – welcome to Edition 1/17 of Spanner News in our Corps’ 75th Anniversary year. I will start by congratulating our members for making **ALL** of our activities in 2016 a wonderful success. We continue to grow our membership and are constantly seeing new and increased numbers of faces at functions and monthly meetings. Thank you for your support and participation.

I’d like to make special mention of the “All Ranks Luncheon in November 2016”, which, as a trial, was moved to an earlier date to avoid the Christmas Function congestion in SE QLD. It seems the move to early November was a sound choice and our Function Organiser, Shad Marsh (RAQ Secretary), did a stellar job – thanks Shad, great job, well done!! We had our biggest roll up ever at our most recent luncheon, which created an excellent atmosphere. Our two official guests, the current HOC, Brigadier Haydn Kohl, and the Deputy Director of Plan Centaur, COL Ed Smeaton, both enjoyed their time with RAQ members and passed on their thanks for being invited and treated to our famous RAQ hospitality.

Please note our Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast gatherings are growing in size and provide an excellent opportunity to gather the troops in these highly-populated regions – we know there are many others in these areas we’d like to see at our events, so keep sussing them out! Thank you to the GC and SSC function organisers – well done, it heartening to see attendance growing year on year.

2017 is loaded and ready to GO! Our first major activity is ANZAC Day, where we have been given a Position of Prominence (No 38) on the Parade, well towards the front, and directly behind, Army and the ‘100 Person’ RAEME Guard, for the Prince Philip Banner. We expect big numbers to march with our RAQ contingent, and have issued an invitation to all RAEME units and other RAEME associations to join us for this important 75th celebration. Naturally the invitation extends to the post-march activities at the Port Office Hotel.

Our post-march ANZAC Day RAQ function is expected to be fully subscribed – with over 600 RAEME personnel expected to attend. Tickets are available through the RAQ On Line Shop – don’t be disappointed by leaving your ticket purchase to the day. We will try to accommodate you, but it is better to register now and be 100% certain of entry.

All the best for 2017,

Jeff Maurice
Chairman RAQ
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FROM THE COL COMDT

Greetings Spanners. As with previous years, 2017 is shaping to be a busy year! I am aware that QLD based RAEME officers and soldiers are in the thick of things with operational and non-operational deployments to the Middle East and a number of other places across the globe. For some, the recent deployments have occurred whilst your families were still getting to know their new local environment: new jobs, new schools and in some cases, new accommodation. My only piece of advice is “keep your families informed so that the ‘big’ move does not get bigger”.

I know it’s been a while since the 2016 RAEME birthday celebrations, however it would be remiss of me not to recognise your efforts throughout QLD, supporting RAEME birthday events. From all accounts, regardless of your locations, the quality of RAEME birthday celebrations was outstanding. Well done and I also wish to extend my thanks to your respective chains of command for allowing units to participate.

This year we all have the privilege of celebrating the Corps’ 75th birthday, and whilst your respective calendars are rapidly filling, I also know that plans are well in train throughout QLD to ensure that the 75th

RAEME Birthday celebrations have a high priority. Thankfully, the HOC and Corps Committee have agreed to allocate some funds to support commemorative activities. Please reach out to the extended RAEME communities in your respective areas to ensure they too are included in and benefit from your local celebrations.

Many of you by now have been exposed to Plan CENTAUR. Regardless of your rank and role, it's important to keep yourself informed on the proposed initiatives and work streams, so you can contribute. For some, changing the way we have done business to date, could be perceived as a threat; but to many, Plan CENTAUR presents many opportunities to improve the current maintenance paradigm for Land Materiel. Either way I think it's healthy to have input from **ALL** members of the Corps to get balanced outcomes. So, the onus is on every RAEME officer and soldier serving in the ARA and ARES, to research Plan CENTAUR, and get involved.

One of my goals this year will be to travel to NQ to meet with folks in and around Townsville. Dates are yet to be finalised; however, I have spoken with some of the Townsville based personnel, and all going well, I should be able to take part in at least one activity this year. I look forward to catching up with many of you at that time.

Arte et Marte,

Tony Borg
COL COMDT – QLD
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MEMBERSHIP/TREASURER'S REPORT

Hello again RAQ Members, and others – can you believe another year has passed and we are well into 2017?

Not a lot to report on the Treasurer's front, now I have settled into the position, but importantly, the books continue to balance each month. The RAQ is in a sound financial position to meet all current and known future liabilities. One bit of news, I have amended some processes slightly, one of these is that I no longer send copies of receipts to everyone after they have paid for something. However, if a receipt is required, then please contact me, and it will be despatched.

On the membership side, we continue to grow, and new members since the last Spanner News are shown below.

I'm sure that a lot of the new memberships are from current members asking that question when they catch up with mates "Are you a member of the RAEME Association Queensland" and if not "Why haven't you joined?" So, keep up the good work, and let me know why they haven't joined.

Life Subscription – Robert Bowring, Ian Moorhouse, Graeme Harding, Gary Burke, Russell Gordon, Neil Butcher, Tony Gordon, Jordon Klowss, Alan Meiklejohn, David Vaughan, Gary MacLachlan, Barry Tiller, Bert Barker and Ted McKellar.

Annual Subscription – Col Burg, Alan Smith, Jesse Smith, Wayne Tarrant, Rod Talbot, Kelvin Rees and Patrick Marshall.

Regards,

Steve Howells
Membership/Treasurer
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SECRETARIAL MATTERS

Our team has been bolstered recently by a new Assistant Secretary, Reid Ossington. Reid joined RAEME as a 49th intake vehicle mechanic. He spent 15 years in the ARA before transferring to the active reserves in 2008 as a Sergeant. His reserve service has been concentrated in Enoggera with various 11 Brigade unit changes, and successfully through ASWOC, he was commissioned lieutenant, in August 2016. He is currently the workshop commander for Townsville and Central Queensland 108 Field Workshop detachments. Reid's professional career includes 8 years with Hastings Deering and is currently the Commercial Projects Manager for CitySmart.



Reid Ossington – Assistant Secretary

Reid's new role as my assistant, entails jointly attending all RAQ meetings, where possible and ensuring one of us is able to attend routinely. Reid has also volunteered to assist in the coordination of this year's All Ranks Luncheon to be held on Sunday 5th November, 2017. Welcome to the team, Reid.

Regards,

**Shad Marsh
RAQ Secretary**



RAEME NATIONAL ASSOCIATION REPORT – CHANGES AT THE TOP.

The purpose of this report is to provide advice on the progress of handing over my responsibilities, as the President of the RAEME National Association (RNA), to the incoming President, Dennis Clarke. I also want to provide readers with a general report on the activities of the RNA. Dennis Clarke of RAV, and the Victorian Vietnams Veterans Chapter, will take over my responsibilities as President in April 2017. He is also the current Vice President of RNA.

Firstly, may I highlight the ongoing work of Ray Norman, and his helpers, in managing the Spanner Pack Program – their work is first class and their results are the envy of other Corps. I am sure all Corps Committee Members have seen the letters of thanks from deployed RAEME soldiers and officers expressing their gratitude.

Secondly, on the technology front, the RNA is extremely fortunate to have a loyal band of webmasters, including Richard Legge, Alex Smithers, Dean Ellis, Pete Matthews, Craig Mahoney, Lyell Wedd and Pat Marley who make up the RAEME National Support Team (RNST). These guys put in an extraordinary amount of personal time to enhancing, maintaining and protecting the RNA website, along with supporting the state organisations with websites and internal processes. They are also key to the ongoing growth with the RAEME social network.

Thirdly, another major milestone was recently realised, when the 'members view of RAEME Corps History' on the RNA website was opened in late October. This site allows RAEME stories, information and photos to be uploaded by individuals, who wish to share important historical aspects related to the Corps. There are numerous checks in place to ensure content is appropriate, and suitable for publishing, but also doesn't compromise security. It is important to note the site is not intended to be a repository for official Corps history

archives. It is possible some articles submitted for, but not used in 'With Skill and Fighting', may appear on the site, but that would be up to the HOC.

Finally, in regard to an RNA Newsletter, Lyell Wedd has been hard at work patiently designing an agreed template for the newsletter. The newsletter content will be made up of reports from committee, articles from state organisations and general information and is now almost compiled and ready for publication of the first edition.

While in the role of President, I have been fortunate to have the support of all state representatives together with that of RNA Committee Secretary Don Harvey, and Treasurer CAPT Justin Pape. May I introduce the new Committee below. I would also like to thank Colonel David Cocker, COL COMDT SA/NT/WA, for his advice and wise counsel on numerous occasions this year.

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HOC RE MAJ Perri Hobbs perri.hobbs@defence.gov.au
National Webmaster - Dean Ellis (Townsville) - jeddell@exemail.com.au

In the immediate future, I see the RNA priorities being to settle in a new President and Executive, finalise the constitution, and raise the profile and awareness of the RNA, in the wider RAEME community. I am very confident the RNA is set up for success and represents the values expected within our Corps.

**Richard Moyes
President**



CORPS HAPPENINGS – PLAN CENTAUR



Plan CENTAUR Phase 3 commenced in November 2016. Director-General, Brigadier David McGahey said “this Phase will focus specifically on enhancing operational capability while improving maintenance efficiencies in barracks.” It will deliver a series of maintenance reform and improvement projects to Army in stages over a three-year period. This phase has particular focus on the primary Armoured Cavalry Regiments vehicle and support systems being M1A1 Tank, M113 personnel carrier and ASLAV reconnaissance vehicle. However, it will give consideration to broader application across Army and enabling agencies. The primary effort of Phase 3 centers on the Combat Brigade locations (Townsville, Darwin and Brisbane) while giving regard to other locations that contribute to the maintenance effect.

Phase 3 is broken into three stages aligned to financial years. Stage 1 includes twelve priority projects schedule to be complete by 30 June. These are summarised in the table opposite. Over the last month projects have focused on stakeholder engagement, with highlights including:

- Lean project delivered training to 2/14 LHR (QMI) with workshops planned in 1 and 7 Bde from March to June.
- The FORGEN Demand project conducted a desktop simulation with 2/14 LHR QMI to understand requirements for training activities and training levels. These simulations will continue in 1 and 3 Bde in March.
- The Portable ICT Devices project has engaged stakeholders across Army, LEA and CIOG to develop ICT options to pilot with maintainers.
- Initial analysis of Reverse Supply Chain processes is complete with revisits of development underway.



Lean Training Exercise at 2/14 LHR (QMI). Modelling process designed to streamline production, remove waste and improve quality using Lean Principles.

| Project Title | Description |
|---|---|
| FORGEN Demand | Validation of vehicle usage forecasts and requirements linked to training & preparedness requirements. Includes TARP updates and planning tables. |
| Improved MILIS Effect | Review and development of opportunities for improvements to MILIS that enable workshop activity and remove, if possible data requirements where no longer required. |
| Enhanced Maintenance Decisions | Development of a long-term ICT plan to improve maintenance decision making and asset management. Including integration of ACMS data into the LEA VULCAN dashboards. |
| AFV Asset Management Assessment | Desktop review of AFV Asset Management practices within AHQ. |
| Future Maintenance Workforce | Development of a plan to optimise contractor integration and transition Contract Labour Hire (CLH) within Brigades to a new model. |
| Reverse Supply Chain | Improving the efficiency of the supply chain for returns and rotables. |
| Updating Application Parts | Improve the accuracy of APL to decrease admin time caused by obsolete and surplus parts. |
| Portable ICT Devices | Trialling the introduction of handheld tablets for maintainers to access tech pubs on the workshop floor. |
| Workshop Operating Guidance | Provision of written guidance to all-Corps Commanders on the best use of maintenance assets. |
| Maintenance Planning Work Assessment | Trialling of planning inspections for some maintenance tasks to improve planning and parts ordering |
| LEAN Workshops | Assisting unit workshops to identify, test and implement process improvements. |
| Reduce Specialist Training | Development of the detailed plan to reduced specialist residential training requirements on Army maintainers. |

At Program level the focus has also been engagement with the establishment and mobilisation of the CENTAUR Change Agent Network (CAN) in February. This network comprises members from across Army with an interest in the outcome of Plan CENTAUR. The role of the CAN is to champion the Program and promote its benefits in their organisations.

Brig McGahey said “after a period of detailed analysis we are excited to be in the delivery phase and providing improvements for craftsman right through to Defence’s strategic equipment managers”. If you want further information or you want to get involved please email the team via plan.centaur@defence.gov.au

Regards,

BRIG D.F. McGAHEY
Program Director General
Plan CENTAUR



AROUND QUEENSLAND UNITS

74th RAEME Birthday Celebrations – 102 Fd Wksp and JLU NQ Townsville. The NQ RAEME celebrations were held on the 2 Dec 16, jointly hosted by 3 CSSB and JLU (NQ). All RAEME units and sub-elements in the North Queensland region attended the event with a total attendance of over 500 members who served in RAEME as well as those currently serving.

The day kicked off with an improvised 100m drag strip to put to test the design and workmanship of each unit’s motorised billy carts. The carts were scored by their split time as well as their design and development. It was an exciting event with 3 CSR taking all the glory with the highest scored cart.



The next event to follow was the spanner throw. The mood was tense as the participants sized each other up in anticipation for their throw. The event was a display of brute strength. Thankfully no one was unfortunate enough to pop out their shoulder in the process. 3 CSR was on roll also winning the second event.

The tug-of-war was an all-consuming event where teams battled it out with fierce aggression. It was no surprise that several members received minor blisters as a result of the struggle. 2 CAV Regt made a clean sweep throughout the finals to take home the trophy.

The HRV pull was the next event for the day, kicking off in the heat of the afternoon, with units providing teams of 10 to drag the 12-tonne recovery vehicle. To ensure a fair competition a non-RAEME member was behind the wheel to ensure there was no unauthorised breaking applied. 3 CSSB left the competitors in the dust to win the event without breaking a sweat.



The culminating event, the CoC relay provided an entertaining show. Teams were required to conduct multiple sprints after consuming a distasteful mix of eggs and milk, followed by a weet-bix. The spectators were pleased to watch and even happier not to be involved in the race. It was a close event, with obvious dedication from all sides, however 3 CSR was victorious took the prize.

The event trophies were distributed and LT Pagulayan was announced as the winner of the show and shine with his Subaru Liberty. A raffle was held with prizes generously donated by trade displays present on the day. The event concluded with the cutting of the cake with the youngest member of the Corps in NQ and Mr Pat English, a 24th Class Apprentice, who flew his own aircraft to Townsville for the event!



It was an entertaining day that was a great opportunity for both past and present serving RAEME members to congregate to socialise, with some friendly competition, whilst celebrating the achievements of the Corps.

LT Jordon Klowss, 102 Fd Wksp Coy

Changeover at RAMS – Oakey. As always, the year has commenced apace. Our technicians and engineers are hard at work supporting operations and exercises, while also modernising the Army's fleet of aircraft and vehicles. This year will have a strong 'review and reform' theme for our Aero skills trades. Both our trade structures and Unit establishments will be subject to review by Army Headquarters. We are also progressing Plan PELICAN reforms in order to realise more flexible aviation maintenance workforce now required by Army.

Preparations for the RAEME 75th Birthday are well underway with plans for a Memorial Service (Bandiana, 11-12 August 2017) and Parade (Canberra, 1 December 2017). **We will also celebrate the Corps birthday at the Rotary Wing Aircraft Maintenance School (RAMS) with our traditional "All-ranks Dinner" to be held on Friday 24 November 2017, so please "save the date".** Last year's event was held in our soon-to-be CH-47F Chinook maintenance training hangar and was enjoyed by all.



Finally, there has been a changing of the guard with Lieutenant Colonel Rob Boughen being farewelled at last year's dinner. I am grateful for the opportunity to carry on his good work as the Commanding Officer/Chief Instructor of RAMS and Deputy Head of Corps (Aeroskills).

Arte et Marte

**Brett Nelson, CSM
Lieutenant Colonel
Deputy Head of Corps (Aeroskills)**



106 Field Workshops. 106 Fd Wksp farewelled 2016 in style, with a RAEME 74th Birthday celebration that was proclaimed by many to the best they had attended. The 106 Fd Wksp team did an exceptional job in garnering broad support from the SEQ based units. While the 7 Bde and Enoggera based units rolled out in force, they were met equally with representation from the extended SEQ

RAEME family including RAMS, 6 ESR, 7 SR and 9 FSB – a wonderful collection of RAEME people to celebrate the event.

While scoring may have been contentious, 106 Fd Wksp claimed the coveted Billy Cart Race and 8/9 RAR quite convincingly won the Spanner Throw. While it was the volume of participation and the festive spirit in the air that made the day, the experience was certainly enhanced by the contributions made by the local supporters including QLD Chassis Dyno, East Coast Customs, the Home Brew Shop, ENZED, Team Moto, Jaycar, Tools Direct, QLD Mustang, Ironman 4 x4 and Superior Engineering.

After a lengthy break over Christmas, 106 Fd Wksp returned for the year and hit the ground running with the launch of a new maintenance concept which sees much of the Brigade maintenance effort centralised within the second line workshop. 106 Fd Wksp has also welcomed in the new ASM, WO1 Dave Poulsen. While welcoming WO1 Poulsen, it is very pertinent to acknowledge the outstanding commitment our outgoing ASM, WO1 Dion Taylor, made over recent years, not just to 106 Fd Wksp, but across 7 Bde and the broader RAEME community.

From a Corps perspective, our unit's focus is now squarely on the flagship 75th Birthday events of the year, the parading of the Prince Philip Banner and the associated activities planned for ANZAC Day, with the RAQ. Support for the ANZAC Day march has been forthcoming from all SEQ based units. The current plan will see all units contributing to a composite SEQ RAEME group of RAEME soldiers and officers escorting the Banner, followed by those marching with the RAQ. On completion of the march, the Banner will move to the Port Office Hotel, where it will take of pride of place throughout the official ANZAC Day luncheon.

In addition to our very busy Corps and social calendar this year, the bulk of the workshop also remains focused on supporting the upcoming combined unit training activity with the deployment of a second line Forward Repair Group (FRG) in May. Similar support will then be rolled out for an extended period at Shoalwater Bay in support of Ex TALISMAN SABRE 17 over the June – July period. Concurrently, we are entering a very exciting era as we introduce the new Rheinmetall Man vehicles replacements for Mack and Unimog fleets.

Arte et Marte,

**Julian Fleming
Major
OC 106 Fd Wksp**



Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (ASEME) Brisbane OJT Cell. The purpose of this article is to let you know about this important out-posted element of Army School of Electrical & Mechanical Engineering (ASEME), and inform you of the role the OJT Cell plays in preparing our tradespersons of today. My position is the Technical Trainee Management Officer (TTMO). Together with my trusty assistant (SGT Digby Richter - ATTMO) we manage the On-the-Job Training (OJT) ASEME Detachment in Brisbane, based at Gallipoli Barracks. There are three other OJT Cells around Australia, located in Darwin, Townsville and Adelaide.

The Cell currently manage 65-75 RAEME ground trades trainees/apprentices while finishing their final 12 months of their trade training, completing their OJT and compiling the all-important Competency Log Book (CLB). The current trades and numbers of each are as follows:

- ECN 146 – Fitter Armament (15)
- ECN 229 – Vehicle Mechanic (35)
- ECN 418 – Technician Electrical (14)
- ECN 421 – Technician Electronic Systems (6)

Each month trainees (aka-OJTs) are detached to local military units, or specific civilian businesses. This system provides the OJTs with the best opportunity to gain vital experience on various types of equipment. Each unit and civilian business has Subject Matter Experts (SME), who supervise the OJTs, and if they are satisfied with the work performed, they will sign-off on the relevant trade competency, contained within their CLB.

The majority of these trade competencies require three SME sign-offs prior to the TTMO/ATTMO endorsing the competency with the tick of approval. The idea behind three sign-offs per competency is as follows:

- Task 1 – Both hands held, trainee requires full supervision while performing the task.
- Task 2 – One hand held, trainee still requires some supervision while performing the task.
- Task 3 – Trainee is able to perform task on their own without supervision.

Each month a Training Day is held on Barracks, which is used to facilitate the mandatory military training, or AIRN requirements, such as BFAs and WTTS shoots, etc, and reinforce normal discipline and behaviours.



Corps Memorabilia on Display

As there are so many OJTs, it can be a challenging assignment managing the monthly detachment plans. To achieve CLB management, we conduct 45 min interviews with each OJT on a monthly basis, over an eight-day period and conduct regular audits of the CLB.

Once we have audited the CLB, including the final audit, they are packaged and returned to the National Technical Training Manager (NTTM), Mr Wayne Allan (who some would remember him as WO1 Allan) at ASEME. He then passes the completed CLB to the relevant Trade Curriculum Manager, who is a member of the Registered Training Organisation, Scientific Management Associates (SMA), who perform the final 100% audit, and if satisfied, award the member with his/her trade certificate. By the time this occurs the member has already been posted from the OJT Cell, so it is vitally important that our auditing of the CLBs is accurate, to prevent unnecessary rework if discrepancies are later identified by SMA.

One other vitally important aspect of our job is to find, develop and maintain good working relations with our civilian business supporters. As most would be aware they provide a valuable link in the training chain, which is extremely beneficial for the OJTs, exposing them to a variety of equipment and technologies. To achieve this aspect of our role we are required to regularly visit each detachment, military and civilian, to ensure the needs of the OJT and the needs of the unit or business are also being met.



OJT Trainee of the Year Board

We also need to identify/approach new civilian business and seek their support to help us get the best work opportunities for our trainees. There are mutual benefits to getting involved with this training program – Army achieves the training continuum and the business gains an extra set of hands working on the floor for a month at a time, without incurring costs. However, to satisfy all legal requirements Army has a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which must be signed by both parties, prior to any OJT commencing work. The MOA is current for a period of three years.

If you are a business owner, or know someone, who runs a business and you/they would like to be involved, please contact me. Alternatively, if you are in Darwin, Townsville or Adelaide please contact me so I can provide you the details of the relevant TTMO in that location.

Arte et Marte,

WO2 Paul “Vonny” Vonow
W (07) 3332 4292



“MATES FOR MATES” ACTIVITIES

2017 marks the 75th Anniversary of RAEME and like many other facets of the Corps’ operations, associations and other relationships, I thought it would be prudent to contribute to the conversation about one of the many achievements the Corps has made, particularly one that hasn’t been all that visible, over recent times.

I am talking about the contribution the Corps has made to the industrial development of Australia over the past 75 years, but also in other ways – to our wounded and ill veterans through the RAEMUS Rover Racing Team.

The team operates under the direction and management of retired RAEME tradesmen and provides assistance to members of Mates4Mates, the RSL Active, Young Veterans and Soldier-On, via our iconic vehicle off-road vehicle – RAEMUS Rover.

The RAEMUS Rover Team has recently been reborn after being in storage or hibernation for over 20 years. The colourful history of the vehicle has been included in our recent successful official RAEME Corps History. In short, the building and care of RAEMUS Rover came about during a trade-training activity at the now dis-established Puckapunyal Workshop Company. It went on to have a long and very successful racing career, achieving numerous wins in the Victorian and Australian

Off-Road Racing Championships of the 1970’s and 1980s.

The racing team re-raised by the 6th Engineer Support Regiment Workshop more recently, rebuilt and reintroduced the car and team into the off-road racing environment, but this time focused on providing a support mechanism for injured and ill veterans.

As the team moves into 2017, the scale and detail of the team’s operations have grown somewhat since the re-birth of the team in late 2012. The team now consists of three cars – two cars, including the original Series 2 Land



Rover (racing under number 878) and another Series 3 Land Rover (racing under number 879), are competing as a class 8 Extreme 4 X 4 car, plus a Pro-Lite Class buggy (number 189).

The RAEMUS Rover Racing team, competes in events from Club/State level through to National Championship races. The team prides itself on being able to continually produce technically sound vehicles that outperform others usually operating on significantly larger budgets. All the time providing veterans with a support program for those with physical injuries, and others suffering with PTSD. This activity places veterans in an environment of heightened levels of perceived stress, but with support and encouragement for the veterans from our team, and working with their therapist, they also develop and trust their coping mechanisms.

Many long hours have been freely given to support the team by our RAEME veterans. It’s their contribution that greatly reflects on the very nature of our great corps. Every RAEME tradesman during their career, has spent long hours in the middle of nowhere, working well into the late night, then carried on with the main job in the morning. The very same discipline and professional attitude is displayed every race with our corps members in RAEMUS Rover.

2017 will be a marquee year for both the corps and for RAEMUS Rover Racing. This year we will see Sgt Tavis Rosewarne (Rtd) be awarded 2016 Runner Up in the Class 8 Driving Championship in QLD. The team is immensely proud to have one of our veterans take out the 2016 Overall Navigators Championship for Qld, a fantastic achievement. In 2017, the team will be bringing over a 4-man group from the UK's Race2Recovery Team, these UK veterans have previously competed in the Dakar race and been on the Internationally popular UK show "Top Gear" several times. Together we will be competing in the Tatts Finke Desert Race in Alice Springs, a far cry from the rolling hills of England.

I congratulate the corps on the magnificent milestone of the 75th Anniversary and all corps members both serving and retired. Arte et Marte,

Ian Baker
Convenor
RSL RAEMUS Rover Racing Team
tiffy-os@hotmail.com



Note: Any contribution to the team would be greatly appreciated to support our work with injured and ill veterans.

COMING EVENTS TO CELEBRATE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF RAEME

National Events. The HOC Cell has promulgated some **proposed** official national events for the 75th Anniversary of RAEME. More will be forthcoming but you should put the following place markers in your diaries:

- **11 Aug 17 at 1645 – Memorial Service at the Craftsman Memorial, South Bandiana.**
- **11 Aug 17 at 1730 – Dinner at the Army Museum – Bandiana. RSVP and Cost TBA.**
- **12 Aug 17 at 0800 – ASEME Open Day. RSVP TBA.**
- **01 Dec 17 – Parade at the AWM, Canberra. RSVP TBA.**
- **01 Dec 17 – Dinner at the AWM, Canberra. RSVP and Cost TBA.**

Further details will be released between Mar and Apr 17, there will be **many regional events** occurring throughout the year. Please contact the Regional RAEME Representatives (RRR), or the local RAEME Associations for events in your area. Some detail is shown below.

ANZAC Day South East Queensland. ANZAC Day 2017 is fast approaching and planning is nearly complete. One **IMPORTANT** thing to remember is the Brisbane parade starts this year at **1000h hours**. The RAEME Association (RAQ) will step off only a few minutes later. The RAQ will march with our Corps Banner celebrating our 75th Anniversary and will lead all Associations. Please invite your friends and family to watch the march and join the association at the Fix Restaurant at the Port Office Hotel for the after-march gathering and luncheon.

The RAEME Association Queensland (RAQ) **contingent number is 35.** The contingent will form up in the vicinity of George and Charlotte Street Intersection. The contingent numbers will be displayed (in order) on nearby building walls. The RAQ banner will also be proudly displayed at the front of the contingent. Complete order of march details can be found by visiting: <http://www.anzacmarchbrisbane.com.au/>.

Dress: Ladies and gentlemen please note; the minimum standard of dress is smart casual. Gentlemen are encouraged to wear coats and ties as appropriate.

Protocols. Please remember the March Protocols, which are designed to respect the dignity of the occasion, in particular the following aspects:

- The wearing of fraudulent medals and awards is NOT permitted. Section 80B (1),(4) of the Defence Act 1903 makes it an offence for a person to wear a service decoration that they are not entitled to wear, or to falsely represent themselves as a person on whom a service decoration was conferred.
- Veterans and other marchers are to wear full size medals.
- WW1 veterans who are able to march the full distance of the Parade are welcome to parade behind their Banner at the front of the parade with one carer or one person of discretionary age.
- Large groups of descendants wanting to march may only do so behind the banner "Descendants of Veterans All Conflicts" – please check the Order of March for positioning.
- Pictures of deceased Veterans are NOT permitted to be carried on Parade.
- Any livestock, including dogs MUST have approval from the ADCPC to enter any area of the ANZAC Day Parade – there are NO exceptions as this is a WHS requirement.

- Children being pushed in pushchairs or carried in slings are a potential OH&S risk and parents are asked to refrain from including them in the parade.
- Unit Leaders on parade are responsible for the appearance of those marching with their associations and to stipulate the need to respect the March Protocols as set down by the ADCPC. Copies of the Protocol are available on Parade or at: www.anzacmarchbrisbane.com.au
- Closed in footwear is a requirement on parade. Those marchers that do not comply with this requirement, do so at their own risk.
- **Taxi Services:** If you have need of a taxi to the march please contact Max Walker by phone or email and he will organise the service for you.
- **Assistance:** If you require a wheelchair or a seat in a Golf Cart to be able to participate in the march or assistance to get to the Function, please contact Max Walker by phone or email and he will organise the service for you.

Post March Function. Put ANZAC Day 2017 in your calendar now, especially the RAQ Post March Function at the Fix Restaurant, Port Office Hotel, 40 Edward St, Brisbane. Take advantage of the subsidised early bird rates offered up to 10 April:

- Financial RAQ Member: **\$27.50 per person (\$35.00 per person from 11 Apr) *****
- Current Serving Soldiers: **\$27.50 per person (\$35.00 per person from 11 Apr) *****
- All Other Attendees **\$35 per person up to 10 April 2017, (\$45.00 per person from 11 Apr)**

Note: ***may also purchase one guest ticket at this price.

Regards,

Max Walker
RAEME Association Queensland
james.walker3@broadspectrum.com



NQ Region RAEME 75th Anniversary Dinner. The NQ Region will celebrate the Corps 75th Birthday with an all ranks dinner at the Townsville RSL on Saturday 26 August 2017, commencing at 1900 h. This is a “save the date” message with more details to follow in the next month, including costs.

CAPT Mick Gordon (10 FSB) is in the process of designing a NQ RAEME coin to commemorate the Corps 75th anniversary. Once this has been finalised, we

will get the design to you and commence taking orders. Recovery Platoon at 3 CSSB will soon be selling Plat-a-tac brown T-Shirts with the 75th logo (designed by RAQ) on the top right and the Australia flag on the sleeve. The idea is that the soldiers can wear them at work. Again, costings to follow via SEPCOR.

Arte et Marte,

M.J. FRY
MAJ
OC 102 FD WKSP
michael.fry@defence.gov.au



RAEME GOLD COAST 75th ANNIVERSARY LUNCH – 1 JUL 17. Recent Friday Files have started to provide detail on the next RAEME Gold Coast lunch, for 2017. Your organisers have been in contact with the Mermaid Beach (AEME) SLSC venue and have confirmed details as shown below:

- Lunch date: **Saturday 1 July 2017**
- Venue: **Mermaid Beach AEME Surf Lifesaving Club**
- Timings: **1200 hours till you get kicked out**

The broad outline for the afternoon is that the club will allocate us an area, including tables and chairs, overlooking the surf beach, and attendees can purchase meals and drinks from the club. Last year was our first go at arranging this event, and we were pleasantly surprised to have 60+ people turn up, which also included some ex-RAEME people 'grey-nomadding' around Oz. Regardless of origin, a pleasant afternoon was had by all, so we look forward to seeing everyone there in 2017.

This notice is purely a 'heads-up' so anyone interested in coming along can mark their calendar now. However, at the beginning of May, we will seek returns from people who will definitely be attending. **The afternoon is a mixed event, so please bring along your wife or partner.**

If the weather is like last year, there is no better place to be on a sunny Queensland winter's day, than on the balcony the Mermaid Beach SLSC, overlooking the surf with a beer and a bunch of good friends.

Ed (Beans) Bevans
& Barry Skinner
Convenors
RAQ Gold Coast Chapter



ARMY APPRENTICES NOTICES

Annual Queensland Reunion Bulimba - 3 Jun 17. The annual South East Qld Army Apprentices Reunion will be held at the Bulimba Bowls Club, Thynne Rd, Balmoral commencing at 11.00 hours. Come along and join us.

Brian Daley is the contact – 0412 721 761 or email bjdaley14@gmail.com

Please see the latest edition of “The Apprentice About” at: <http://austarmyapprentice.org/wp-content/uploads/TAA-Feb-2017-v1-0.pdf>

Cheers,

Brian Daley
0412 721 761
bjdaley14@gmail.com



Australian Army Apprentices Association 70th Anniversary Reunion Canberra 2018. A Reunion to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the formation of the Army Apprentices School will be held in Canberra over the period **Tuesday 24 – Friday 27 April 2018**.

The two major highlights of the Reunion are the ANZAC Day March in Canberra, where our Association has been invited to lead the National march. This is a huge honour and we will be looking for a substantial contingent to make us all proud. The second highlight is the Last Post Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial on 26 April 2018 where an Army Apprentice will be honoured.

The **broad concept**, at this stage, for the Reunion over three days commencing Tuesday 24 Apr 17, includes: a meet and greet; a Gun Fire Breakfast on ANZAC Day, followed by the national ANZAC Day Service and March at the AWM; and finally, on the 26 Apr 17, a bus tour of some parts of Canberra, the AWM, followed by a Reunion Dinner.

Venues for a number of activities are still being finalized. We are currently endeavouring to obtain a group/corporate booking at the Narrabundah Abode apartments. This venue has accommodation for about 250 people in 2, 3 or 4 person apartments, a large car park and an adjoining large room, which would be suitable for the Meet & Greet function. We are planning to use buses to/from the Australian War Memorial (AWM) on ANZAC Day itself. Costs have not yet been finalized,

but place these dates in your diary now, as it sure to be a memorable event, not to be missed.

Details are in “The Apprentice About” at:
<http://austarmyapprentice.org/newsletters/>

Otto Aberle
Events Manager
otto.aberle@bigpond.com



VALE

It is with regret that we advise of the following:

- **Smith**, Eddie, Recovery Mechanic, passed away on the 12 Dec 16 in the Philippines. Eddie was cremated on 14 Dec 16 with about fifty people in attendance.
- **Wilson**, Alan William, (17th Intake VM), passed away peacefully on 28 Dec 16 in the John Hunter Hospital, of renal failure. Alan served in the Aviation capability and in 161 Independent Recce Flt, SVN, 1968/69 as an engine fitter.
- **Meiklejohn**, Meryl, passed away 30 Dec 16 at the RSL Retirement Community Care, Carrington, Brisbane. Meryl was the widow of Stewart Meiklejohn, (11th Intake Electrician), who passed away 28 Mar 11.
- **Morris**, Rodney Guy, (17th Intake F&T) passed away on 22 Feb 17, Mater Hospital, Mackay, QLD, of pancreatic cancer. Rod served in 161 Independent Recce Flt, SVN, 1968/69 as Airframe Fitter.
- **Rooney**, James McNulty, ‘Jimmy’, late of Bribie Island, passed away peacefully on 24 Feb 17 aged 99 years.
- **Anderson**, Barry, NS Scheyville 20 Dec 68, diagnosed with acute leukaemia in late February, and died on 6 Mar 17. The family held a private cremation but there was a Memorial Service for Barry, Classes 2/68 and 3/68, at the Broulee Surf Club on 24 Mar 17.
- **Coleman**, Peter, 28th Intake F&T passed away on 12 Mar 17 following a battle with cancer.

WELFARE

- **Snowdon**, COL Peter (Rtd), (10th Intake F&T) receiving ongoing treatment after a short stint in hospital. Please send Peter information and fun emails to: m.snowdon@bigpond.com - he will attempt to reply. Alternatively, ring him on his mobile **0438590829**. He enjoys catching up, but please be a little patient with him on the phone.

Barry Shipway
Welfare Officer
RAEME Association Qld
welfare@qld.raeme.org.au



DFWA INFORMATION

Non-Liability Health Cover. We understand many people are unaware that DVA will pay for treatment for a number of conditions **and they do not need to have been service related**. The criteria to access support for mental health and substance abuse conditions is now **only one day** of Full Time Service. All cancers and TB are also covered but have different eligibility criteria. This is quite valuable as DVA covers the ‘gap’ costs. If you know somebody, who may benefit from this information, contact DFWA, or one of the other ESOs for help.

Bulimba Barracks. DFWA’s normal focus is on matters directly related to the welfare and support of current and past ADF members and their families. However, based on the rationale that public recognition of service given by military people, to their country, contributes to their general welfare, well-being and mental health, the Qld Branch has made a submission to the Brisbane City Council strongly supporting retention of the heritage aspects of the Bulimba Barracks Master Plan and its many lodger units over time.

In particular, we supported the retention of the historic fabrication workshop, and that the associated forecourt, should retain elements/memorials to those who served there. It is pleasing to note that the historical elements are retained unaltered and that suggestions have been taken on board in the updated plan. This includes representatives of military communities associated with the workshop, together with the local historical organisation, being consulted on appropriate memorials in the area and that advice be sought from these communities regarding appropriate street and place names for the area. It was also pleasing to note, the plan now requires any development to retain the existing Poinciana tree in front of the sergeant’s mess. This tree has a plaque “Tree of Knowledge” affixed to it and was the focal point of many lively discussions and decisions over the years.

DFWA has been busy on other fronts as well:

- DFWA hosted a meeting of the National Leaders Strategy Meeting of the Ex-Service Organisation Round Table (ESORT) and other prominent figures in the ex-service community, to discuss how all ESOs could collaboratively work together. A

“compact”, outlining principles of co-operation, will be drafted from the outcomes of this meeting, and circulated to the ESOs for all to consider for adoption. The RSL nationally supported this approach too.

- ADSO and DFWA (Qld) made submissions to the Senate Inquiry on Veteran suicide and both were called as witnesses at the hearings in Canberra and Brisbane.
- DFWA Qld has also made two recent submissions through the state government’s Queensland Veterans Advisory Council. One related to state provided disability support. DFWA submitted that affected family members of ADF personnel posted to Qld, should not go to the bottom of any waiting list for support but be credited for any waiting list time in another state. The other was our proposal for a Queensland Veterans’ Charter relating to government provided support to ADF members and their families. Basically, there should be no disadvantage the ADF members and their families due to the unique nature of military service.
- DFWA is currently gearing up for the new ADF Workplace Remuneration Arrangement, (the Pay Case), due this year and with ADSO, is preparing for likely Qld and federal elections in the near future.
- DFWA will be holding briefing and feedback sessions for DFWA members and members of other ESOs on the Sunshine Coast and in Brisbane in the next few months. All are welcome. 4th April 17 - Maroochydore RSL at 1000 hours. Mid-June – Victoria Barracks – Details TBA.

Regards,

John Lowis
President
DFWA(Qld)
Johnlowis2@gmail.com



Happy 74th Birthday - 2016

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Chairman Jeff, has said it clearly, in his opening statements in this newsletter – our Association has a busy schedule in 2017, organising 75th Anniversary events, but so has the rest of the RAEME National Association and the RAEME Corps Cell in Bonegilla. This is what makes me proud to be Patron of the RAQ – the strong sense of volunteerism in our members and the support we give each other. That support will be tested early in 2017, especially for Max Walker and Nick Rees, as they go about organising the biggest ANZAC Day parade and after-parade event, in our history. Ask Max or Nick, what you can do to help them before and on the day – I know they will appreciate any assistance offered.

I also wish to express my appreciation to MAJ Julian Fleming and his unit, 106 Fd Wksp, for coordinating the activities of the Banner Guard on the day – marching at the front of the ANZAC Day parade in Brisbane is a wonderful honour for the combined units of SE QLD and the RAQ, and we will be performing at our best – some who haven't worn the uniform for a while, may need to practice staying in step!! **I am also grateful for the support from our many local unit commanders, who contributed to this Spanner news – well done.**

There are many other events planned, so keep looking at the information in this Spanner News, the RAQ Friday Files (FFs) and on our RNA and RAQ websites for up to date detail of locations, timings and venues so you don't miss out. Remember, access to some of our events will be very competitive, so get in early to prevent disappointment. The next issue of Spanner News will continue to feature coming events and will be published in late July. Tony Borg, has offered to get the next edition on the streets, while I am away for a couple of months – thanks Tony, and I ask you all to please help Tony with good articles and stories. I will see you all when I return in late July.

Regional celebrations for our 75th Anniversary will occur throughout the year. Please contact the Regional RAEME Representatives shown on various websites, or your local chapter of the RAQ for detail of events in your area. Above all, participate, renew friendships and be proud of this important milestone and the contribution you made as an individual, or member of the RAEME team.

Regards to all,

Ross Grant
Chairman Comms Committee
commschair@qld.raeme.org.au



ACKNOWLEDGING OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS



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Corps Fund**



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*\$25 rebate on the purchase of any RACQ battery. Rebate is valid for QLD RAEME ASSC members only. Rebate is for the battery only. Redemption is to RACQ Batteries PO Box 4 Springwood QLD 4127. Member must post this voucher and a copy of the tax invoice from either the RACQ or the RACQ battery stockist clearly indicating the name of the supplier, battery part number, your name, address and ASSC member number only. A cheque will be posted to the address supplied. Voucher is valid for batteries purchased 1 November 2015 - 31 October 2016 and must be used by 31 January 2017.

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SUMMARY OF RAQ 2017 EVENTS

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| NQ Region Spanner Club 3 CSSB Lavarack Barracks | Friday 7 April 2017 |
| RAQ ANZAC Day March & Brisbane Luncheon – Port Office Hotel | Tuesday 25 April 2017 |
| 101 Fd Wksp Assoc 60th Anniversary Dinner – Maroochy RSL | Saturday 20 May 2017 |
| Annual Army Apprentices Reunion Brisbane | Saturday 3 June 2017 |
| Gold Coast 75 th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon Mermaid Beach (AEME) SLSC | Saturday 1 July 2017 |
| Nth QLD 75 th Anniversary Celebration Dinner Townsville | Saturday 26 Aug 2017 |
| Sunshine Coast 75 th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon Maroochy RSL | Saturday 2 Sep 2017 |
| RAQ 75th Anniversary Celebration All Ranks Luncheon Brisbane – Port Office Hotel | Sunday 5 th Nov 2017 |

101.FD WKSP REUNION – MAROOCHY RSL – 20 MAY 17

101 Inf/Fd Wksp 60th Birthday Dinner is to be held on Saturday 20th May at the Maroochydore RSL, Sunshine Coast, Qld.

Details are as follows:

- Dinner, 3 course alternate drop
- Drinks at own cost
- Time 1800hrs to 2300hrs
- Dress smart casual
- Meet and Greet: Friday 19th May Maroochydore RSL 1600hrs
- Cost \$45. Per person
- Payment to ANZ account name 101 Wksp
- BSB 014316 - ACC 303477818

POC Gary Hodges -
<mailto:garyhodges101@gmail.com>



CALL FOR LEGACY VOLUNTEERS

Legacy is a voluntary organisation whose members (Legatees) are dedicated to providing support to the widow/ers and dependants of Service personnel who died during war, or after war, during hazardous service, or while training for war.

Legacy depends on volunteers to help continue its vital role. Throughout Australia Legacy currently cares for around 80,000 widows and 1,800 children and disabled dependents. On the Sunshine Coast alone, we look after around 1,400 widows and wards.

If you can spare some time to volunteer for Legacy (Sunshine Coast or Brisbane), please contact: Sunshine Coast Legacy Group - Telephone 07-54439841; or Brisbane Legacy - telephone 07-3029 5600 or email: admin@legacybrisbane.org.au



RAQ "Living Legend" Maurice Maunsell Receiving his Chairman's Award at the All Rank Luncheon Nov 16



Our other RAQ "Living Legend", Fred Newby and his wife, Corrine, prior to receiving his Chairman's Award at the All Ranks Luncheon Nov 16.

HOW TO BUY THE RECENTLY PUBLISHED CORPS HISTORY – ‘WITH SKILL AND FIGHTING: CRAFTSMEN OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY 1942-2014’

For those yet to buy the Corps History book, here is a great gift for a friend in our 75th Anniversary year. The HOC Cell, Bonegilla, still has a reasonable quantity of hard cover (HC) versions available, at \$80.00 a copy. The SO2 Corps Capability, MAJ Perri Hobbs, and his small team are managing sales, so the best way to secure a copy, before they run out in our 75th Anniversary year, is to go to: <http://www.raeme.org.au>, click on 'Shop' and then click on the photo of the book's cover.

Please follow the instructions for payment shown on the website, and spelt out in part as follows. *'To purchase a book, you need will need to make a deposit of \$80.00 by electronic transfer to the following account:*

RAEME Corps Fund

BSB – 803205

Acct – 20509705

Once payment is made, please send an email to

RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au and add the CC address of MAJ Hobbs, perri.hobbs@defence.gov.au, together with proof of payment (a scanned receipt of deposit), point of contact details and an up to date delivery address. The HOC Cell will distribute the book upon confirmation of payment.'

Note: In the reference field of the electronic transfer and proof of payment, please include your surname and phone number.

Please retain a copy of the deposit transaction, or ask your bank for a receipt, and then send a scanned copy to:

RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au.

In the email, please ensure you include your name, delivery address and contact phone number. Should you have any queries, please contact the HOC Cell directly on (02) 6055 4325, prior to ordering. Books should be despatched within 28 days of ordering and every effort will be made to inform you of despatch details.



BRIG Kohl, HOC, and Chairman Jeff Maurice, in earnest conversation during the Nov 16 RAQ All Ranks Luncheon