



RAEME ASSOCIATION – QUEENSLAND

SPANNER NEWS EDITION 4/12 DEC 12

LAST CHAIRMAN'S DESK FOR RAYMOND

Much has happened since I last communicated with you. The RAQ continues to move forward in many areas and we trust that our actions over the period will benefit all in the future. I guess the most significant future change is that the RAQ will lodge an application to the Office of Fair Trading to become an incorporated entity by the 31st June 2012. This change if approved by the Office of Fair Trading will make very little difference to the way we operate on your behalf except you will see a name change to include **Inc** at the end of the Association name. Incorporation provides an increased level of protection for our hardworking Executive. Other changes at the AGM were mostly administrative to bring dates and periods into line with the financial year.

At the AGM some significant committee changes took place, they include: Chairman elected – Jeff Maurice, Patron appointed – Ross Grant AM, Treasurer elected – Ian Leabeater, Chair Membership elected – Raymond Norman OAM. These are important changes to the management team giving the RAQ a fresh feel and bringing in some new ideas at the top. Once again I think this will be a smooth transition and will not impact on the membership. I know the new team can expect your full support as they settle in. My personal thanks goes to the outgoing team, who have worked very hard over many years and given their best to the committee and membership.

May I also offer my congratulations to BRIG Andrew Mathewson, on your behalf, on his appointment as HOC. We will miss our outgoing HOC, and good friend, BRIG David Creagh AM, who gave significant supported to the Associations nationally and regionally. David, the RAQ wishes you and your family all the best for the future and we look forward to seeing you from time to time.

Suffice to say the many recent celebrations of the 70th Birthday of RAEME across the South East corner went well. Reports on these activities, including

many photos, will appear in first edition of Spanner News 2013.

In closing, may I wish our Chairman Jeff Maurice wife Suzanne and family all the best for the future. To all members, all the best for the coming Festive Season and New Year.

Finally, may I thank you all for your past support as your Chair. Regards and best wishes for the future,



Raymond G. Norman OAM
Past Chairman 07 5476 6254
rgnorman1944@gmail.com

BIG WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHAIRMAN – JEFF MAURICE. Jeff holds RAQ Member No 33, and has been an active supporter of RAQ since joining the Association in 2002. For those who do not know Jeff, he is an owner and General Manager of ENZED Brisbane Central. Amongst other things, his business provides opportunities to RAEME tradesman, completing their apprenticeships and supporting engineer equipment, with formal and on-the-job training. He has always been keen to develop young tradespersons, who can then better support their units with skills that allow them to firstly identify the most common causes of failure in hydraulic systems; and then competently manufacture hydraulic systems, when required.

Jeff enlisted as an Army Apprentice in January 1978 (33rd VM) and completed his apprenticeship at 4 Base Workshop Battalion, Bandiana. On allocation to RAEME he spent the next five years in armoured units at Puckapunyal and Holsworthy. Career broadening opportunities in a hospital unit and a ground tradesman in 161 Recce Sqn followed this experience.

He was then posted to the School of Military Engineering on promotion to SGT. Jeff remained in the Moorebank area for some time becoming the Apprentice Master/Training WO at DNSDC followed an appointment as the Artificer Sergeant Major at 21 Construction Squadron in 1997 – perhaps the culmination of his career as a Warrant Officer.

Jeff transferred to Emergency Reserve in January 2000 and later to the General Reserve FEB in 2003, where upon he was posted to 1 FD REGT as TRF Officer. Commissioned to rank of Captain (SSO) on 1 Jan 2005 in 1 FD REGT, he then spent time at 7

CSSB in 2006. He transferred to the Inactive Reserve Oct 2006.

Jeff has been married to Suzanne for 28 years, and between his work and the RAQ, he doesn't have much spare time. Please get to know both Jeff and Suzanne at our forthcoming functions and give them both a warm welcome.

FROM THE COL COMDT QLD – COL Richard Kluckhohn

Christmas greetings to all. It was with great pleasure that I attended the Corps Committee Meeting in Canberra on 21 Nov 12. Many important topics were discussed, but we were also able to farewell our out-going HOC, Brigadier David Creagh, AM, and be present when he “passed the baton” to Brigadier Andrew Mathewson. Based on discussion at the meeting, I am very happy to report that the Corps is in very good shape around the nation and BRIG Creagh can feel justifiably proud that he has been able to hand over the HOC reins of a Corps which is in a strong and highly regarded state.

Corps funds are also very healthy and many of you who attended your recent Corps Birthday celebrations would have been the beneficiary of a recent disbursement of these funds to the Corps members in all regions. I would also note that the profit from RAEME Birthday Enoggera has been donated to the RAQ. This to me is an excellent indicator that serving Corps members appreciate what the associations do to support all present and past Corps members and their regional activities.

The South East Queensland 70th RAEME Birthday celebrations were again a success. Hosted by LTCOL Jeremy King (CO 7 CSSB), at Enoggera, the activities and events were well administered with many units participating. The annual birthday function continues to attract large numbers and it was especially pleasing to see so many sponsors supporting the day's activities.

The highlight was of course the presentation of the Craftsman of the year award to CFN Fitzallen for his excellent work while deployed with Mentoring Task Force 4 in Afghanistan. To round off a great day the new RAQ president Jeff Maurice, CFN Fitzallen, and I cut the magnificently decorated corps birthday cake. I can honestly say it tasted as good as it looked.

While he was unable to attend the birthday celebrations, special thanks must also go to RAQ past Chairman Ray Norman, who during the past year has been tireless and has led a dedicated team of

individuals to ensure the RAQ continues to provide the excellent support to its members. I wish him all the very best as he continues as the President of the RAEME National Association.



Cutting the 70th RAEME Corps Birthday cake at Enoggera 28 Nov 12

The end of year is now quickly approaching. I look forward to seeing many of you in the New Year and wish all of you and your families and friends a safe and joyful Christmas period and a prosperous 2013.

Arte et Marte

Richard Kluckhohn
Colonel
Commandant – Queensland
rkluckho@bigpond.net.au



FAREWELL FROM HEAD OF CORPS RAEME – BRIG David Creagh, AM.

As I finish my time as Head of Corps RAEME, may I thank all members of the Queensland RAEME Association, for your generous support and friendship over the last few years. I think you all know how much I value the strong and vibrant Associations and

how the Queensland Association leads from the front in all areas.

On your behalf, may I congratulate our new Head of Corps, Brigadier Andrew Mathewson, on his assumption to the position. I know he will enjoy the same level of loyalty, friendship and support that I have received both personally and professionally over the past four years from all our associations, the national association and the “Bluebells” in Queensland.

The RAEME networks that exist for both serving and past members of the Corps continue to impress me. I am also impressed by the commitment and desire of our associations to ensure that our Corps’ identity remains strong. Being your Head of Corps has never been a hardship and I very much look forward to supporting our new Head of Corps in any capacity that he may wish for me to undertake. Until we next meet – thank you and Arte et Marte.

**David Creagh, AM
HOC RAEME**

DO YOU KNOW OUR NEW HEAD OF CORPS RAEME – BRIG Andrew Mathewson?

A Message from BRIG Mathewson. I am delighted to have been appointed Head of Corps RAEME by the Chief of Army and shall endeavour to continue the great work undertaken by BRIG Dave Creagh. As we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the formation of the Corps of RAEME, it is fair to say that the work done by the Corps has never been more important.

Support to operations in both the ground and air environments is delivering valuable lessons on what we are doing well (most things) and areas where we could offer even greater utility. One important area that has become evident is that we can do more to enhance our battle damage repair capabilities.

The introduction of new complex capabilities certainly presents some challenges to the way we do business and I see that we need to adapt our processes and become more agile in the way we support Army's materiel. Some excellent work is being done to review our logistic support to Army aviation capabilities through Plan Pelican.

As much as it is important to look forward, we also need to reflect on the important work that has been undertaken by RAEME over the past 70 years. The Corps History Project is making great progress in drawing together a range of valuable experiences

complete with many pictures of RAEME people supporting Army. We plan to launch a highly professional depiction of the Corps history at on our 71st Birthday next year.



Newly Appointed Head of Corps – BRIG Andrew Mathewson

BRIG Mathewson's Story. Andrew was born in 1964 and hails from Mildura, Victoria. He joined the Army as an Apprentice Fitter and Turner and later received the Most Outstanding Apprentice award at the completion of trade training in 1983 and the Craftsman of the Year award in 1985. He entered the Royal Military College, Duntroon, in 1986, graduating into the Corps of RAEME in mid 1987 to 1 Base Workshop Battalion in Brisbane.

His early postings were predominately technical and included appointments at the Maintenance Engineering Agency, Materiel Division-Army, as well as full-time civil schooling. In 1995, Andrew undertook a Master of Science Degree at the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, UK.

Following graduation from Army Command and Staff College, Andrew served as Staff Officer to COFS, Joint Logistics Command. During 2001-02 he was posted on exchange to HQ Land Command in Salisbury, UK, as SO2 Equipment Support. Whilst on exchange with the British Army he deployed twice – once to Kosovo with the 7th Armd Bde, and later, to Bosnia and worked in the Multinational Division HQ at Banja Luka.

On promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in 2003, Andrew undertook the role of Resident Team Leader

– Australia and subsequently Acquisition Project Manager, in Project AIR87, procuring the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter. In 2006 he undertook the appointment of SO1 Science and Technology in Army Headquarters. Andrew returned to the UK, to undertake a military attaché role as Assistant Army Adviser within the Australian High Commission, London. In January 2008, he was promoted to Colonel and was selected to undertake the duties of Program Director AIR9000, Multi Role Helicopter Program.

On 1 Nov 2010, he was promoted to Brigadier and took up his current appointment as Director General Army Aviation Systems, responsible for the acquisition and support to Army’s helicopter and unmanned aerial system fleets.

Andrew and his wife Tina have two daughters aged 15 and 18. Andrew’s leisure interests outside of family life include bushwalking, reading, woodwork and painting.

REPORTS ON RECENT ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Spanner Club at 7 CSSB. CPL Ryan Kemp has provided the latest update on the recent Spanner Club event held at the 20 STA REGT on Sep 1:

“The September RAEME Spanner Club officially kicked off at 1300 on the 28 Sep 12 with an excellent turn out. There were plenty of awesome stands to attract all attendees. These displays included, a speedboat, beer brewing, a tools display van, classic motorcycles, hotrods and representation from Anaconda and Thales. The hot blazing sun set the scene for the ‘downing’ of many icy cold beers to quench the thirst of a large crowd of spanners from Enoggera based units. A range of tunes pumped out by our ‘DJ for the Day’, SGT (The Rat) Styles enhanced the atmosphere. The food was delicious and in abundance, ensuring no one went hungry. Many thanks to the catering staff, SGT Patton and PTE Waldon, who joined in the festivities.

The COL COMDT, COL Richard Kluckhohn, made a speech of welcome and presented awards. He also drew the first raffle ticket of the day. My thanks goes to CPL Trotter and CFN Redgate, who did a great job organising the raffle and the many excellent prizes, available on the day. These ranged from stubby coolers to toolboxes and home brewing kits; all of which were generously donated by our sponsors. You know it’s always going to be good gig when you have so many RAEME members together in one place spending their time profitably catching up with

mates and networking. What more could you really ask for?”



COL Kluckhohn Diving Deep for the Winning Raffle Ticket

Corps History Project (CHP). As many are aware the intent of the project is to celebrate the achievements of individuals, sub-units and units of RAEME Corps during warlike, non-warlike operations and peacetime training activities. The Corps History Project (CHP) team which has been established to deliver the book and critically encourage members of the Corps, both past and present, to write articles and contribute photographs is now actively seeking your contributions and support.

The CHP Book was officially launched at the 70th Anniversary celebrations on, or around 1 Dec 12, across Australia. In the case of Queensland, it was launched at the Corps Dinner at the RAEME Aircraft Maintenance School, on 30 Nov 12 and in Brisbane at the Birthday luncheon 2 Dec 12.

At a recent Project Team meeting, a number of other initiatives were agreed and have subsequently started. These include the following:

- Development of promotional material which has been, and continues to be, distributed widely, including to members of the Corps Committee; the RAEME Face book site and the RAEME National Website; and the regional RAEME Associations for on-forwarding to their members.
- The dissemination of a feature article for the latest “Craftsman” magazine which can be viewed on page 26 at this link: <http://walshmedia.realviewtechnologies.com/?xml=Craftsman>
- Distribution by DOCM and SCMA career managers of the same promotional information to all serving RAEME personnel, including the HOC RAEME Regional Representatives.

- Agreement on the Book's framework and format was reached. For information, the format and style is the same as the Chief of Army's "Army in Profile". For an idea of what the final book may look like, view "Army in Profile" at: <http://www.army.gov.au/Our-history/Army-in-Profile>
- Using that format, the team have received indicative quotes for printing (only) a similar book for an order of 2000 books (200 hard copy and 1800 softcopies) to facilitate the costing of the project.
- Compilation of mailing lists has commenced to spread the word, identify sponsors and facilitate the placement of orders in the future. Writing of Chapters 1 and 2 is underway – these are the broad opening chapters about the Corps pre-WW2 and during WW2 in accordance with the project plan. First drafts were completed in late November.
- Receipt of the project's first donation of \$100 from a past member of the Corps which has been safely deposited in the newly established CHP Bank Account.
- Preparation of a sponsorship proposal by Mr Frank Benfield, seeking DVA assistance to defray the cost of producing the book. The Team is also seeking funding support from the AWM. Other sponsorship and order lists are being compiled by Nick Rees and Richard Kluckhohn but no approaches have been made to date.
- The cost model for the book's production is still yet to be finalised and is contingent on an agreed selling price and profit margin for each book. Corps Committee Funds are underwriting the book's production.
- Agreement was reached that oral histories should also be collected and included in the book, but further work is required on this initiative as this task requires specific training and volunteers.
- **Key dates** agreed at the 15 Sep 12 meeting are as follows:
 - Launch of the CHP Book – on or around 1 Dec 12 in conjunction with the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of the Corps.
 - Final date for submission of articles, photographs and other contributions – 1 Apr 13.
 - Book ready for launch, publication and distribution – 1 Dec 13.

The Team is a little concerned at the lack of contributions to the book project to date, via the promulgated channels, and the reduction in capacity of the HOC Cell to provide much valued assistance to the project as a result of recent reductions in Reserve Training Days, but is "moving on".

The Team is also concerned that quality photographs depicting Corps members engaged on operations, or training, are a little proving difficult to find. Critically the Team is seeking a contemporary depiction of the Corps to replace the Vietnam era one, and have it placed on the cover of the Book. More to follow on this aspect shortly.

So here are the challenges for you the reader:

- Write your contribution send the electronic copy to raemeprojectbook@hotmail.com
- Or send your hard copy to:
*HOC Cell – RAEME
Latchford Barracks
BANDIANA, Vic, 3694.*
- Find a contemporary depiction of the Corps engaged in its daily work in warlike or peacetime operations.
- Stay connected so that we can send you an order form in time.
- Note the flyer at the back of this edition of the Newsletter for more detail or for further distribution to your friends and colleagues.

Ross L. G. Grant
CHP PD

Operation Spanner Pack – June 2012. Here are the latest responses to the recent "Spanner Pack" distribution:



HPOD Workshop personnel opening their Spanner Boxes in Timor in November

"I would like to pass on a big thankyou from the boys for your kind efforts, thoughts and spanner boxes, which have arrived early for Christmas and which are an inspiration to us all!"

To receive the spanner boxes in such a timely way was a 'bolt out of the blue'. As you can imagine, a lot of

the young lads are working away from their loved ones, over the festive period for the first time, so receiving these boxes was a much-needed boost to their moral! Once again, many thanks from the boys at the HPOD Workshop, hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year?"

James O'Carroll
SGT, HPOD WKSP (Timor)

Special Notice. Recently the Queensland Association was asked to assist with the acquisition of a ladies RAEME marquise brooch for one of our members, who lost her brooch in a house fire. The fire also took the life of her husband, who had given her the brooch many years earlier. She is keen to obtain another in memory of her husband.

Unfortunately these brooches are no longer manufactured, so we are seeking a donation from a member, who may no longer need one. If you can help please contact the Editor of this newsletter on **0403 045 964** or commschair@raemeqld.org

Australian Army Apprentices Association – Balcombe Barracks Commemoration 2013. This event is planned for 3rd to 5th May 2013, at Balcombe, in the area of Mace Oval and adjacent to the old Army Apprentices School parade ground.

The Commemoration is a joint project involving the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council and the Australian Army Apprentices Association (AAAA), supported by the other Balcombe unit associations and representatives. The relatively new Balcombe Grammar School (located behind the old Metal Trades area) is also a very willing participant and has offered some of its facilities to assist the commemoration.

Between now and May 2013, the AAAA has a task to refurbish existing heritage pieces, principally the Balcombe Gates facing onto the Nepean Highway, and to produce story boards for all of the units / training schools, including the 1st Division United States Marine Corps. This project will enable the public to be better informed about the Balcombe precinct and where it fits into the military heritage of Mornington Peninsula region. The USMC Association is aware of and supports the project.

Coupled with this major event, other activities will be conducted including a Meet and Greet, a celebratory dinner, and a remembrance service at the Mornington

War Memorial, following a short march through Mornington.

This will be a big event for all those who served as students or staff at one time or another, thus bookings are essential – as usual, first come first served. Initial details and a registration form are available to be downloaded from the AAAA website www.austarmyapprentice.org in the “what’s new section”. Early bookings would be wise as this is a popular event and will be strongly supported by our friends and colleagues.

Frank Maloney
AAAA Events
0418 728 181
frmal@bigpond.com

28th Intake Army Apprentices 40th Anniversary Reunion. The 28th Intake Army Apprentices are conducting a reunion on or as near to the 40th anniversary of their enlistment in 2013. The following details are provided for attendees:

- **Location.** Army Reserve Depot Oakleigh Barracks, North Road, Oakleigh South, Melbourne.
- **Time and Duration.** Registration at Oakleigh Barracks between 1700hrs and 1900hrs on Friday 25 Jan 13. The weekends activities will continue until approximately 1200hrs on Sunday 27 Jan 13.
- **Accommodation.** Accommodation for males only is available at Oakleigh Barracks for the Friday and Saturday nights. Motel accommodation is also available in the area.
- **Guests.** Guests of Apprentices are encouraged to attend some of the activities over the weekend. The sequence of events will detail which activities are suitable for guests to attend. Guests will need to make their own arrangements regarding accommodation, meals and transportation.
- **Parking.** Parking is available within the Barracks. To eliminate congestion it is requested that where possible car-pooling be utilised to limit the number of vehicles within the Depot.
- **Transport.** Participants will generally need to provide their own means of transportation during the course of the weekend’s activities. Some distances will need to be travelled, in particular the Saturday visit to Balcombe and the Dava Hotel.
- **Costings.** Expenses for which you will be liable include:
 - \$5 per head for the Friday “Bucks Night” to cover finger food.
 - Approx. \$35 per head to cover a Spit Roast for the “Barracks Dinner” on Saturday night.
 - \$5 per head for breakfast Saturday and \$5 for Sunday also.

For further details contact the organisers (two 28th Building Trades) at the addresses and phone numbers below:

Noel Tipton. Tel: (03) 59751801 Mob: 0416 268720. Email: noel.tipton@defence.gov.au

Adrian Ross. Tel: (03) 53522947 Mob: 0447 316121. Email: sapper28@bigpond.net.au

38th Class Army Apprentices School Celebrating 30th Anniversary. The 38th Class are celebrating their anniversary on the Australia Day Weekend, Friday 25 Jan and Saturday 26 Jan 13 at the SS&A Club, Olive Street, Albury NSW. The cost is \$50 per head with drinks at bar prices. **RSVP by 12 Dec 12.** For details contact:

Ian MacDonald, PO BOX 1643, Wodonga, VIC, 3689. OR Mobile 0416 037 735. Email: reunion38th@optusnet.com.au

VALE

It is with regret that we advise of the following:

- Reginald William Sawtell passed away on Tuesday 9 Oct 12 in Adelaide.
- Robert Anthony "Blue" Etheridge, passed away peacefully, 21 Oct 12.
- Val Burgess, wife of COL Mike Burgess (Retd) lost her battle with cancer and passed away on 22 Oct 12.
- Paddy O'Leary died on 29 Oct 12 in Bowral, NSW. He had been sick for some time and had suffered a number of seizures but did not survive the last one.
- Selwyn John (Curley) Woolcock passed away in Oct 12 and his funeral was held on 30 Oct 12.
- Greg Fitzgerald AACC, formerly of RAEME, passed away 4 Nov 12 after a long illness. Fitzzy was a cook at RAEME Trg Centre in the 70s.
- Ken Chamberlain died on 11 Nov 12 from cancer.
- MAJOR Peter Jackson (Rtd) (1st Intake) died suddenly 27 Nov 12, albeit he had been diagnosed with lung cancer some few months ago.
- Rex 'Shorty' Walker (12th Intake) succumbed to a brain tumour on 29 Nov 12. A graveside funeral service took place at Mercy Memorial Cemetery at Spreyton, Tasmania.

**Mr John Parfitt OAM
Welfare Officer
RAEME Association Queensland
Or send them to:
welfare@raemeqld.org**



AWARDS

Shown below is a very proud **LTCOL Ron McElwaine** OAM, RFD, ED, (RTD) with the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley, AC, after the presentation of his OAM at Government House in Oct 12. Ron was honoured for his "... leadership, guidance and direction..." as President of the Indoorapilly RSL Sub-branch Inc. Well done Ron, from the members of the RAEME Association – Queensland.



WO1 Paul Gibbs, CSM, is shown standing in front of the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, after the presentation of his CSM by the Governor of Victoria in November. Paul is another proud member of the RAEME Association Qld, but currently serving in Victoria. Paul was honoured for his 'meritorious achievement as the Regimental Artificer Sergeant Major of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment'.



TRADITIONS, HOW THEY BEGAN AND OTHER FACTS AND FIGURES

Shoulder Straps and Swagger Sticks. The reign of Queen Elizabeth saw the introduction of shoulder straps. These originally took the form of a thong of leather tied around belts to keep them in position. Officers of the “trained bands” wore shoulder knots of plain brown leather, while the officers of the Queen’s personal staff wore very elaborate affair of red and gold silk braid, with scarves of the same colour around their helmets.

Swaggers sticks were introduced as an item of commissioned rank equipment in the time of King Charles 1, but were used for a much more serious purpose than they are today. At this time all junior officers were empowered to inflict punishment on the spot for minor offences. Old manuscripts record that such misdemeanors as 'sneezing' in the ranks, spitting or scratching the head, earned immediate punishment to the tune of twelve strokes across the back.

The canes carried by King Charles’s officers were very ornate, some five feet long, with a silver head and long silken tassels. The cane carried by a very high-ranking officer was topped with an ornate gold head surmounted with an enameled miniature crown, ornaments which have been incorporated in a somewhat different form in the Field Marshal’s baton of today.

Military Funerals. In the time of Henry VIII military bands were not included on unit establishments, but each body of fighting men boasted a party of drummers and trumpeters, the former to set and maintain the marching pace, the latter to break the monotony by blowing an occasional fanfare. King Henry directed that these instruments should also be employed in the funeral ceremonies of high-ranking officers.

The coffin was carried to the place of burial on a wagon normally used to move the heavy cannon of the period. The wagons were huge, cumbersome vehicles drawn by a team of draught horses at a speed scarcely above crawl. Behind the wagon marched a party of drummers playing what was then called the “Dede Sounde” to a pace beat in keeping with the extremely slow rate of progress of the wagon. Thus was born the ‘Slow March’ of the present time. Although speedier vehicles were introduced later, the original slow step was retained as befitting the dignity of the occasion.

In 1723, the term “Dede Sounde” was change to “Dead March” in military parlance.

The procedure followed at the gravesite started in Tudor times. After the coffin had been lowered into the grave, musketeers posted on either side fired three volleys. The firearms of the period, being wheel-locks some six feet long and about 15 lbs in weight, required support in the shape of a forked rest, which was stuck in the ground under the muzzle.

In order to elevate the weapon, firing parties were formed in kneeling position opposite each other. After firing volleys, “Last Post” and “Reveille” were sounded. At that time ‘Last Post’ took the form of “Taps”, which was played at 10pm each night as a sign for Tavern keepers to shutoff their taps. “Reveille” consisted of a series of long blasts of a prescribed form.

John Parfitt OAM

COMMUNICATION & CONTACT DETAILS

Our DFWA representative, Peter Snowdon has provided the following information for our readers:

New Website for the Alliance of Defence Service Organisations (ADSO). ADSO launched its new website on 27 Nov 12 at: <http://standto.org/cms/> It uses the latest technology to keep viewers up to date with campaign developments. To coincide with the launch, AVM Peter Criss has written a Blog and recorded a short video, which can be accessed from his Blog. To view both the Blog and the video, just click on Peter’s **Member Blog** on the **Home Page**.

Please check out the new website. You can take a guided tour with our Webmaster, Gordon Wright, by simply clicking on the Latest Video "StandTo Website Overview". You will find it on the Home menu page to the left of the Calendar.

Excerpts From a Defence WHS Fact Sheet No 27 – October 2012 – Long Term Exposure to Diesel Exhaust Emissions. On 12 June 2012, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), which is part of the World Health Organization (WHO), classified diesel engine exhaust as *carcinogenic to humans (Group 1)*, based on sufficient evidence that exposure is associated with an increased risk for lung cancer. The most powerful evidence came from a retrospective study of underground coal miners from West Virginia, taking into account potential confounders such as recall bias and smoking. IARC had previously classified diesel exhaust as *probably carcinogenic to humans (Group 2A)*.

Large populations are exposed to diesel exhausts in everyday life, whether through their occupation or through the ambient air. However, the exposure of the general population is quite different from that found in the IARC evidence, which was based on high and prolonged exposure to underground miners. This latest IARC determination is primarily based on assessments of health outcomes following many years of past exposure to diesel engine exhaust, and it is unclear what (if any) health impact there will be from new exposure to today's diesel engines. The exposures relating to cancer were likely to have been much higher than what most Defence members or the public would experience.

Although there have been changes in diesel engine technologies, such as reduction of the sulphur content of fuel, changes in engine design to burn diesel more efficiently and reduction in emissions through exhaust control technologies, it is not yet clear how the changes may translate into altered health effects. Existing fuels and vehicles without such modifications will take some time to replace.

In the absence of an Australian/New Zealand Standard, exposure standards recommended by the Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists (AIOH) were used in exposure monitoring work of M113 crew carried out in June 2012. This work found that levels of exposure to diesel particulate matter (DPM) were well within the AIOH recommended occupational exposure standard of 0.1 mg/m³, measured as submicron elemental carbon. Sulphur dioxide levels were within the Australian Safety and Compensation Council (ASCC) Exposure Standards for Atmospheric Contaminants in the Occupational Environment [NOHSC:1003 (1995)] TWA standard of 2 ppm, and no significant carbon monoxide or volatile organic compounds exposure was detected. This report is available at http://intranet.defence.gov.au/armyweb/sites/DAH/docs/M113_Air_Monitoring_Report-obr.pdf.

It is not feasible to ban diesel engines, so action to mitigate the risk will concentrate on assessing the extent of the occupational health risk, and instituting work practices which will limit exposure. Assessment of the potential occupational health risk within particular workplaces should involve reviews and risk assessments of workplaces to identify possible issues relating to diesel exhaust fumes and diesel

Peter Snowdon
pm.snowdon@bigpond.com

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

This has been a another busy year for your Association, whether we contemplate the work organising and despatching "Spanner Packs"; organising the many social activities on our annual calendar; organising ANZAC Day; celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the RAEME Corps; or encouraging contributions to the RAEME Corps History Project – by any measure we have a dynamic association and have engaged with many of you on a regular basis. This is heartening and what we strive for!

We are also very lucky in SE Qld that we have a very high involvement with our local serving soldiers (full and part time) and are strongly supported by them at all our events and activities – for this we say, thank you very much, and we look forward to continuing our strong association with you in 2013.

On the Corps History Project, may I make a plea to all readers to get your contributions in on time. We have been promised many articles, stories and photographs, but to publish them by 1 Dec 13, we need them into the Corps HOC Cell by 1 Apr 12. The editor has then to weave his magic and turn the stories into a readable manuscript – this takes time.

We are also compiling a list of people, who may wish to place an order for the Book, so if you would like to be included on the list, please notify us of your interest by sending an email to nick.rees@defence.gov.au. You may also like to pass this message on to friends and colleagues.

For those who are enjoying the new style "Spanner News", thank you for your support and comments. My work "steps up a notch" next year and I would appreciate a volunteer helping me to compile the next few issues while I get on with the CHP work. I will still edit the Newsletter, but the compilation process does take a lot of time, so if you can help, please get in touch.

Finally, on behalf of your Association, may I wish all our readers the very best for the Christmas season and trust that 2013 is a wonderful year for you, your family and friends.



Ross Grant AM
Chairman of the Comms Committee
commschair@raemeqld.org

**SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE
RAEME ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND**

**RACQ batteries
delivered and
installed 24/7.**



- Up to 3 year nationwide warranty
- Maintenance free
- We'll recycle up to 96% of your old battery

racq.com/batteries
call 13 1905



FIX RESTAURANT
& WINE BAR



**\$25 OFF
RACQ batteries***

**\$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 2011 – 30 October 2012 and must be used by 31 January 2013.*

racq.com/batteries
call 13 1905



RAEME NEEDS



To all past and present members of RAEME,

You may not be aware but RAEME has entered its seventieth year of service to the ADF. To celebrate this achievement, my predecessors have tasked the RAEME National Association to take the lead in developing a new pictorial history of the Corps. This publication will build upon and complement the original history, “Craftsmen of the Australian Army-The Story of RAEME”, published in 1992.

The key difference this time is the RAEME story will be told from individuals’ perspectives in a pictorial form.

We want you to help us tell the RAEME story by submitting your photos and stories. I have heard many amazing stories from past and present members of the Corps and it is time we used them to tell the world about our contribution to the ADF. What makes RAEME unique is the skill, resourcefulness and innovation of its members and who better to tell that story than you. We want you to share your stories and photos from your experiences at home and aboard past and present, operational and non-operational.

Clearly the success of the book is highly dependent on the quality of photos and stories submitted. I encourage you to ensure they depict an interesting story, or specific activity, in which members of the Corps participated or more importantly led. Equally important is the written account that underpins the photo. The written component of your submission should focus on telling the story of the human element depicted in the photographed event. I am confident readers are interested in what you have to say, so don’t hide your stories under a bushel.

Try and keep your submission to around 1500 words, but please ensure your submission covers the who, what, where and why of the event/activity pictured. The photo you submit also needs to be of sufficient quality for publication.

Closing date for submissions is 1st April 2013 but please start writing now! Submissions can be sent to HOC-RAEME Cell directly at raemebookproject@hotmail.com in an editable electronic form (.rtf, .doc, .txt), but they can also be provided in “hard copy” form. More information is available on RAEME Facebook and the RAEME National Association website at www.raeme.org.au

The success of this new RAEME history rests with you so get writing!

Andrew Mathewson
BRIG
HEAD OF CORPS RAEME