



**RAEME ASSOCIATION –
QUEENSLAND**

**SPANNER NEWS
EDITION 2/13
28 JUN 13**

CHAIRMAN'S DESK

Greetings All – welcome to the 2nd SPANNER NEWS for 2013. The RAEME Association Queensland continues to provide a fantastic vehicle for association members to enjoy the company of liked minded people and the benefits of being part of one of the ADF's leading ex- service Associations.

Our committee continues to provide a concrete platform from which our association can leap forward year after year. This year is no exception with the RAEME Association-Queensland incorporation proposal in its final phase of development; and one of my key objectives, improving membership and guaranteeing continued growth, while maintaining accurate records of our members, continues to gather a head of steam.

Past Members, who have not retained “FINANCIAL” status, are being identified and advised on their status – importantly they are being reminded of one of the main benefits of being a financial member, which is that the cost of membership is recovered through a discounted cover charge on attendance at our ANZAC Day event, and or our All Ranks Luncheon held on RAEME Birthday at the end of the year.

ANZAC Day 2013 was an outstanding success with over 300 members and guests attending our post-parade gathering at our favourite “watering hole”, the “FIX Restaurant”, in the ever popular PORT OFFICE HOTEL, in the Brisbane CBD. The RAEME Association-Queensland was pleased to have the support of our latest batch of new “Tradies”; the soldiers from the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (ASEME), as well as many serving RAEME soldiers, plus the backbone of the association, our members, who were also on hand to organize and host the day. All in attendance clearly took the opportunity to remember our friends and colleagues, who cannot be with us and enjoy the conviviality of the gathering.

I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge and thank Brigadier Dave McGahey, CSC (Rtd), who led the Association's contingent on the march through Brisbane – many thanks David for your time and support.

This issue of the “Spanner News” will make you aware of a number of other functions and reunions in the coming months. This includes my favourite, the All Ranks Luncheon in December, celebrating the Corps Birthday. We all lead busy lives, but I trust you take every opportunity to enjoy these activities, and your lives generally – therefore I cordially invite you and your family and friends to join in our activities of our Queensland Association.

Kind regards,

Jeff Maurice
Chairman
07 5476 6254
chairman@gmail.com



MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Following on from what Chairman Jeff has said, if you have changed your email address, or any of your contact details, please notify our Secretary, Mr Gary Sargent at secretary@raemeqld.org so our records can be updated.

Annual membership fees are due 1 July 2013. Please ensure you keep your annual membership current, or consider signing up as a life subscriber – it saves the annual hassle.

SAVE, SAVE, SAVE, become a member of your Corps Association for just \$10 and you will save this fee by attending one of our functions and receiving a discount of at least \$10 on the entry fee. See www.raemeqld.org for an application form.

Regards,

R. G. Norman OAM
Chair Membership Committee
07 54766254
membership@gmail.com



TREASURER'S REPORT

For the information of our members, and to keep you abreast of all the work underway to accommodate the impending changes associated with incorporation and improving our management procedures, we are currently in the process of separating the National Association bank accounts from the Queensland Association. The other reason is that the management of the RAEME National Association will be undertaken from South Australia later in 2013.

At this stage we have established a RAEME National Account with two sub accounts – one for the new National Association and one for the Corps History Project. At the next RAQ Meeting we will

make application for a cheque account and subsequently transfer funds for Spanner Pack, and similar accounts, to the National Account. Once this exercise is completed, we can finalise the incorporation of the RAQ.

On another note, several RAEME personnel have completed their application for membership, but haven't transferred their payments. I would appreciate those members completing the task shortly, so as not to jeopardize their membership status. Alternatively, let me know when the funds are likely to appear – an e-mail will suffice.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Leabeater
Treasurer RAEME Association – Qld
Treasurer@gmail.com



FROM THE COL COMDT QLD

Greetings to one and all. What an excellent 2013 ANZAC day all round. We had a large contingent of corps members turn up to march, on a perfect autumn Brisbane day. The amount of good natured banter was noticeable early and it was a pleasure to catch up with many ex-serving corps members even before we started marching.

As always most of those marching ended up at the Port Office Hotel for the start of another well organised and successful RAQ function. Congratulations to Ernie Hartshorne and his team. The RAQ president Jeff Maurice opened the formal proceedings and passed on to the Representative Colonel Commandant, BRIG Dave McGahey, CSC, who made a passionate and well received ANZAC Day address.

This annual function I believe is so successful for a couple reasons. Firstly, the mateship and camaraderie on display is infectious, but taken in an atmosphere of reverence for those that have made the ultimate sacrifice. Secondly, the welcoming spirit, tolerance, good cheer and respect shown to our partners and visitors is noteworthy and I feel very proud of belonging to a corps that displays such well regarded values at a time when these same values are diminishing in our society at large.

These values of course will be on particular display in the evolving Corps history publication. As you are aware the submissions for the publication closed on the 1 April 2013. Speaking with the Project Director Ross Grant he mentioned that this deadline had been extended. If you have not had the opportunity to submit your story you have until mid July.

As some of you may know this publication is being initially underwritten by RAEME Corps funds. While the project team believes that Corps funds will be repaid in full and more – this is a prime example of what Corps funds can be used for! If you have an idea about promoting and or enhancing the Corps, there is money available for this purpose. There are some hurdles to negotiate, but please don't hesitate to contact me, or a member of the RAQ committee, with your ideas. We will do our best to ensure your idea gets a positive reception and funding outcome at the Annual Corps Committee Conference in October this year

Arte et Marte,

Richard Kluckhohn
COL COMDT – QLD
rkluckho@bigpond.net.au



INCORPORATION OF THE RAEME ASSOCIATION - QUEENSLAND

At the AGM on 13 Nov 12, a decision was taken to incorporate the RAEME Association-Queensland. This was discussed and passed unanimously by attendees. To obtain Incorporation, the meeting empowered the Executive to rewrite the Constitution in accordance with the provisions contained in the Office of Fair Trading model rules in accordance with Motion # 5, this being:

“That the RAEME Association Queensland Executive Committee be empowered to rewrite the Constitution of the RAEME Association Queensland to incorporate the mandatory aspects of the model rules of the Office of Fair Trading Queensland into the RAEME Association Queensland Inc Constitution or incorporate the key aspects of the RAEME Association Queensland current Constitution into the Office of Fair Trading Queensland model rules that will form the new Constitution for the RAEME Association Queensland Inc.” That motion was also carried unanimously.

The sub-committee appointed to facilitate Incorporation was chaired by Peter Snowdon and ably supported by Ray Norman, Max Bond and Ron McElwaine. The rewrite of the Constitution is complete and the Association is on track to meet the 1 Jul 13 target date for incorporation. Following consideration at the Jun 2013 Association meeting, the Application for Incorporation has been submitted to the Office of Fair Trading for approval.

Incorporation provides a form of protection for the Association and the Management Committee against potential legal and trading pitfalls. However, there are a few other benefits including:

- the opportunity to rewrite the Association Constitution, which is overdue for a review, especially now that your association has taken on increased responsibilities since inception;
- instituting a (slightly) new management structure, which is now trimmer and should allow for better control to be exercised by the management; and
- much clearer and simplified rules on membership, the conduct of meetings, voting and acceptance of responsibilities generally, giving us a clearer understanding of how the Association operates for the benefit of all members.

As things progress you will be kept up to date in this newsletter and on the website where the new Constitution will be published.

Happy reading,

Peter Snowdon
Chairman
Incorporation Sub-committee





ANZAC Day March Brisbane - 25TH APRIL 2013. Once again the RAEME Association Queensland has produced a wonderful day of remembrance and celebration for

our association members, the serving soldiers in SE Queensland and our local Brisbane community. ANZAC Day means different things to different people but for me the spirit of ANZAC Day is captured perfectly in a verse from the poem entitled “MATES” written by Duncan Butler 2/12th Field Ambulance. Duncan Butler had enlisted in the Army during WWII, was captured and spent three-and-a-half years as a Prisoner of War working on the treacherous Burma Railway. This verse is the key point:

*And so to all who ask us why
 We keep these special dates
 Like ANZAC Day, I tell ‘em “Why?!”
 We’re thinkin’ of our mates.”*

Another quote, which I think is relevant, can be found on the Australian War Memorial site:

“ANZAC Day goes beyond the anniversary of the landing on Gallipoli in 1915. It is the day we remember all Australians who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. The spirit of ANZAC, with its human qualities of courage, mateship, and sacrifice, continues to have meaning and

relevance for our sense of national identity.”

Our 2013 ANZAC Day was a success because of our loyal supporters. You turned up in droves to talk, joke and remember. From Craftsmen to Brigadiers, young and old; fit and frail, we are mates in all respects. Our Corps has every reason to be proud of our serving troops – they are professional, dedicated, well trained and down to earth.



Our numbers for the march was around the 200 figure. How good is that. Our dress standard was well above the norm. You did us proud.



The function at the Port Office Hotel was again a roaring success. One of the advantages of having a home for RAEME functions is that everyone knows where to be on ANZAC Day. The management and staff of the Port Office Hotel wish to extend to you there appreciation for your support to their venue. One of the factors they continue to be impressed with is your behaviour at these functions. They appreciate your thoughtfulness and manners, and we


are no trouble for them. Through your recent feedback, I know you all appreciate their hospitality.



Now an advertisement – 2015 is only two years away and we will be celebrating 100th anniversary of the landing at ANZAC Cove. Please put the date in your diary now. The Brisbane march and the Port Office function promise to be a outstanding! Spread the word to your mates and colleagues. We want the celebrations to be well remembered and supported.

Take care, see you soon.

Ian Hartshorn
ANZAC DAY Organizer
0422 670 080



This year's RAEME Craftsman Port, sponsored by 7 RAR (Mech) Tech Spt Pl, is a delicious Dark Tawny Port from the well known Martin Cellars Winery, from the Barossa Valley wine region in a 750 ml bottle for **\$20.00** per bottle.

The RAEME Assoc. Qld. will again be ordering on behalf of its members and friends. If you'd to place an order, please contact me, Bruce Hermann, by 23 Aug 13, via the Association website, or email at bkherb@bigpond.com) with the quantity required.



Annual Army Apprentice Reunion – South East Queensland. The 14th Annual Reunion for all Army Apprentices was held at Bulimba Barracks, Apollo Rd, Bulimba, on Sunday 9th June.

The day started with drizzly rain but cleared before the start of the function. The area on the river bank under the “Tree of Knowledge” at the old Sergeants’ Mess was conducive to a great atmosphere of mateship and memories. Again we had people who have attended every year, and others who were there for the first time.



(L to R) Brian Daley, the Convenor, his supportive wife, Barbara, and the ever reliable cooks, Michael Caughey and Peter (Chook) Henderson

The oldest Appy was Ray Lawrence, 8th Intake, but closely followed by Peter Snowdon and Rowley Pritchard both of the 9th Intake, followed by Mike Muirhead and Harry Wilson (from Hervey Bay) both from 11th Intake. Both the 13th & 14th Intakes were well represented with intakes right up to, wonders of wonders, Reid Ossington, a 49th Intake Apprentice. There were apprentices from the Royal Australian Engineers, Royal Australian Signals, RAEME, as well as staff from the school. Some members had not seen each other for up to 30 years, so it was a great opportunity to renew these friendships.

Apprentices came from all around the country, including Sid Young and Nelson Lee, (14th) from Cairns, Liam (Pat) Healy 13th, from Lismore, as well as representation from other areas of South East Qld.

The reasonableness of the Quarry Club drink prices came as a shock - people thought that they had gone back 20 years!! Sara Hunt our bar person, looked after us in fabulous fashion, and we thank her, along with the Committee of the Quarry Club.

Thank you also to the two cooks. Michael Caughey Retired 1DIV RSM, who has cooked the BBQ for the last 14 years, except for last year, when he was serving in Afghanistan, and his offside, Peter (Chook) Henderson, ex Infantry RQMS, another friend who came along to lend a hand on the day.

This group of Apprentices and their wives had a great day and numbered about one hundred in all. There are still many others, who are out and about in Brisbane, who would really enjoy the day. Let your contacts know it's on again next year, at Bulimba, although the Bulimba sites day's are numbered with the relocation of the unit to Amberley now a reality scheduled for 2015.



(L to R) Tony Borg (35th), Peter Snowden (8th) and Frank Maloney (13th)



Frank Maloney Selling Appy Memorabilia



(L to R) John Pidgeon (17th), Doug Lowry, Geoff and Marelle Featherstone (18th), Barbara and John Iwanko (18th) – All in Good Company

I look forward to next year's event, which will now be amongst our last at Bulimba!

Brian Daley
Convenor
bjdaley@hotmail.net.au



Corps History Project (CHP). As many of you 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. In short, the project team is still seeking stories on what individuals did at some stage during service in the Corps, which can be placed in a pictorial history of RAEME, to be published later this year. We are also still seeking your support to spread the message widely amongst your ex-RAEME friends, or colleagues, in your local region or beyond.

The Project Team, but in particular, the authors/editors, Max Carmichael, Keirin Joyce and Frank Benfield, have commenced compiling the book along the following broad guidelines:

- Ch 1 – Forward from the Past.
- Ch 2 – A New Corps for a Modern Army.
- Ch 3 – BCOF and the Korean War.
- Ch 4 – Operations during the Malaya Emergency and Indonesian Confrontation.
- Ch 5 – At Home 1945 - 1972.
- Ch 6 – Operations in South Vietnam (SVN).
- Ch 7 – At Home 1973 to 1988.
- Ch 8 – UN Operations 1946- 2013.
- Ch 9 – The 1st and 2nd Gulf Wars and NATO Operations.
- Ch 10 – East Timor Intervention.
- Ch 11 – Involvement in Afghanistan.
- Ch 12 – Regional OPS and DCP.
- Ch 13 – Technical Aspects & Training.
- Ch 14 – At Home 1989 to 2013.
- Ch 15 – Projects and Procurement.
- Ch 16 - The Spirit of RAEME.

Overall Progress. At this time, the Project Team is acquiring relevant stories to fit into the above chapters. We are experiencing difficulties acquiring stories for Ch 4, 5, 10 and 11 and a significant lack of photographs for all chapters. The project could also do with more stories from our other ranks to complement the many stories being provided by senior NCOs, warrant officers and officers – this will give the book a bit more balance.

More specifically, we would appreciate more stories to do with the Corps involvement with the maritime element, our several deployments to the Antarctica and our involvement in peace monitoring on Bougainville. To date, we have only one useable CMF/ARES story from the part-time members. We have no stories from Somalia.

Promotional Work to Obtain Contributions. We are confident that most serving members of the Corps are well aware of the CHP requirements (need for a story and photos) and that past members are getting the message gradually, particularly in

Queensland and Victoria. We do not know what the penetration has been in NT area (Darwin) community or in WA, in particular, Perth.

Solicitation and Competition for the Best Story and Photo. WO1 Paul Gibbs and WO1 Nick Rees have instituted a competition for best photo and story on RAEME Face book – a prize of \$500 each. This initiative has proven to be useful in promoting the Book as has the RAEME National Face book site. When all the stories and photos are consolidated in the repository, we will short-list around ten for the Corps Committee to judge and award the published prizes.

Retention of Material. It is also our intention to place all stories, data and photographs provided from all sources into the RAEME Book Repository where it will be retained at Bandiana for all time. So even if we don't use all the stories and photographs provided to the project team, they won't be lost.

Finances. We remain reliant of the Corps Committee underwriting the project, with the solicitation process for sponsors (or even donors) yet to get underway in earnest. We have received two large sponsorships, one from Aspen Medical, our Lead Sponsor for \$3,000; and KPMG, for \$5000. We are grateful to both companies for supporting us.

Next Steps: In the next few months the Project Team will:

- continue to obtain contributions from all sources;
- commence the sponsorship program in earnest;
- investigate the best alternatives for printing, publishing and marketing the book;
- refine our project's mailing lists in anticipation of sending out order forms for all interested in buying the Book;
- select a prominent person to write the Forward and Preface.

In summary, and despite the fact that all members of the team have a "day job", I assess the project has made sound progress and we are roughly on schedule. I must say that without naming anyone in particular, I have been well supported by my project team, and cannot thank them enough for all of their efforts to this point.

I am especially interested in those people, who have promised me a storey, but have not yet submitted it. I look forward to receiving your final contributions over the next couple of months. Write your contributions and send the electronic copy to raemebookproject@hotmail.com and be eligible for the \$500 prize for the best story. Send your hard copy to:

**HOC Cell – RAEME
Latchford Barracks
BANDIANA, VIC, 3694.**

Stay connected so that we can send you an order form. Note the writing instructions at the back of this edition of the Newsletter.

Kind regards,

Ross L. G. Grant
PD CHP
raemebookproject@hotmail.com



Operation Spanner Pack. Most of you know that we get many letters like the one below thanking us for the Spanner Packs soldiers receive, but many of you may not know the history of this important program.

Spanner Pack started with a care pack system initiated by NSW RAEME Association. In 2008, the Queensland Association took over the program and named it "Operation Spanner Pack". The RAEME Association NSW dispatched about 300 packs in 2007 and a small number in early 2008.

Since that time, 2904 Spanner Packs have been sent by the RAEME Association Queensland to all areas of operations including Iraq, Solomon's, Timor, Afghanistan, Sudan and anywhere a RAEME person is posted overseas. These packs have reached more than 5000 of our soldiers and support staff.

The RAEME National Association now has ownership of this process, and at this point, Queensland has been allocated the role of national coordinator. However we wouldn't be able to do the work effectively without the support of state and territory associations through their donations – so it is truly a national project from an association point of view.

We also rely on donations from the RAEME Corps Fund, which has provided \$5000 per year over last four years, as well other major sponsors including General Dynamics, Logistic Solution Australasia Pty Ltd, the Northern Golf Club Melbourne, ENZED Brisbane Central and many other smaller donors, including some private citizens.

Generally speaking each pack costs between \$20 and \$25 to produce, and each pack is currently packed by a dedicated team and despatched from Ray Norman's garage in Buderim. The next despatch date is due in late June or early July.

The latest letter from Afghanistan follows:

Dear Ray,

I'm writing to thank you for the Spanner Pack I received the other week. It's always good to know that we have the support of the Association, sponsors and the Australian public. The Spanner Pack definitely lifted my morale and gave me a little taste of home. I've been in Kabul for about 9 months now and head home in a few weeks. The RAEME presence is not large here in Kabul, but I do see Mick Millar now and again. I happen to work with a UK REME Captain (who I passed a Spanner Pack on to!) and a few RCEME types from Canada. The RCEME celebrated their birthday last week on 15 May by having a function that sounded fairly similar to our activities on 1 Dec. I was invited but unfortunately wasn't able to attend.

When I return to Australia in a few weeks I'll take up a new appointment in the DMO. I clearly haven't been to any Association meetings up at the Gungahlin Golf Club lately but it will be high on my list of things to do. Thanks again for the Spanner Pack - please pass on my thanks to all those involved.

Pat

LTCOL Pat Murray
NTM-A/CSTC-A, CJ5 Chief of Plans
Kabul, Afghanistan.

Regards,

Raymond Norman OAM
Convenor
Spanner Packs



COMING EVENTS

Tour of SVN for 4 Fd Regt LAD – Commencing 4 Sep 13. Some of you may be interested in a tour which has been designed for the former members of 4 Fd Regt LAD. If you are a former member of 4 Fd Regt LAD, and are interested in this trip, then contact Mr Frank O'Brien, the tour organiser and operator, at www.frankosvietnam.com. If you would like your tour to be tailored to suit your needs, then he may also be able to assist.

RAEME Reserve/CMF Reunion. This important annual event is to be held on Sunday, 19th August 2013, at the Sherwood/Indooroopilly RSL Sub Branch at 2 Clewley Street, CORINDA, between 1100 – 1600 hours. The reunion is open to all serving and ex-members of RAEME (Army Reserve or Regular Army), or associated Corps, who served with RAEME Res/CMF units, their families and friends, who were associated with RAEME and who

wish to renew past friendships. Ex-cadre staff members are especially welcome.

More detail is contained in the flyer at the back of this newsletter.



Council of Ex-Servicewomen's Associations of Queensland. An invitation is extended to all Ex-Servicewomen to attend the 25th Annual Memorial Church Service, which commemorates and acknowledges, the contribution made by all ex-service women to our Nation.

The service will be held on Sunday, 28 July 2013 at 11.30 am St John's Cathedral, 373 Ann Street, Brisbane.

An Anniversary Luncheon (2 course alternate drop) will be held after the church service at "Berkley's on Ann", Rendezvous Hotel, 255 Ann Street, Brisbane at a cost of \$35 per person.

More details available from the Council Secretary, Mrs Rosemary Coleman, Phone 3879 4889 or email: coleman39@bigpond.com

Third Spanner Club for 2013. The third Spanner Club for 2013 will be held by 20 STA Regt on 20 Sep 13. The unit put on a "rocking afternoon" last year and the unit wishes to follow-up with an even better event. Out of interest, the unit is also aiming to have our SHADOW 200 Unmanned Aerial System equipment on display – it is maintained within Army by Aircraft and Avionics Technicians organic to 20 STA Regt.



The OC and all unit members hope we see you all there. Please add the date to the RAQ Calendar, **POC LT Matt Chapman on (07) 3332 2237.**

RAEME Birthday Luncheon 1 Dec 13. Our very successful and popular a-la-carte RAEME Birthday Luncheon will be held as usual at the Port Office Hotel, Brisbane, on RAEME Birthday, Sunday 1st December 2013. We will provide great food, wine and company. You, your partners and guests are cordially invited. More detail will be advised closer to the event; however we are very keen to get expressions of interest so we can firm up the numbers early and assist our negotiations with the hotel management. Please advise me by email rgnorman1944@gmail.com or call **07 54766254** if you would like your name and numbers added to the attendee list. Remember this is a very popular event and we are restricted to 130 places. Please add this to your diary and let me know of your interest in this very important event.

Regards,

Raymond Norman
Luncheon Coordinator
rgnorman1944@gmail.com



22nd Appy Intake 50th Muster. The RAEME Association Queensland has been asked to spread the word from the organiser of this event, Mal Campbell.

Mal is providing a very early “warning order” about the 22nd Intake reunion set for early 2017. Suggestions for a location, recently put forward, include Albury or Canberra. Please round up all your known contacts and let them know of the ‘muster’. Please respect the wishes of any of our group who desire anonymity. Could I please ask you to spread the word on the organisers’ behalf – thank you. Please contact Mal at:

Freecall: 1800 244 566
Phone: (02) 9929 0663
email: malc@malbargroup.com.au

VALE

It is with regret that we advise of the following:

- Lionel Bruce **NELSON** passed away on the 27th February 2013, at the Eventide Nursing Home, Beaconsfield Terrace, Brighton, Qld. Bruce served with Eastern Command Workshop, Ingleburn Area Workshop, 1 Field Regiment and 4 Field Regiment.
- Les **BURROWS** passed away peacefully at the Greenslopes Hospital, on the 11th of March 2013. Les was a great man and a mentor to many, including me, during my stint in the regular Army. He was a good

friend to many in the Corps more widely. RAEME will miss characters like him.

- Peter Handley **BROWN** passed away peaceful on the 8th May 2013 at age 100 years. He was a long time supporter and member of RAEME and our Association. The National Archives list Peter as a Captain in command of the AAOC Wksp with HQ Rabaul. He was captured in Rabaul and transported with other officers & nurses to Japan as POWs for the duration.
- David **EVERRETT** died on Monday 13th May 2013 after a short battle with Pancreatic Cancer. David was a 33rd Intake Apprentice VM, and RAEME soldier, who gained entry to the SAS during his military career. David was a character and wrote a book titled “SHADOW WARRIOR”.
- Toshiko **BUDGEN**, (nee Yamamoto) late of Birkdale Pioneer Member of Soka Gakkai Intl She was the dearly loved wife of Bill. Loved Mother and Mother-in-Law of Ann and Glen and Loving Grandmother of Hannah and Scott. Her funeral service was held on Wednesday, 5th June, 2013, in the George Hartnett Chapel, Holland Park.
- Bruno **KWAS** (18th) died on Wednesday 13 Jun 13 in Townsville after a long battle with a cancer. Bruno joined the Army in 1963 as an Apprentice F&T but served largely in the aviation stream commencing in 1967 at RAAF Base Amberley. He also served in Vietnam with 161 (Indep) Recce Flt as an Airframe Fitter from 10 Sep 68 - 10 Sep 69.
- Greasy Joe Colin **Smith** (9th) died on 18 Jun 13 in Townsville after a short battle with cancer. His funeral was held on 25th June 2013 at the Woongarra Crematorium in Townsville.

Mr John Parfitt OAM
Welfare Officer
RAEME Association Queensland
welfare@raemeqld.org





AWARDS

Congratulations to WO1 Stephen Greenall, who was recently presented with his OAM in Darwin by Her Honour the Honourable Sally Thomas AM.



WO1 Stephen Greenall (centre) with two friends, WO1 Jim Beaman and MAJ Richard Hayes, who were in attendance at his presentation.

Also, hearty congratulations to Wally Buldo, RAEME Association Queensland, on the recent presentation of his OAM by the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley, AC.



Wally Buldo after receiving his OAM from the Governor of Queensland, Penny Wenslet, AC

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS 2013

We congratulate the following members of RAEME Corps for their recent Australia Day Awards:

- **Brigadier David Anthony Creagh AM.** Former HOC RAEME, BRIG Creagh was awarded the CSC for outstanding

achievement as the Director General Logistics Assurance, Joint Logistics Command. His citation reads: "*Brigadier Creagh has successfully implemented significant reform programs to improve Defence logistics compliance and inventory accounting substantially. This has significantly enhanced the assurance reputation of Defence.*"

- **Lieutenant Colonel Simon James HERITAGE.** Awarded the CSC for outstanding achievement as the Commander Australian Contingent on Operation ASLAN in the Republic of South Sudan from October 2011 to February 2012. His citation reads: "*Lieutenant Colonel Heritage significantly enhanced the capability of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan through his outstanding dedication, professionalism and foresight. His actions contributed to the saving of South Sudanese lives and the establishment of the world's newest nation. His actions earned him the highest respect from his peers, superiors and subordinates and enhanced the reputation of Australia in international affairs.*"
- **Warrant Officer Class One Stephen Joseph FIELD.** Awarded the CSM for meritorious devotion to duty as the Contract Authority Representative at Cargo Helicopter Management Unit, Army Aviation Systems Branch in support of the Army Aviation CH-47D Chinook capability. Warrant Officer Field has been responsible for the Chinook Deeper Maintenance Contract and has played an instrumental role in reducing maintenance turn-around time by 40 percent over an 18 months' period. He was pivotal in the acquisition and the modification of two replacement aircraft, under project AIR 9000 Phase 5D, after the crash of aircraft A15-102 in Afghanistan.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE NOTICE:

If anyone can help with this request please contact Mr Nielsen directly.

"I am seeking a digital image of the WW2 Australian Water Transport flag. I understand it was an Australian Blue Ensign with yellow crossed swords. Are any of your readers able to please assist?"

Peter Nielsen
WW2 North Queensland Researcher,
PO Box 459 Gordonvale FNQ 4865
Ph. (07) 4056 5400
E-mail: panielsen@bigpond.com

DFWA COMMUNICATIONS

There has been very little activity of late. The agreed meeting between the Prime Minister and the DFWA to discuss DFRDB and disability payments has not occurred. At the time of writing, it is not known whether the meeting will be held, it is assumed that it will occur sometime in the future, hopefully before 14 Sep 13.

I am reasonably confident that the Coalition will, if elected, honour Tony Abbott's promise to right this wrong of unfair indexation. This promise has been made several times now, verbally and in writing, but only time and the results of the election will tell.

On this matter, our Prime Minister alluded to the current government's position and reasoning, when answering a student's question during a visit to a school: The question was, "*When are you going to give veterans better indexation of their pensions?*" The answer was the familiar response that in essence the Government cannot afford the increase and suggested that the DFRDB and MSBS beneficiaries were better off than the arrangements for old age pensioners.

You can watch the interview on: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YuhAVerJ4dA>.

And to inform yourselves a little more on this debate, visit www.standto.org and use the calculator to see how much further your superannuation is behind today.

This is a hard and expensive fight and there are so few people doing the fighting. We need your help and it is in your own interest to help in any way you can. Please visit the ADSO web site www.standto.org and have a browse. You will find it most interesting and rewarding. On the site you can keep abreast of the many things happening with the campaign to get better indexation. We would welcome your donations to assist in the fight or perhaps join the fight yourself as a volunteer. Remember your Superannuation Needs You!

Again, if anybody wishes me to add them to my DFRDB/ADSO mailing list please email me at pm.snowdon@bigpond.com. I will only send important information – I promise – and no jokes!

Regards,

Peter Snowdon
DFWA Rep
pm.snowdon@bigpond.com



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The Association is going from strength to strength and we can look with pride at the good work undertaken in the last few months to incorporate the Association, organize and manage another successful ANZAC Day celebration and the work being done to improve the connections with our Corps colleagues across Australia, in the name of the RAEME national Association.

In this regard, there is one thing we haven't made mention of, and that is the wonderful support we are getting from two of our own, who are helping Ray Norman and me to establish a new RAEME Association Queensland website, and a RAEME national website. Retired CAPT Richard Legge, now an IT Consultant, and a serving Warrant Officer WO 2 Dean Ellis, have been working hard behind the scenes to establish these two new facilities.

The HOC, BRIG Andrew Mathewson, and his staff are also supporting this important initiative both in terms of encouragement and financially. Richard and Dean have already done much to assist several state and regionally based webmasters standardize their sites, minimise costs and to make them more functional. That is where we are headed with the national site.

My focus continues to be mainly on the Corps History Project, and as you can see, we are making progress, there is still much to be done before we get the book on the street.

I'd also like to mention an issue, which is emerging for our Association, and many others like us. This is the matter of how we go about refreshing our executive committee. No organisation can survive without "new blood" being brought in routinely. New people bring new ideas, new drive and better ways of doing things to keep our membership interested and involved. Many of you have been the beneficiaries of the executive committees' work of the last 10 years, so if you want to give something back, then get in touch with our Chairman or one of the Committee. We'd love to hear from you. As a parody on what former US President John Kennedy once said: "Ask not what your Association can do for you, but what can you do for your Association?"

Regards,

Ross Grant
Chairman the Comms Committee
commschair@raemeqld.org



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	<p>RAEME Corps Committee and Corps Fund</p>
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**RAEME ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND
CALENDAR OF EVENTS APR-DEC 13**

- July**
2nd Monthly General Meeting-Vic Barracks
7th Sunshine Coast Gathering
- August**
6th Monthly General and AGM meetings-Vic Barracks
TBA RAEME Reserve Reunion
- September**
3rd Monthly General Meeting-Vic Barracks
15th Spanner Packing Buderim
Date TBC – Spanner Club hosted by 20 STA Regt
- October**
1st Monthly General meeting- Vic Barracks
16th RAEME Corps Committee Meeting TBC
18th-19th Corps Conference- Brisbane TBC
18th RAEME Corps Dinner Brisbane TBC
- November**
12th Monthly General Meeting- Vic Barracks
17th Spanner Packing- Buderim
27th RAEME Birthday- Enoggera TBC
29th RAEME Birthday- Oakey TBC
- December**
1st RAEME Birthday-Nationally
1st RAEME 71st Birthday All Ranks Luncheon-Port Office Fix Restaurant





**RAEME Reserve/CMF
Reunion - Date: Sunday, 25
August 2013**

SAY GOODBYE TO MUM

**Venue: Sherwood/Indooroopilly RSLA Sub
Branch, 2 Clewley Street, CORINDA
Next to Corinda railway station.**

Time: 1100 – 1600.

Dress: Casual.

Cost: \$5/ person.

Catering: Bar-b-que.

Drinks at bar prices

Bring your photos and swap yarns

The reunion is open to all serving and ex members of RAEME (Army Reserve/CMF or Regular Army) or associated Corps who served with RAEME Res/ CMF units, their families and other people who were associated with RAEME and who wish to renew past friendships. Ex cadre staff members most welcome.

If you know of anyone interested in attending who may not be aware of the function could you make an effort to pass on this information.

If you have email access could you please advise for distribution of future notices.

RSVP 18 Aug 2012.

Please respond for catering purposes to:

**John Parfitt Tel: 07 33761778 Email:
jparfitt@bigpond.com 17 Elinga St, Jindalee,
4074.**

**Army Apprentices Re-Dedication Ceremony at
Balcombe – 4-5 May 13.**

The following Ballad was written for the 50th Anniversary Reunion of the 13th Intake of Army Apprentices. It was written by Bob Ludlow and re-surfaced at the recent Army Apprentices Re-Dedication Ceremony at Balcombe.

"Say goodbye to mum, get on that train, the loco's set to go,

You're heading off to Balcombe Beach, which is "only just a throw",

That must be right cause the brochure said, "the beach was just nearby",

Perhaps the stone was not so big, and the Army wouldn't lie.

The DCO, three stripes on show, strides up and down the aisle,

"Where's your bed; is that a joke?" he says with hidden smile,

"It'll only take a day or two, and you're travellin second class,

Until we're there you'll have no sleep, you'll be sitting on your arse".

"Like hell I will!" I need my sleep, and settled in the racks,

That made more room for my new mates, now sleeping on their backs,

We'll stop a while, or maybe two, there's food but not so much,

I'm a growing lad, just out of school, and want my bloody lunch.

The time arrived; the trip went fast, only three more years to go,

I hope my bedroom's oh so nice, a little bit like home,

"What sleep in that? It's just a hut, of tin and floors so bare,

And what about those other blokes: you mean we have to share?"

The shower's cold, we've got no walls, the Corporal's just a p#^*k,*

Sleeping in his donga there, not caring what we think,

"Make up your beds, clean up your boots", he yells at every dawn,

"Get on parade, don't mind the frost, and you'd better be well shorn".

But I know we'll learn a thing or two, a lot more than they think,

To trust our mates, to roll a fag, and how to get a drink,

To learn a trade, to run a mile, and how to shoot a gun,

And how to keep from being sad, turning hardship into fun.

And fun we had, and stuff the rules, our mateship stood us well,

Our drinking on the sly, and more, but no-one there did tell,

It was as if we'd sworn a pledge, unspoken but oh so strong,

And those were there, they stood as one, no matter right or wrong.

It's late at night, you scale the fence, and "Lights-Out" has come and gone,

I'm in the shit, the Sergeant's there, and he knows I'm in the wrong,

"You're on the mat, now in the cell, you scrawny little brat,

What's in the pockets of your coat, and don't tell me it's your hat".

A quart of plonk, and one of ale, and my baccy tin so dear,

A coin or two, my money's gone, till pay a week from here,

So I'm off to see the Colonel now, but I doubt he understands,

"T'was just a touch of weakness, Sir", I plead with shaking hands.

"See here my lad, I've told you once, and won't tell you any more,

Its fourteen days in barracks now, plus a fine to keep you poor",

So the kitchen is my home 'till then, but it's not so bloody bad,

There's lots of bread, and butter too, with sauce and heated snags.

Our mid-year passed by quickly, with that odds and evens game,

As we learned to mind our P's and Q's, at the sharp end of a cane,

Our mentors were a toughened mob, but I wonder if they knew,

How we learned to beat the "System", and to outwit Mick the screw.

We're seniors now, one year to go, and it's our turn to rule,

Two groups have gone; two more have come, to this our Boys Town School,

From boys to men, in such short time, we've changed in many ways,

We know we will remember all, as we move through future days.

And our history from that distant page, is recounted to this day,

But slightly more embellished, as some small truths fade away,

So stuff all those who worry, if we add a little bit,

As our aging minds assemble, just what put us in the shit?

That be-medalled Sarge, 'twas on that train, departed long ago,

But now I understand too late, he was much more than show,

He did his job, he went to war, was not his choice or call,

And with respect, I now do know, he was father to us all.

I'd trust my life to all were there, and to them would also give,

That same regard, and selfless help, as long as I shall live,

For friends that form and share what's hard, together when they're young,

Will stay together through the years; just as we have done.

After all the years since when we left, we've gathered now once more,

To spin some yarns, remember mates, who've passed on well before,

'cause once you wear that badge with pride, a family you become,

To meet as if was yesterday, when we said "goodbye to mum".

RAEME CORPS HISTORY PROJECT – DETAILED GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

This project provides a wonderful opportunity to record individuals' experiences, or those of their mates and colleagues. Therefore you should not be constrained from presenting your stories in your own style, but be aware that the editorial board reserves the right to "standardise" the style of storytelling throughout the publication. Writers may choose to draft a complete story, or provide dot points outline, from which a story may be created. Collaborations are welcomed. In either event, you will be asked to observe the following broad guidelines:

- **Outline** the broad context of the story:
 - **What** was the operation in which the formation, unit, sub-unit, team, individual(s) or equipment was engaged?
 - **What** were the circumstances leading to the event depicted?
 - **Where** was the broader activity being undertaken?
- **Identify**, describe and explain the situation, action, event or activity depicted in the photograph:
 - **Where** did the activity occur?
 - In **what** operation, exercise or setting did the activity depicted occur?
 - **Provide** the identity of any equipment, (aircraft, vehicle, plant or watercraft) or weapon(s) depicted in the photographs.
 - **Describe** the degree of danger and/or technical and practical difficulty involved in the situation.
 - **Explain** the outcome of the situation and what happened immediately after the situation depicted in the photograph.
- **Conclude** the description of the event and story and relate it to the photograph:
 - **Outline** the conclusion of the event and the consequences.
 - **Sum-up** highlights of the event/experience.
- **Identify** (name and rank) the soldier(s) depicted in the photograph. Also include as much background information on each soldier as possible. For example:
 - **His** or **her** specific role in the activity shown.
 - **How** long each soldier had been in the Army at the time of the activity depicted.
 - **The soldier's origins** –did he or she start with RAEME as an apprentice, or was he or she an adult trainee, or entered the Corps by another means.
 - **What** happened to them after the depicted situation ended?
 - **Are** the individual(s) still serving, what rank did he or she attain during their service, or what civilian occupation did they go to after discharge/retirement?
 - **Describe** any amusing anecdotes, regarding any of the soldiers depicted, during their time with the unit.
 - **Were** any of the soldiers renowned for any particular skill/activity/behaviour (e.g. Service representative in sport, a particular character)? This information should be provided as an addition to the information provided to support the photograph.