

# SPANNER NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE RAEME ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC

MARCH 2021



## I 08 Field Workshop



Edition 1-21

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### Spanner News

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## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

RAEME Association Queensland members – welcome to Spanner News Edition 1-21.

2021 is looking brighter for all, across our wonderful land. Thankfully 2020 finished on a positive note with several well attended RAQ activities in Brisbane, Townsville and Cairns. The support our organising teams receive not only reinforces the view that we do want to share time together, but it also emphasises the point we are prepared to go to great lengths to make our functions work well. Congratulations to all the organisers across our great state. On that point, may I encourage the members of the Corps to support our RAEME National Network (RNN) of associations across Australia, to keep the faith especially in the Northern Territory, where membership and organising events have recently declined for reasons beyond the control of locals.

This year sees a continued winding back of COVID restrictions. For the RAQ in SE QLD, and perhaps other chapters, we have recommenced "Face to Face" monthly meetings at the Kedron-Wavell Services Club (KWSC) – our second meeting in March had a terrific attendance, most of whom stayed for dinner. It is wonderful to be together again. Virtual meetings served us well but allowing our committee and local members to meet in the same room discussing important RAQ matters, and then socialising, is so much better.

The RAQ welcomes the return of ANZAC Day marches, and reunion activities, in 2021, and looks forward to a big attendance on parade as well in our traditional watering hole, the Port Office Hotel. But please help us to maintain the COVID compliance requirements – a register of those participating in the marches (Contact Tracing) seems to be the most challenging. I am also pleased to see the ANZAC Day march going ahead in other places in QLD, in a format similar to past years. I understand Flynn's Hotel in Townsville is hosting the major post march ANZAC Day gatherings in North Queensland.

Please visit the RAQ website for details on all the events being organised at: <http://qld.raeme.org.au>. For our friends on the Darling Downs also watch the website for a major initiative later in the year – details will be released shortly on a new chapter to serve RAEME folks there.

Don't forget the need to accept our personal responsibilities – social distancing, using hand sanitizer, and most importantly if you are unwell, staying home.

Arte et Marte

**Jeff Maurice**  
**Chairman RAQ**  
[chairman@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:chairman@qld.raeme.org.au)



### RAEME Association Queensland – What we are about?

The purpose of the RAEME Association Queensland is to promote and reinforce the spirit, reputation and image of the Corps through its past, present and future members.

The goals of the RAEME Association Queensland locally are to:

- promote the Corps' identity and reputation.
- recognise and celebrate achievements of members of the Corps; and
- provide a focal point for Corps activities.

To gain RAQ membership benefits, join for \$10/year, or upgrade to Life Subscription for \$100. All proceeds support and promote the goals of the Association.

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW HEAD OF CORPS – BRIG JAMES ALLEN



Brigadier Allen was born in Adelaide in 1970. After completing an Honours Degree in Electrical Engineering at Adelaide University in 1993 he was commissioned and appointed to the RAEME. He was initially posted to a range of logistic appointments including Adelaide Logistic Battalion, 101st Field Workshop and Aviation Support Group Workshop. He also completed a six-month detachment with the 4th Regiment Army Air Corps, England, as part of the Officer's Long Aeronautical Engineering Course.

In 1998, Brigadier Allen was promoted to Captain and posted to the 162nd Recce Sqn as the TST Commander. During this period Brigadier Allen was detached to the 171st Op Spt Sqn and deployed to Bougainville. In 2000, he was posted, on exchange, to the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Kentucky as the Ops Offr of the 8th Maintenance Battalion. During his tenure Brigadier Allen deployed to Kosovo where he performed the role of Task Force Maintenance Officer. In recognition of this service he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

In 2002, Brigadier Allen was posted to the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter Project as the Integrated Logistic Support Manager. After studying French at the Australian Defence School of Languages in 2004 he was posted to the Australian Embassy in France as the Technical Liaison Officer and Assistant Defence Attaché.

Brigadier Allen graduated from Australian Command and Staff College in 2007 and was posted to the Land 17 Artillery Replacement Project as a Systems Engineer. In late 2008 he deployed to Darfur as a Logistics Operations Officer and Deputy Commander Australian Contingent. Post deployment he returned to the Directorate of Technical Airworthiness as a Deputy Director. In 2011 Brigadier Allen deployed to Kandahar as an embedded J5 within Regional Command (South).

In 2012 Brigadier Allen was posted as the Program Manager for the Multi Role Helicopter Project. He was promoted to Colonel in 2015 and assumed the role of Project Director within the same project. In 2017 he was posted as the Director Cargo Helicopter and Unmanned Surveillance Program Office in Brisbane.

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Brigadier Allen was posted on promotion as the Director General Army Aviation Systems on 31 Mar 20 and assumed the role of HOC RAEME in October 2020.

Brigadier Allen holds an MBA from Latrobe University. He also holds chartered status as a Certified Practising Project Director and was recognised as an Engineer Executive by Engineers Australia in 2016. Brigadier Allen is married to Siriporn, and his interests include travelling, jogging and Australian Rules Football.

**Introductory Message from HOC RAEME.** I am extremely honoured to be appointed as your Head of Corps and look forward to representing you and the Corps effectively during my tenure. Whilst I only assumed the role at the end of last year, I have had an initial meeting with the HOC Cell, and we reviewed the key Corps activities for the year.

Obviously, 2020 was an abnormal year due to Covid and most Corps activities were postponed or discarded. I am keen to restore some normality to the Corps functions and activities during 2021.

We will run a Corps Conference later in the year and initial planning has commenced for that and the Craftsman Magazine and, of course, the Corps Port. I note the appointment of the Master Artificers at the end of 2019 and I intend to re-energise this initiative. The COL COMDTs are meeting with me in March 2021 and we will focus on how we foster and strengthen relations across the broader RAEME network of regular Army units and organisations, Army Reserve units and organisations, the various RAEME Associations forming the RAEME National Network, and the HOC cell.

I will provide a more detailed update in the next Spanner News. I hope to conduct some travel with the Corps RSM and visit regional areas during the course of the year. I look forward to hearing any ideas or thoughts you have on the future of the Corps and RAEME matters in general.

### Arte et Marte

**J. B. Allen**  
**BRIG**  
**HOC RAEME**

## MESSAGE FROM REP COL COMDT – BRIG DAVID CREAGH AM, CSC.

Fellow members of the Corps. I hope this finds you all safe and well. What a year it has been - we can only hope that 2021 will see a gradual return to normalcy. Could I begin by firstly acknowledging the wonderful contribution from those still serving. Despite COVID, ADF and Army support continued at pace though 2020 with little respite over the Christmas/New Year period for some, with the very short notice ADF deployment to Fiji. None of this of course is/was possible without the quiet "behind the

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scenes” work of the “Spanners.” I had the privilege of listening to a presentation in late February from Commander Joint Operations, LTGEN Greg Bilton, who made a point of acknowledging the contribution of soldiers, sailors and air men and women who had to endure multiple periods of mandatory quarantine at the beginning and end of each deployment in order to ensure operational commitments were not compromised. It was also clear from his presentation that 2021 will continue to be busy as we pivot closer to home in a strategic sense. Keep up the good work.

I’d also like to congratulate BRIG James Allen, our new Head of Corps. In yet another first for CC 78, RAEME, our new HOC commenced his career as a Director Entry Engineer officer. This is a significant achievement and is a further illustration of the depth and talent resident within our Corps. BRIG Allen’s “day job” as Director General of Army Aviation Systems will no doubt be keeping him very busy, but thankfully also provides an opportunity for him to remain in touch with Corps matters. Some of the Colonels Commandant and I have met with BRIG James already and together stand ready to assist the HOC, the HOC team and most importantly, you, in any way we can.

Regrettably, because of COVID and BRIG Ashurst’s operational deployment, we were unable to conduct a Corps Committee Meeting in 2020 as planned. This oversight will be corrected this year even if the Corps Committee Meeting needs to be conducted virtually. A review of the RAEME National Association/Network construct is long overdue, and with the demise of a full-time member in the HOC cell at ALTC, I am very keen to ensure we leverage the skills, experience and “reach” of our National and State based associations. One of the joys of service to the Corps after time in uniform is that one can advocate in a manner not possible when still serving! Till we meet next time.

### Arte Et Marte

**David Creagh**  
**BRIG (Retd)**  
**Representative Colonel Commandant**



### MESSAGE FROM COL COMDT – QLD

G’day Spanners, I write this message whilst sitting in a Qantas 737 enroute between Brisbane and Canberra. This is the first work related flight I have undertaken since February 2020 and COVID impositions. Prior to COVID, I was travelling interstate with work every other week and the routine of booking flights, packing bags, checking in, etc... had become a clockwork monotony. This flight seems surreal, and I was definitely rusty in my previously established routine. I am wondering how long before we return to the pre- COVID “normal.” In actual fact, I don’t think we ever will!

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COVID has forced a fundamental change in the way we do business. Defence has rapidly adopted work from home, video telephone conferencing, hot-desking as the new paradigms for HQ and staff. Similarly, our operational units have also had to adapt and evolve to new pandemic duties and tasks, well outside the norm. The ability of the organisation to rapidly evolve to these new processes and practices has been impressive and has proven to us that thinking outside the box and trying new ideas can pay dividends. Perhaps the wider Defence organisation has adopted the RAEME catch cry of “improvise, adapt and overcome?”

In the lead up to the FY 20/21 budget, myself and a lot of my peers were expecting significant cuts to the Defence budget as the Federal Government tried to balance the books and offset the cost of COVID. Instead, we were very surprised when the Prime Minister announced an increase to the Defence budget and a further investment in the equipment, systems and people needed for our future national Defence. Whilst this is good news for us, it also means a lot of work to acquire the new systems, introduce them into service, transition the old systems out of service and dispose of them in due course. The CDF has stated one of his highest risks is that the Department won’t be able to deliver on the investment made by Government.

Each new equipment transition requires all the Fundamental Inputs to Capability (FIC) to be organisationally aligned, which means the next decade will certainly be a time of change. We should all be prepared to accept these changes and try new ways of doing business. New trade structures, new Unit and Command structures, new lines of logistics, greater use of contractors, investment in Australian sovereign industries, and so on will all be issues that Defence and industry will examine and potentially adopt. Some of these changes will be introduced as trials to inform senior decision makers prior to them committing to a particular course of action. I encourage everyone to embrace change when it comes and look at the opportunities and positives which it could bring. Resisting change just makes it hard work for everyone. Be part of the solution, not part of the problem.

In addition to my work visits around SE Qld, I also plan to visit Townsville this year. I look forward to meeting as many of the current and former RAEME members as possible and will be in touch with the Townsville community in the near future.

### Arte et Marte

**Steve Evans**  
**COL COMDT – QLD**  
[steve.evans@defence.gov.au](mailto:steve.evans@defence.gov.au)



## AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

### Bar to the Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC and Bar) – Colonel Damien John McLACHLAN CSC.



**COL McLachlan's Award citation reads:** "For exceptional dedication and devotion to duty, and outstanding technical and interpersonal skill (which) have changed the culture around material maintenance and technical regulation across the Land Force. He has simplified policy and enabled commanders to develop, risk manage and deliver fit-for-purpose and safe capability for the Land Force."

**Director of Technical Regulation and Evaluation–Army (DTR&E-A).** The Director Technical Regulation and Evaluation–Army holds the responsibility of the Technical Regulation Authority - Land, the Chief Engineer Land Maintenance System, and since 2019, the Land Test and Evaluation Principal. Key achievements over the period 2017-2020 have been the replacement of the TRAMM-L with the Land Materiel Safety Manual reducing the regulation burden on land materiel. Additionally, this has included improvements in the assurance and compliance auditing of Accredited Engineering Organisations and the development and implementation of whole of Land domain (Army, RAAF, JLC and JOC) Land Materiel Maintenance Standing Operating Procedures. The Directorate has enhanced and simplified Army's Military Risk Management Policy and Army's Compliance Strategy for Seaworthiness.

Over the last two years, in addition to incorporating the oversight and management of operational test and evaluation activities for Army into the Directorate, a key body of work has been to examine Army's engineering workforce. The result of this has been the development of recruiting targets for engineering disciplines, the (pending) credentialing of Army's Engineers and Senior Technicians with Engineers Australia and the development of a draft Employment Specification for RAEME's land engineering officers.

Colonel McLachlan has also worked with a team of Senior Reserve officers to develop Landworthiness for Defence; the key objective of which is to ensure the integration and synchronisation of all elements of the Fundamental Inputs

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to Capability for Land Capabilities (ensuring policy doctrine, training, facilities and materiel systems are aligned). Landworthiness will enable Defence to assure that land capabilities are trained and employed in an operational environment in a safe and effective manner. At the end of 2020 the Directorate relocated to Canberra to enhance the provision of engineering support to Army Headquarters and the land capability programs and enable adjustment of land maintenance policies as part of the release of the Enterprise Resource Program, replacing MILIS in 2022."

## 2020 RAEME AWARDS TO OUR SERVING PERSONNEL

The RAEME Head of Corps (HOC) Cell is pleased to announce the following awards to our serving members:

Junior Regimental Award (Sub 2 SGT)			
Rank	Initial	Surname	Unit
CPL	B.Z.	Bolwell	I RTB
BRIG Martins Award (Sub 4 SGT)			
Rank	Initial	Surname	Unit
CPL	I.	George	HQ FOR COMD
Regimental Award (WOLOG)			
Rank	Initial	Surname	Unit
LT	J.W.	Nicholas	10 FSB
Artificers Award (Sub 4 WO)			
Rank	Initial	Surname	Unit
WO2	D.	Waugh	RAMS
LT Peter Jennings Award (LOBC)			
Rank	Initial	Surname	Unit
LT	T.	Crowhurst	6 RAR

## 2020 Craftsman of the Year (COTY) Recipients

	Unit	Rank	Surname
ARA	I CER	CFN	Smith, N
ARes	4 CSSB	CFN	Ponomarev, S
Vic/Tas Region			
ARA	4 CSSB	CFN	Ward, C
Central Region			
	Unit	Rank	Surname
ARA	7 RAR	LCPL	Brierton, J
Northern Region			
	Unit	Rank	Surname
ARA	NORFORCE	CFN	Geaney, A

South Queensland Region			
	Unit	Rank	Surname
ARA	6 RAR	CFN	Peardon, H
North Queensland Region			
	Unit	Rank	Surname
ARA	3 CSR	CFN	Searle, A

## INTRODUCING CO RAMS – LTCOL TRENT GROVES CSC



LTCOL Trent Groves joined the Army in 1995 as an Infantryman before transferring to RAEME in late 1997. He previously served in Oakey at the Aviation Support Group Workshops and the Rotary-wing Aircraft Maintenance School (RAMS). He also served in the 5<sup>th</sup> AVN REGT, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cav Regt, the Army Career Management Agency, HQ 16<sup>th</sup> AVN BDE and the RAN's 816 SQN. LTCOL Groves has operational experience in East Timor/Timor Leste on OP WARDEN and ASTUTE in 199/2000 and 201, and OP INHERENT RESOLVE on OP OKRA in 2020.

As CO of the RAMS, LTCOL Groves is also Deputy Head of Corps (Air) and in that role he is looking forward to both representing the Corps' soldiers across Army and helping deliver focussed maintainers to the aviation capability, while ensuring the capability is future proofed through high quality training transformation and delivery.

**Image provide by Mr Bradley Richardson**



## FEATURE ARTICLE ON 108 FIELD WORKSHOPS

**Introducing 108 Fd Wksp.** This month Spanner News features a proud Army Reserve unit about which we hear little, but which is as busy as any regular unit. The stories that follow give readers some hint of the organisation, size and complexity of a busy unit with many roles and tasks.

For those who are not aware, 108 Field Workshop is part of 11 Combat Service Support Battalion (11 CSSB) and provides the Maintenance Engineering effect for all of 11 BDE units. Our dependencies include three Infantry Battalions (9 RQR, 31/42 RQR and 25/49 RQR), an Engineer Regiment (11ER), a Signal Squadron (141 Sig Sqn), a Cav Regt (12/16 HRL), 11 BDE HQ and QUR.

Our area of responsibility stretches from Townsville in the north to Tamworth NSW (you read that correctly) in the south, a distance of some 1800 km. The unit currently has three platoons comprising a mix of the conventional ground trades, plus a HQ/EMEOPS. It has a presence at the following depots: Enoggera, Greenbank, Caboolture, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Mackay and Townsville.

The unit's manning hovers between 75 and 80 personnel and is made up of mostly SERCAT's 3 and 5, with support from a handful of SERCAT 7 pers. We are structured like a conventional field workshop, however the unit has the added challenge of managing a workforce, where the majority are part-time soldiers. This isn't a real obstacle though as we don't run a conventional Tuesday night/one weekend a month organisational model. Thus the workshop is blessed with a workforce that can attend for work, when required, as well as undertaking maintenance periods for members that can only commit block periods of time – we offer plenty of flexibility.

To emphasise that point we will take a look at our workload and activities in 2020. Wow, what a year. We started the year with unit members involved with Op BUSHFIRE ASSIST and followed immediately by support to Op COVID ASSIST. Add to this situation, the introduction of LANDI21 MHC in May, the return of some legacy vehicle fleets, standing-up the unit to reinforce a DISFOR capability within the BDE on behalf of 2 Div, as well as the BAU of the Bde, and readers can see what a full-on year the unit experienced.

We produced well over 4000 productive hours for the year and managed to get a large number of members qualified in AFA/TCCC, ACPI, 2 and 4 and even organised a range shoot to convert the Bn to CMC. Not bad for a part-time organisation that was supporting two OPs and a number of other TSR's at the direction of HQ 2 Div.

**Operation COVID-19 ASSIST Involvement.** Whilst the COVID-19 pandemic caused considerable disruption to maintenance and training activities within 108 Fd Wksp,

it provided an opportunity for employment for members of the workshop unable to work in their civilian occupation due to the recession and or lockdown period. Several members of 108 Fd Wksp were deployed to JTG 629.3 on OP COVID-19 ASSIST for durations of up to 7 months. The civil aid tasks performed on this operation were well outside the scope of work usually performed by any RAEME maintainers. Additionally, members of 108 Fd Wksp gained experience working with all Corps and services across a diverse range of tasks.

For example, the Platoon operating from Brisbane's domestic airport had personnel from RAN seaman to RAAF pilots all working with several civilian stakeholders to manage the arrival and transport of interstate passengers to quarantine hotels. At this location, the ADF role was to provide a cordon on arrival before escorting quarantine passengers to their baggage and establishing a new cordon for the on-loading of buses to quarantine hotels. The ADF team at this location quickly gained a strong reputation for professionalism, organising ability and effective teamwork among our civilian partners. At the height of quarantine arrivals into Brisbane in October and November 2020, ADF personnel provided an essential capability that could not be fulfilled by any other civilian authority with already overstretched workforces.

A small contingent of 108 Fd Wksp members also formed part of the JTG 629.3 Rapid Response Force (RRF). This Platoon sized element was established to act as a first response to a potential localised COVID-19 outbreak within Brisbane, or a remote indigenous community. Whilst this force was never used as such, it was able to pursue and complete valuable reserve DISFOR and civilian engagement/liaison training.

Overall the operation has provided an opportunity for members of 108 Fd Wksp to learn how a joint task group in support of civilian authorities works. Members have established strong relationships with other services and gained insights into cultural differences between Corps and services. The unit's COVID experience has no doubt provided an excellent professional development opportunity for all involved.

Arte et Marte

**Deta Kersch**  
**CAPT**  
**A/2IC 108 Fd Wksp | CSSB**



**James Hardcastle**  
**LT**  
**108 Fd Wksp Trg Offr**



## REPORT FROM I SIG REGT, TST, 100 LSS – 2020 TO 2021

The start of 2020 saw a substantial turnover of people in TST, in particular, a new OC TST (CAPT Russell Haycock) and a new ASM (WO1 Marc Craigie) as well as mostly new Vehicle Mechanics entering the workshop. Work for 2020 commenced as usual for TST, providing maintenance support and personnel to I Sig Regt and I Div in support of ongoing exercises/operations such as Op BUSHFIRE ASSIST and gearing up for our major exercise, that being Ex VITAL PROSPECT 2020 (Ex VP20) in September. It wasn't long into the year that a few curve balls were thrown our way which kept us on our toes. The first was the loss of OC TST, who was appointed by the CO to be the unit Adjutant, with LT Jerome Nacu given the role of OC TST for the remainder of 2020. The second more impactful issue was COVID-19 and all the difficulties that came with it.

Due to COVID-19 I Sig Regt TST manning levels fluctuated in the lead up to Ex VP20 and for most of the year. However, we were determined not to let it affect unit readiness and equipment availability. TST trialed different working arrangements based on the COVID threat and the requirements of social distancing, achieving some great production whilst conducting split shifts and enjoying a few days working at home during the height of restrictions.

Many members used their time working from home or whilst on split shifts to develop TST and unit capabilities, such as CFN Long from EIR section showcasing the value of 3D Printing and its varied uses from battle planning to manufacturing repair parts and LCPL Hamelink using some of his artistic talents to create a Harry the Horse out of old tooling and parts around the workshop.



**LCPL Hamelink with “Harry the Horse”**

This period also saw the introduction of the Unit Welfare Shelter, a purpose built Tricon fitted out with a Coffee machine and fridge, which was manned by members from 100 Logistics Support Squadron (LSS) and probably saw more officers than the Divisional Commanders briefing tent during Ex VP20.

For TST, September 2020 culminated in the set up and conduct of Ex VP20, the Deployable Joint Force

Headquarters' (DJFHQ) annual exercise involving more than 400 ADF personnel and representatives. This saw the workshop minus Elec Section involved in erecting tents and fencing as well as providing a mess area for all personnel. Elec section focused on setting up a generator farm and power plan to ensure that all areas of the DJFHQ could operate effectively and continuously. For the entire exercise, TST worked between continuing production and working outside their trade, providing security and mess piquet's, with the electricians providing a 24-hour piquet to maintain and service the generators to ensure that the power supply wasn't interrupted. Ex VITAL PROSPECT was a great success showcasing TST's trade skills and the broad support we can provide to the Regiment and higher headquarters when necessary.



### EX Vital Prospect Tents Setup by TST

Post Ex VP20 the TST commenced refurbishing unit equipment and then embark on a few days of Adventure Training in October. Everyone enjoyed and appreciated their time away spending a few days relaxing with mates before heading back to the workshop to finish up the year.



### I Sig Regt TST 2020

The end of 2020 saw us farewell our APS vehicle mechanic Ben Richardson, a valued member of TST, whose continued efforts over 10 years helped us continue maintenance on vehicles whilst tradesmen were required on other unit tasking. Inevitably with the end of the year came posting time and with unit member's heading-off for leave and their new units.

2021 has started soundly with the unit welcoming in many new tradesmen, as we continue our efforts to ensure the

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Regiment is ready to provide support to various operations and exercises planned for this year. This will see TST provide maintenance support for locally based exercises as well as travelling to Townsville mid-year to conduct Ex TALISMAN SABRE 2021. Regardless of COVID-19 and its restrictions lingering, everyone in TST is looking forward to the year and showcasing the skills we have and the support we can provide.

**Nathan Bailey**  
**Corporal**  
**Vehicle Repair Section**  
**I Sig Regt TST**



### 5th AVN REGT ROTARY WING SUPPORT TO OP FIJI ASSIST 20-1

While most of the country were winding down and settling into end of year festivities, 5 Avn Regt's Task Unit (TU) TAIPAN embarked on HMAS Adelaide to provide rotary wing support to Task Group (TG) 1111.1 on OPERATION FIJI ASSIST 20-1. This was an Australian Defence Force (ADF) operation providing recovery assistance to Fiji after it was ravaged by Tropical Cyclone (TC) Yasa. At its peak, TC Yasa was a Category 5 severe tropical cyclone with sustained wind speeds of 250 km/h.



### MRH-90 and Aus Aid pallets on the deck of HMAS Adelaide

TU TAIPAN embarked on Christmas Eve, following the successful air self-deployment of four MRH-90 aircraft, and strategic lift of tooling, spares, equipment and personnel from Townsville to Brisbane. The TST within the TU was composed of two Forward Repair Teams (FRTs) that worked day and night shifts to keep the aircraft serviceable for the duration of the deployment.



### Conducting maintenance on an MRH-90 whilst embarked.

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An important milestone was achieved involving the first deployment of Army specialist technicians since the introduction of the Aero skills Technician Specialist (ATS) scheme in 2020. The four specialist technicians were provided greater maintenance flexibility, as they were able to act as a supervisor in their core trade, whilst conducting technical tasks in their secondary trade.



**Transporting construction supplies as an underslung load with an MRH-90**

TU Taipan supported TG 1111.1 enabling the movement of over 60 tonnes of cargo and almost 400 personnel across 49 missions. The cargo moved throughout the operation was a combination of aid material, construction supplies, tooling, and other plant equipment, and was transported as both internal cargo and underslung loads. Of significant note was the carriage and delivery of a 1900 kg compressor, which was underslung to a remote island over 270 km away from the Landing Helicopter Dock (LHD). This enabled villagers to tap into fresh bore water to provide drinking water. The delivery of this compressor was a joint effort by both an Army MRH-90 and the Navy MRH-90 due to the sheer size of the load and distance that it was required to be transported.

The successful deployment of TU TAIPAN to Fiji was largely due to the comprehensive planning and preparation conducted by Technical Squadron (TSS) in the lead up to the 2020-2021 high risk weather season. Prior to any requests for Humanitarian and Disaster Relief operations, TSS had already prepared all tooling, spares and equipment necessary for the deployment of MRH-90 via air self-deploy, Strategic airlift and LHD. Additionally, the aircraft identified to deploy on any task had been cleared of a significant amount of scheduled maintenance prior to the Reduced Tempo Period (RTP). This meant that the embarked TST was only required to conduct routine flight servicing and unscheduled maintenance as necessary in order to keep the aircraft serviceable and meet the flying program.

TU TAIPAN reconstituted back in Townsville on 3 Feb 21 after completing two weeks of mandatory quarantine post the operation. The personnel involved have since settled back into the 5 Avn Regt battle rhythm after a period of well-earned leave.



**Embarked TST aboard the deck of HMAS Adelaide**

Moving forward in 2021, TSS has restructured such that A TST will be the deployable MRH-90 maintenance element ready to respond to new tasks and future operations.

**CAPT Patrick Williams**  
**A SQN Technical Support**  
**Troop commander**



**LT Anil Rajanathan**  
**B Technical Support Troop**  
**Engineering Officer**



## **THE HERITAGE AND HISTORY OF THE BULIMBA ARMY CAMP OR BARRACKS**

Brian Daley, who manages the RAQ's functions calendar, also keeps an eye on the emerging developmental plans for the old Bulimba Barracks site, which over many years since WW2, housed a variety of AEME and RAEME units.

Some of our members, including Brian, attended an Open Day at the old Barracks on 30 Jan 21. This Open Day was held for interested parties and locals in the Bulimba area. As most would know, on 27 Feb 20, Defence completed the divestment of the 20-hectare site to an Australian developer Shayher Group for \$63 million. Proceeds from the sale of the site will be reinvested to support Defence capability.



**Peter Mathews, Barry Shipway and Karl Sams**  
**Enjoying a nostalgic walk around the Bulimba site**  
**during the Open Day**

Brian, who lives in the suburb of Bulimba, has written a short history of the site and the units that occupied the barracks since 1942 for our readership.

“Work on the camp was commenced in 1942 at the former Apollo Rd candle works site. M.R. Hornibrook Pty Ltd was the construction authority, with a completion time of 8 weeks. The US Army provided labour under the supervision of M.R. Hornibrook Pty Ltd. The American Units involved in this construction included the 534th Engineer Amphibian Regiment and the 4th Engineer Amphibian Brigade. The requirement was for a barge assembly yard with supporting workshop facilities. Once operational, the Barge Assembly Yard, known as the Apollo Barge Assembly Depot (ABPD) assembled prefabricated 300-ton steel barges and 200-ton wooden barges, which were then fitted out for their particular tasks in the SW Pacific area.

Barges were assembled by approximately 800 Chinese labourers, who lived in Barracks in the camp area. One of the Chinese labourers, Mr Eddie Lui, OAM, later became the longest serving secretary of the Chinese Club of Queensland. A number of these Chinese men from this camp also enlisted in the Australian Defence Forces and some married local girls. Details of this interesting bit of history can be found in a display at the Sydney Museum.

At War's end, on 15 Mar 45, the Bulimba Barracks Camp was transferred from US Army to Australian Army control. On 30 May 45, Bulimba Camp became the Australian Advanced Watercraft Workshop (AAWW). The Unit was re-designated as 1 Military District Workshop (AEME) in July 1946.

As well as its normal functions, the unit fostered Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineer (AEME) units, which were being disbanded, while refurbishing and rebuilding equipment, which was returning from WW 2 battlefields. On 10 Nov 48, the Corps of RAEME became the Royal Corps of Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RAEME).

In 1958, the unit was re-named Northern Command Workshops. From then to very recent times, the workshop repaired and maintained vehicles of all types together with a broad range of other military equipment for the Army. The unit had many name changes including: 1 Base Workshop Battalion, Support Area Workshop Battalion, Brisbane Logistic Group, South Queensland Logistics Group and finally, Joint Logistic Unit (South Queensland).

Throughout the last 75 years, the Bulimba Camp has been synonymous with RAEME and not only delivered outstanding service to all Army units in Queensland, but also throughout Australia and operational units overseas.

During the first period of National Service (1948 to 1959), many of the men called up under the National Service Scheme, served their time in units which were also based at Bulimba Barracks including Artillery, Service Corps, the Queensland Mounted Infantry (QMI), Citizen Military Forces (CMF) and Army Reserve (ARES). RAEME units served at and used

*Bulimba Army Camp as their base from 1948 up to the closure of the Barracks. The sandstone monument, which stands near the existing gates in Tugulawa Park Apollo Rd, lists and commemorates all the RAEME units which served at the Bulimba Army Camp.”*

Brian believes it is important RAEME doesn't lose the historical links of the last 75 years at Bulimba Barracks. It is an important part of our local, national and international heritage. To that end he has encouraged the Brisbane City Council to ensure the developers incorporate some aspects of the history in the new development. Brian continues to encourage the local community and the RAQ, to support this aspiration.

What form that memorial takes is far from certain, but it would be wonderful to acknowledge all who served on the site including Americans, Chinese and Australian men and women service personnel. The re-location of the sandstone monument listing of all RAEME units that served at Bulimba, to another permanent site in the development, would be a good starting point.

**Brian Daley OAM**  
**RAQ Functions Officer**  
**Bulimba 4171 QLD**  
[functions@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:functions@qld.raeme.org.au)



## RAQ COMING EVENT AND REPORTS

The following are the key social events happening in and around Queensland in 2021. For further details on any Events please contact the RAQ Functions Officer

Event	Date
ANZAC Day - Brisbane Function - Port Office Hotel	Sun 25 Apr 2021
ANZAC Day - Townsville Function – Flynn's Hotel	Sun 25 Apr 2021
Mermaid Beach AEME SLSC - 75th Anniversary	Sat 8 May 2021
SE Qld Army Apprentices Reunion	Sat 5 Jun 2021
RAQ NQ - Social Gathering Townsville (proposed)	Mid Jun 2021
RAEME Gold Coast Lunch - Mermaid Beach AEME SLSC	Sat 31 Jul 2021
RAQ NQ - Social Gathering Townsville (proposed)	Mid Aug 2021
AEME CMF/Reserve Reunion - Indooroopilly/Sherwood RSL Sub Branch	22-Aug-21
RAEME Sunshine Coast Lunch - Maroochydore	Sat 11 Sep 2021
RAEME Townsville All ranks/RAQ-NQ Dinner – RSL (proposed)	Mid Oct 2021
RAQ NQ - Social Gathering Townsville (proposed)	Mid Nov 2021
All Ranks Luncheon - Brisbane	TBA 2021
79th RAEME Birthday Celebrations	Wed 1 Dec 2021
RAEME Birthday NQ - Townsville	Wed 1 Dec 2021 TBC

## RAQ BRISBANE ANZAC DAY MARCH AND POST-MARCH FUNCTION 2021 – BOOKINGS NOW AVAILABLE

The Brisbane ANZAC Day March will be held in 2021. Details so far are as follows:

### TIMINGS AND LOCATION DETAILS:

- Parade Starts – 10:00hr
- FUP – William St (near Treasury Hotel)
- RAQ is **Serial 84** in Group 7 Section C
- RAQ Forms up at 10:45hr
- RAQ Step-off expected to be 11:05hr
- RAQ aims to have the Banner in place around 10:30hr
- FUP are limited in size and are going to be congested, hence timings

Physical Distancing is to be maintained in **FUP**



**BUGGY REQUEST.** IF YOU NEED SUPPORT, LET US KNOW ASAP VIA: [secretary@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:secretary@qld.raeme.org.au)

Veterans in Wheelchairs (with a carer) are encouraged to take part and will be in front of our Assoc contingent.

### CONTACT TRACING IS PART OF THE COVID PLAN.

Please [click on this link](#) or scan the QR Code below:



Please check the [RAQ webpage for regular updates](#). As a reminder the post-march event is private affair, and to comply with Queensland Liquor licensing requirements, alcohol may only be sold or supplied with a meal. So all tickets will include a buffet meal and two drinks as part of the price.

If you have any questions, please email [secretary@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:secretary@qld.raeme.org.au)

Spanner News

## RAQ SUNSHINE COAST ANNUAL LUNCHEON – SAT 11 SEP 21.

Readers are advised that, COVID permitting, this year's RAQ Sunshine Coast Chapter Annual Luncheon will be held at the Maroochy RSL on Saturday 11 Sep 21.

It is early days of planning, however as in past years a guest speaker, yet to be decided, will address those present and it is anticipated that the Colonel Commandant, Queensland, Colonel Steve Evans (Rtd), will host the lunch. We will once again be well supported by the Maroochy RSL which looks after our every need.

The RSL has already agreed to waiver the cost of room and projector/screen hire and again will offset the price of the lunch to the sum of \$10.00 per head for the first 80 attendees. We anticipate a further reduction in cost pending a decision on the amount of subsidy to be provided by the RAQ.

Details confirming the Guest Speaker, menu, final cost, format and timings will be promulgated later in the year.

Note the date, Saturday 11 Sep 21, in your diary and we look forward to seeing you again on the Sunny Coast.

Arte et Marte



**Ross Grant & Mike Prain**  
RAQ Sunshine Coast Chap

## RAQ DARLING DOWNS FUNCTION – SAT 22 MAY 21

Many of you will remember we had our first Darling Downs function locked in for this time last year. COVID unfortunately put those plans on hold.

The RAQ Darling Downs is now organising the inaugural function for **Saturday 22 May 2021** with a following optional tours and a luncheon:

- A tour of RAMS and its facilities for any RAQ members who attends and is who would be interested.
- Australian Army Flying Museum (AAFMM) will host a tour concurrent with the RAMS tours, depending on attendees' preferences.
- Inaugural RAQ-DD luncheon at a local Toowoomba establishment.
- The events is open to RAQ Members, any serving or ex-serving members of RAEME, and their partners,

We will confirm timings and costing shortly in Friday Files. We've also raised an [Event on the Website](#), so keep an eye on Friday Files and the page for all the latest details.

If you have any questions, please contact me via email at: [southwest@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:southwest@qld.raeme.org.au)

RAEME Association Queensland Inc

The RAQ Patron, BRIG Grant (Retd) will be our guest of honour at lunch, but the Executive of the RAQ will also be attending in strength, to support our important event.

**Pete Pile MAJ**  
**OPSO RAMS & RRRRAMS**  
[peter.pile@defence.gov.au](mailto:peter.pile@defence.gov.au)



**GOLD COAST 2021 EVENT – EARLY NOTIFICATION.** This email simply provides a heads-up for this year's RAEME Gold Coast Lunch. It will be at the Mermaid Beach AEME SLSC club on **Saturday 31 Jul 21** – please put the date in your calendar and let's hope we aren't impacted by Covid-19 restrictions.

We will provide more detail in May, June and July via Friday Files and letters, including any potential impacts from the evolving pandemic. I will seek confirmation of your attendance in May/June 2021.

The AEME SLSC is also holding its 75th Anniversary celebrations on Sat 8th May 2021. Keep an eye on the [events webpage](#) for updated details.

Regards,

**Eddie "Beans" Bevans**  
**Convener and Barry**  
**Skinner Co-convener**



### **RECENT NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR – AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL**

I am pleased to share a copy of [Our Continuing Story information booklet](#) with you. This information outlines the Australian War Memorial's proposed plans for the expansion of our exhibition galleries to share the untold stories of 100,000 Australians who have served our country in war, conflict, peacekeeping, humanitarian and disaster-relief operations over the past 30 years.

The project received approval through the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act process on 10 December 2020 and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works referral on 22 February 2021. It now moves to the final stages of approval with the National Capital Authority and the nine-year program of work enters the construction procurement phase.

I encourage you to share this booklet among your networks, so that all interested parties can gain a comprehensive understanding of the project and its important role in telling stories of Australia's contemporary service.

As the heart of national commemoration, our Memorial must reflect our living history – for every veteran and for every Australian. Our Development Project offers this opportunity while remaining true to the vision of the Memorial's founder Charles Bean, to ensure the sacrifices of Australians are not forgotten.

**Spanner News**

If you have any queries regarding the Gallery Development public consultation and engagement process, or the project in general, please contact our Development Project team via email at [development@awm.gov.au](mailto:development@awm.gov.au). A limited number of printed publications of Our Continuing Story are also available on request.

**Matt Anderson**  
**Director, Australian War Memorial**  
[AWM.Official@awm.gov.au](mailto:AWM.Official@awm.gov.au)

### **RAEME NATIONAL NETWORK (RNN)**

**Message from the outgoing National Chair/Coordinator – Alex Smithers.** 2020 was a turbulent year with many events impacting on people's time and resources. There has been a massive shift in business operating models throughout the country as a result of travel restrictions. Some changes have been for the better, others have not, but all have impacted our RNN members in one way or another. The country as a whole is finally gaining control of COVID infections rates which has resulted in the reductions of travel restrictions throughout Australia and a form of normality is returning. 2021, barring any new catastrophic events, is shaping up to be a promising year of normality and growth.

With this outlook I have started the process of calling for an election for the RNN Chair/Coord as of March 2021. Initially the election was proposed to be run October / November last year, however with restrictions in Victoria being as they were, I felt it prudent to further delay the election till Victoria has had a chance to further recover. Please take this notice of intent to canvas your members for people who would be interested in taking over the role.

If anyone has an objection to further delaying the election, please voice your opinion for discussion.

**Alex Smithers**  
**CHAIR/COORD RNN**

### **VALE**

It is with deep regret that we advise of the following:

- **Cox, SGT Alan (Retd)**, passed away on about 26 Nov 20, from issues related to his immune system. He served as a VM with 5 Coy / 2 Coy RAASC, 2/14QMI LAD and 11 Field Regt LAD since starting his career in 59 as a NS.
- **Peters, Kevin**, (35<sup>th</sup> Elec Fit) passed away Dec 20. His funeral was held in Bangalow, NSW on Wednesday 16 December 2020.
- **McNeill, John Joseph, MAJ (Retd) OAM (18th RM)** passed away on 14 Nov 20 aged 74. John served in Vietnam with Det 131 Div Loc Bty, RAA, at FSB Coral/Balmoral in 1968. In 2011 John was awarded the OAM for service to the community, particularly veterans and their families. John's funeral service was held on 16 Dec 20 in Mackay.

**RAEME Association Queensland Inc**

- **Shepard**, Shane, passed away in Dec 20. No further detail available but his funeral was held 30 Dec 20, Townsville.
- **Irvine**, John passed away on 3 Feb 21. He served in Fd Regt LAD in South Vietnam from 8 Jun to 13 Dec 67. His funeral was held at Drysdale Funerals, Nambour on 9 Feb 21.
- **Willis**, Herbert Rex WO1 (Retd) (16th FT), passed away 14 Feb 21 after a long battle with lung cancer and additional complications. Rex served in 161 (Independent) Recce Flt in SVN from 29 Apr 66 until 10 May 67 and in the aviation capability for nearly 20 years.
- **Reynolds**, Timothy Parker MAJ (Retd) (36<sup>th</sup> VM) passed away on 21 Feb 21 after a long battle with cancer. Tim joined in 1981 and served in the Australian Army for 27 years. He retired as a Major after multiple deployments, including to Iraq 2005, before starting a new and successful civilian career.
- **Moll**, Bob passed away 3 Mar 21 following a battle with cancer. His funeral was held on 12 Mar 21. No further information is available.

## WELFARE

RAQ has been advised of the following:

- **Ellis**, Jack WO1 (Retd) (RAEME Aviation) recently spent time in Mater Hospital in Brisbane.

**As a reminder**, please advise me of any brethren and sisters in distress, or who have passed, with pertinent and accurate detail in a timely way. Email me at the address below with details of welfare matters in Queensland.

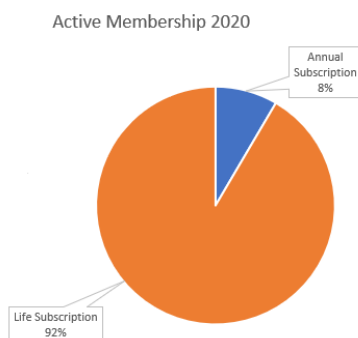
**Barry Shipway**  
Welfare Officer

[welfare@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:welfare@qld.raeme.org.au)



## RAQ MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO GROW

Despite the difficulties of 2020, of managing the RAQ, our membership continued to grow, achieving a growth rate of 10.52%. Our current Strategic Plan sets a growth target over the next five years of 5%-15%, so it's pleasing to see the result within the mid-range target. A snapshot of membership of the Association is shown below:



- 557 Active members at years end (2020)
- Life Subscribers = 510 (91.56%)
- Annual Subscribers = 47 (8.44%)
- Growth of 53 members on 2019 (504 members)

Spanner News

**Remember the benefits of membership include** receipt of our very popular, timely and informative Friday Files every week; and the more in-depth Spanner News, three times a year – both publications are designed to keep you connected to your Corps, both current and past serving members with your brothers and sisters in the RAQ.

Also, members receive discounts when buying RAEME memorabilia in the online shop: subsidised entry to events like ANZAC Day, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and North Queensland Luncheons as well as RAEME Birthday Celebrations; and invitations to events staged by our local Queensland based units.

**Membership is either \$10.00 Annually, or a one-off \$100.00 Life Subscription.**

So let's promote the RAQ to our RAEME Regular and Reservists and encourage them to attend RAQ monthly meetings at Kedron Wavell Services Club on the first Wednesday of each month at 1730 hrs – while we transact important business, we also have time to socialise and enjoy a meal together.

If you would like to join or renew your membership, please go to the [RAQ Membership page](#). If you have any questions about your membership, please email me at: [membership@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:membership@qld.raeme.org.au)

**Kingsley Pocock**  
Membership Member  
RAQ



## OPERATION SPANNER PACK

The Spanner Pack delivery for 2021 will occur just after this Spanner News hits the streets. The team has compiled around 50 packs which will hopefully be in the hands of the troops in various parts of the Middle East in April.

Thank you to the many folk who have generously donated to the RNN/RAQ Spanner Pack program – you should be aware how much the team appreciates your support, and we wish to re-assure you that COVID restrictions did not get in the way of our work.

For readers, who may wish to assist, please note we do need your help, so if you can donate items, or money, please visit the shop on the RAEME Association Queensland (RAQ) Website at [www.qld.raeme.org.au](http://www.qld.raeme.org.au) where you will find a “make a donation” tag.

**Arte et Marte**

**Raymond Norman**  
RNN Spanner Pack Co Coordinator  
[RNN@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:RNN@qld.raeme.org.au)



RAEME Association Queensland Inc

## DFWA AND DVA MATTERS IN SUMMARY

### Taxation of DFRDB and MSBS Invalidation Benefits.

The Federal Court decision was delivered on 4 December and was not appealed. The decision means that:

- Veterans who are receiving a Class A or B Invalidation Benefit which started on or after 20 September 2007 will have the payments taxed as superannuation lump sums rather than superannuation income streams. This generally will reduce taxation and will be backdated to the start. About 16,000 veterans are affected.
- Veterans whose current Class A or B pension commenced before 20 September 2007 continue to be taxed as before.

“Commenced” is the key word. If a veteran normally discharged later, received a retrospective medical discharge backdated to say 1 April 2000, but the payments did not commence until on or after 20 September, the payments will be regarded as a superannuation lump sum, and the reduced taxation treatment is applied both to future payments and the backdated payments. A veteran who was medically discharged on same date pays a higher rate of tax for same period and future.

DFWA is watching this carefully as it is an obvious target for legislation change to fix this anomaly, probably hidden in a bunch of other veteran changes at budget time, and probably aimed at taxing all veterans at the higher rate, not the lower rate. Wait and watch.

In meantime, the ATO and CSC are working together to identify all veterans affected and to apply a streamlined process to correct past tax returns. CSC and ATO advise that for current financial year, CSC will issue Statements of Earnings indicating the payments are superannuation lump sums and the overpayment of tax will be fixed in the Tax Refund for FY 20/21.

The ATO and CSC have several notices on their websites about this. A summary of the situation and links to various sites is on the DFWA website- News and Resources / News Feed.

DFWA has doubts about several aspects of the CSC and ATO approach and is monitoring developments carefully. Our doubts centre on the:

- ability of CSC to identify all veterans who are affected. If they fail, some may miss out;
- ability of CSC to do the calculations of lump sum back-payments accurately. Two different figures of gross assessable income were produced by CSC during the AAT Hearing and CSC was criticised by the judge (and the ATO) for providing no explanation for their calculation failure; and
- failure by CSC and ATO to address that further tax benefit is available by classifying the payments as

Superannuation Disability Benefits provided two doctors certify medical disability. Veterans need to act on this.

We recommend that anyone who is receiving or has received a Class A or B pension in the past from DFRDB or MSBS, contact their financial advisor or accountant and seek advice to make sure your interests are being looked after. This may also affect deceased estates and probate. If your accountant or financial advisor is not aware of the situation, we suggest you obtain alternative advice.

**National Commissioner for Prevention of Defence and Veteran Suicide Royal Commission.** This topic hit the headlines this month across the various press outlets. When anything like this comes up, it is prudent to acknowledge that there are always advantages and disadvantages to any course of action. Whichever way this is resolved, based on previous experience, the result will be challenging. Watch and wait and soldier on.

**John Lewis**  
President  
Defence Force Welfare Association



## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The theme for this year for the RAQ sees us focussing on returning to “normal operations” as soon as we can or able to – our first move, re-instating our traditional ANZAC Day commemorations, reflects that focus. There will be more events for your enjoyment, throughout the year, particularly in North Queensland, where the local folks in Townsville, have quickly got on with business – well done to you!

And celebrating our Corps is what we are about. There is much to celebrate – just look at the many interesting stories in this edition of Spanner News. Recently, members of our Corps have been busy with COVID operations, others assisting our Fijian friends to recover from its latest cyclone and still others preparing for a busy training year. At the same time, we have an opportunity to look back at the heritage of our Corps, and in particular, the changes underway at Bulimba the site of a long line of Area and Base Workshops since 1945 – read the article and you will get a glimpse of the future as the property developers move in. More on that at another time.

The feature unit in this Edition of Spanner News, 108 Fd Wksp, is one that we don't hear much about, but I know this important ARES unit punches well above its weight. I must thank the new OC, MAJ Byron John, and his loyal staff, CAPT Deta Kerschatt and LT James Hardcastle for the article. I am also pleased to have an article from another unit that perhaps “hides its light under a bush” – the TST from 1 Sig Regt, 100 LSS. Well done guys and thank you for updating us on your busy life.

Please watch for details on our ANZAC Day activities in Friday Files as planning for the reinstated march through the streets of Brisbane ramps up, followed by our traditional gathering at the RAEME Association Queensland's popular watering-hole – the Port Office Hotel. Come along and make up for lost time and opportunities. See details at:

<https://qld.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/events>

You will be pleased to note that your RAQ Committee is once again meeting in person on a monthly basis at the Kedron-Wavell Service Club. Remember, anyone who served in the Corps, or is associated with the Corps in any way, is most welcome to attend – we always have a good meal after the meeting finishes at 1900 hours. Come and join us.

2021 has started well for those of us who live in the Sunshine State, so I look forward to catching up with many of you in the next few months as we ramp up a number of events.

**Arte et Marte**  
**Ross Grant**  
 Chairman Comms Committee  
[commschair@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:commschair@qld.raeme.org.au)




**ARMY APPRENTICES ANNUAL BRISBANE REUNION**  
**Late advice**, please note the Annual South East Qld Apprentices' Reunion will be held on Saturday **5 Jun 21** at the Bulimba Bowls Club, Quinn St, (off Thynne Rd) Bulimba. The event is open to all apprentices, their families and AAS staff. It will commence at 11am and finish at 4pm. Look for more detail in Friday Files over next few weeks, but contact Brian Daley on M 0412 721 761 or [bjdaley14@gmail.com](mailto:bjdaley14@gmail.com) for more detail.

**\$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 May 2020 - 30 April 2021 and must be used by 30 June 2021.

13 1905 > [racq.com/batteries](http://racq.com/batteries)



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 Deep cycle



Call 13 1905 or visit [racq.com/batteries](http://racq.com/batteries) today



### Latest RAQ Merchandise

Now that COVID restrictions have improved somewhat, it's time to get out and about. For those golfers amongst you, why not keep cool on the course wearing an Association polo shirt along with a Corps' cap, and whether it is hot or raining, a large umbrella in Corps' colours – you will be the envy of your playing partners.

Don't forget the latest RAEME Corps Port has been distributed and no doubt has enhanced your collection; so if you want to enjoy it fully, consider buying enough bottles to keep one and drink the other. When decanting, why not pour the contents into our popular Italian Glass Decanters featuring the RAEME Corps motif.

Perfect for the coming winter days, while refreshing your Corps knowledge and read an absorbing account of the Corps from our most recent Corps memoir, "With Skill and Fighting – Craftsmen of the Australian Army 1942-2014".

All these items and many others are available through the RAQ website at: <https://qld.raeme.org.au/index.php/shop> then go to the "Shop" section and select whatever you fancy. Don't forget, if you are a flag-waving paid up member of the RAQ, you entitled to a discount on the stated price.

### "WITH SKILL AND FIGHTING: CRAFTSMEN OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY 1942-2014".

For those yet to buy the Corps memoir, here is detail on how to obtain a copy. It may also be a great Christmas gift for someone who has served in the Corps. The Corps RSM, **WO1 Scott Collard** and the acting SO2 Corps Heritage, **WO1 Reinhold Dekrell**, are managing sales.

To purchase a book, you will need to make a deposit of \$40.00 by electronic transfer to the following account:

RAEME Corps Fund

BSB – 833205

Acct – 20509705

Once payment is made, please send an email to:

[RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au](mailto:RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au) and add the

CC address of WO1 Dekrell

[reinhold.dekrell1@defence.gov.au](mailto:reinhold.dekrell1@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.

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 2274**, prior to ordering. Books should be despatched within 28 days of ordering and every effort will be made to inform you of despatch details.

### NEW RAQ PRODUCT – RAEME PLAQUE

**We have a new product in the online shop available now.**

**The plaque features:**

**RAEME crest set on a rosewood timber shield**

**Dimensions 14.5cm x 18.5cm & 1.7cm thick**

#### **Price**

- **Members = \$49.50 (10% off)**
- **Non-Members \$55.00**

**Postage options start from just \$9.20**

**Click on the image to view more**

