



92/38 Landershute Rd  
Palmwoods QLD 4555

Dear All,

Preparations for the 2023 RAEME Association – Queensland (RAQ), Sunshine Coast Chapter, Annual Luncheon are well underway and it is now time for invitations to be promulgated. To this end, you, your partner and interested friends are invited to attend the lunch, to be held on Saturday 30 September 2023 at, as we have become accustomed, the Maroochy RSL. The invitation is extended to all current and past members of RAEME, and friends of RAEME, who live on the Sunshine Coast / Wide Bay area, or the surrounding region, including Brisbane, the Gold Coast and Darling Downs. Visitors to SE QLD at the time are also very welcome.

For those who have attended previous lunches, you will be aware that the prime purpose of the gathering is to provide an opportunity for those of us who live in the wonderful Sunshine Coast region to renew old friendships and meet newly retired 'Bluebells' who may have moved to SE QLD. As with last year there will be no COVID restrictions in place at our venue of choice, the Maroochy RSL.

We are pleased to confirm that our guest speaker is BRIG Gabriel Follett AM, Director General Fuel Services Branch in Joint Logistics Command. The BRIG's impressive Bio is attached and we are sure she will provide a very informative presentation and discussion on her experiences in the Corps and the many non-Corps appointments she has held.

The Colonel Commandant, Queensland, COL (Rtd) Steve Evans, will again host the lunch, and as has become the practice, BRIG (Rtd) Ross Grant AM will be our MC. We will again be ably supported by the Maroochy RSL catering and bar staff, who will look after our every need.

**Lunch Details.** Important details to remember include:

- **Venue** - Room M4 Maroochy RSL, corner Memorial and First Avenues, Maroochydore.
- **Timings** - 1200 for 1230 hours on Saturday 30 September 2023.
- **Dress** - Neat casual.
- **Menu** - A copy of the menu is attached. Meals will be served as 'alternate drop'. Please let us know of any special dietary needs.
- **Drinks** - The bar will be open from 1200 to 1630 hours with drinks being purchased at your own expense.
- **Parking** - Free parking is available in the multi floor car park directly opposite the RSL. Before departing, please advise the attendant at the front desk in the Club foyer of your vehicle registration number to facilitate exit.

**Reserve a Seat(s).** Function reservation details are set up on the RAQ website and you will be able to book and pay for tickets through this medium. **Please note that we are limited to only 80 guests**, so get in early. The cost of the lunch is \$28.00 per head for RAQ members and Serving Members, including partners, and \$48.00 per head for non-members. The website has two options for payment, either PayPal or EFT. Procedures for both are detailed on the website. If you have any difficulties booking or paying electronically, please email the Webmaster at: [webmaster@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:webmaster@qld.raeme.org.au). You may reserve your seat by clicking on the **Red** button below:

**BOOK NOW**

If you cannot use the website to book then please contact our Treasurer, CAPT Mick Patman, at [treasurer@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:treasurer@qld.raeme.org.au) or call him on 0409 623 021.

Whichever way you wish to secure your booking(s) for the lunch, they need to be made and paid for by COB Wednesday 20 September 2023 as we need to confirm numbers with the venue management seven working days prior to the event.

As mentioned above, there are no COVID restrictions and tables can hold a maximum of 10 people. If you do wish to request specific seating, or arrange that table of friends, please email us at: [commschair@qld.raeme.org.au](mailto:commschair@qld.raeme.org.au).

Kind regards,

ROSS L.G. GRANT  
CONVENOR

MICHEAL J. PRAIN  
CONVENOR

Attachments:

1. Luncheon Menu
2. Biographical Details – Brigadier Gabriel Follett AM.

**LUNCHEON MENU**

**(Alternate Drop)**

**ENTREE**

- Bruschetta, goat's cheese, onion jam, smoked tomato, rocket, pine nuts.

or

- Fennel seed pork belly, apple, grain mustard puree, pickled French shallot, jus. (GF.)

**MAIN COURSE**

- Eye fillet of beef, dauphinoise potato, forest mushrooms, spinach, red wine thyme jus. (GF).

or

- Oven baked fillet of salmon, pearl cous-cous tabbouleh, citrus yoghurt, dukkha.

**DESSERT**

- Baked berry cheesecake, mixed berry coulis, rose fairy floss.

or

- Chai tea panna cotta, fresh figs, pistachio caramel popcorn. (GF)

**Note:**

Vegetarian meals can be provided on request.

All meals are served with bread rolls, tea and coffee.

**8261164 BRIGADIER GABRIELLE M. FOLLETT, AM**

Brigadier Follett commenced training at the Australian Defence Force Academy in 1996 and graduated from the Royal Military College – Duntroon in December 1999.

She has served in a variety of regimental appointments including as the Officer Commanding the Operational Support Squadron, 1st Combat Engineer Regiment, and the Officer Commanding Gallipoli Company, Royal Military College – Duntroon. Brigadier Follett commanded the 3rd Combat Service Support Battalion in 2016-17.

Brigadier Follett has held a range of staff appointments, including as Deputy Chief of Staff to the Chief of the Defence Force, Staff Officer Grade One Logistic Plans (Army Headquarters), and as the Commander Force Sustainment Group and Chief of Staff of the 17th Sustainment Brigade. In 2020-21 Brigadier Follett served in Special Operations Command as the Director of the Joint Inter-Agency Liaison Office.

Brigadier Follett has deployed to Timor Leste twice, with the 5th/7th Royal Australian Regiment Battalion Group on Operation Citadel (2002) and as the Plans Officer of the International Stabilisation Force on Operation Astute (2010). From June 2007-January 2009 she deployed on Operation Paladin, first as a United Nations Military Observer in Syria and subsequently as the Staff Officer to the United Nations Head of Mission based in Jerusalem. Brigadier Follett has also deployed to Afghanistan twice, firstly to Tarin Kowt with the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (Operation Slipper, 2012) and in 2018 to Kabul as the embedded Australian member of the US Army Commanding General's Commander's Action Group (Operation Highroad).

Brigadier Follett has humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations experience in Sumatra, Indonesia, as part of Operation Padang Assist following an earthquake in 2010. She was the J3 (Operations Officer) of Joint Task Force 637 during Queensland Flood Assist II (2012) and was part of the 3rd Brigade's response to Cyclone Debbie (2017). Also domestically, she deployed on Operation Relex (2001) conducting border protection operations from on board Navy vessels.

Brigadier Follett holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Mathematics, a Bachelor of Medical Science (Pathology), a Master of Arts in Strategy and Policy, a Master of International Relations, and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Brigadier Follett completed the Australian Command and Staff College in 2011 and the Defence and Strategic Studies Course in 2022. She has studied Spanish for several years and is a keen but slow distance runner. Since July 2020, she has served as a Non-Executive Director on the Board of the Australasian College of Paramedicine. Brigadier Follett is the current Patron of the ADF Running and Athletics Association.

In 2006, Brigadier Follett was awarded a Silver Commendation for her leadership of Gallipoli Company and in 2013 was awarded a Gold Commendation for her work on Operation Slipper. She was awarded the US Meritorious Service Medal for her performance in Kabul in 2018. Brigadier Follett was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours.

Brigadier Follett assumed the role of Director General Fuel Services Branch on 16 January 2023.