



**RAEME ASSOCIATION –
QUEENSLAND**

**SPANNER NEWS
EDITION 1/14
31 MAR 14**

CHAIRMAN'S DESK

As I draft my Chairman's Report for the 1st Spanner News of 2014 I am very pleased to say the RAEME Association Queensland has seen 2014 start off in a very sound and pleasing direction. The Committee has a number of new members who bring a renewed vigor and complement the long-term committee members. Additionally, January saw the executive group met to review the previous year's achievements and discuss the objectives for the coming year.

2013 was another very Good Year for the association, with a strong turnout at our Key Functions- The ANZAC Day march was well supported and Ian Hartshorne put together another excellent RAEME function at the the "The FIX Restaurant" part of the Port Office Hotel in Brisbane. Our All Ranks Function celebrating RAEME Birthday and the close of year was outstanding with in excess of 110 Guests including the HOC BRIG Andrew Mathewson and other in-state visitors, attending. 2013 saw our past Chairman Raymond Norman handing over the role of Director of the All Ranks Function to Ty Bodle – Thank you must go to Raymond for the inception of this idea which is now a firm date on the Calendar; "enjoyed by many".

Another milestone in the history of the RAEME Association Queensland was reached with our application to the Office of Fair Trading for Incorporation. This onerous task was under the direction of Peter Snowdon whose group worked many hours to produce the Goods. Great work Peter, a vote of thanks to you and the team.

Our membership continues to grow steadily and with the return of more RAEME Veterans, who spoke highly of the Spanner Packs they received whilst deployed -- we hope to see more of them join the association and "pass it along", so to say.

I would like to thank LTCOL Richard Kluckhohn for his efforts as HON COL COMDT and welcome the new COL COMDT COL Tony Borg. Also thank you to LTCOL Jeremy King for his commitment to the Deputy Chairman role and welcome the new Deputy Chairman COL Mick Millar.

2014 looks great – our first function (ANZAC Day) is just around the corner as well as a number of new

initiatives to bring some RAEME gatherings to other than the Brisbane Metro area. Lets do our utmost to join together and support OUR RAEME Association Queensland.

As ANZAC Day draws close I encourage all to remember those who have served and celebrate them. On behalf of the Association I invite you to march with our members and join us at the Port Office for our ANZAC Day gathering.

Regards

Jeff Maurice
Chairman
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chairman@gmail.com



MEMBERSHIP

Happy New Year one and all. The membership numbers continue to grow, keep up the good work and ensure you ask the question of those RAEME mates you occasionally catch up with "Are you a member of the RAEME Association' Queensland (RAQ)" and if not "Why haven't you joined?". I would be interested in hearing responses as to why they haven't joined, we can monitor these and if there are trends, the committee can look at ways to rectify the issue?

At the management meeting in late Jan, I outlined a number of concepts for the Membership team in 2014 and these were as follows:

- a. Continue promotion of membership through, the RAQ web site, Newsletter (Spanner News), Spanner Club Promotions.
- b. Encourage all RAQ members to be actively involved in the recruiting of new members.
- c. Investigate the use of other media forums (ARMY News, RSL news, Vet Affairs) to achieve recognition of RAQ and therefore encourage membership.
- d. Approach RAEME National Association and enquire if they have a national membership plan and if so how could RAQ assist.
- e. Monitor RAQ membership procedures, identify any areas requiring adjustment and amend as required.

Again I would be interested in hearing from the current membership in relation to the above concepts. I f you have any good ideas on how we can achieve these tasks or any concepts that you think the membership team should be focusing our efforts toward, then please drop me a line or come and chat to me at one of the

meetings/functions (remember if talking to me at a function it is best to chat early, as for some strange reason I tend to forget the latter part of the function)?

In response to some previously received feedback relating to the National Association and their apparent 'lack of' a membership plan; membership is automatic, provided to all current serving members of the CORPS and all members of the state/territory associations.

Regards,

Steve Howells
Membership Member
membership@raemeqld.com
Tel(W): (07) 3354 0572
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FROM THE COL COMDT-QLD

Greetings everyone and Happy New Year for 2014. No doubt for many of you this year has started at a hectic pace, induction training is over, and you're well and truly settling into your job for 2014. For some of you and your families this is your first trip to Queensland, so you are also getting to know your local environment: new jobs, new schools and in some cases, new (or not) accommodation. My only piece of advice is "keep your families informed so that the 'big' move does not get bigger".

Earlier in January I was honoured to learn that I had been appointed Colonel Commandant – Qld, effective 1 February 2014.

Firstly, I would like to formally acknowledge the excellent work that my predecessor Richard Kluckhohn has done during his tenure as Colonel Commandant for QLD. Not one to shy away from a conversation, Richard took every opportunity to engage with as many of you as possible in order to promote the excellent work that the members of RAEME in QLD undertake on a daily basis and to convey your views to the Head of Corps to keep him apprised of what was happening here in QLD. As I now commence to settle into the role and build on the work that my predecessors have done, my goal will be to continue to promote RAEME values, culture and ethos amongst the serving and ex-serving, ARA and ARES 'RAEME' communities. That said, funds are limited and our members are

widespread so it may take some time to meet you all. Regardless, I intend to take every opportunity to meet as many of you as possible and to convey the messages from our Head of Corps personally when ever possible. Shortly, I will be writing to the regional commanders to introduce myself and offer my assistance in relation to RAEME issues in QLD. My aim here will be to improve my situational awareness and that of the RAQ about those contemporary issues that are affecting our RAEME soldiers.

As this is my first contribution to the Spanner News as your COL COMDT – QLD I thought I would take the time to introduce myself: originally from Adelaide, I enlisted into the Army as a 35th Intake Apprentice Electronics Technician in 1980. After graduating from Balcombe I was posted to the 5th Base Workshop Battalion at Oakey QLD, which unbeknownst to me at the time, commenced my long and highly rewarding association with Army Aviation, both as a RAEME soldier and later as a RAEME officer. Several years later I entered the Royal Military College, Duntroon, and was commissioned into RAEME in December 1989.

During my career in the ARA I had been fortunate to command at platoon, troop, squadron and Workshop levels in addition to also having filled several staff appointments. My overseas service has included long term study in the UK which included a detachment to the British Army on the Rhine (BAOR) and an exchange posting with the US Army 101st Airborne Division. In addition I have deployed on operations to East Timor (INTERFET), Iraq (OP CATALYST) and South Sudan (OP ASLAN) as Commander of the Australian Contingent (COMASC) and as a Senior Military Liaison Officer (SMLO) with the United Nations.

In May 2013 I transferred to the Standby Reserves in Brisbane and am now employed as a Consultant in Brisbane.

My wife Alison and I have two sons, Matthew and Nicholas both of whom thankfully, share my passion for Australian cars and fishing.

Arte et Marte

Tony Borg
COL COMDT - QLD



EVENT AND REPORTS

Rotary- Wing Aviation Maintenance School (RAMS) Update

2014 has seen RAMS undergo a number of organisational changes in preparation for our Unit Establishment Review. RAMS has been restructured to better streamline training practises and to improve command and control, with each Wing now controlling its own on-the job training (OJT) programme. Late in 2014 will see a larger than normal influx of trainees to RAMS, and to cope with this surge RAMS is developing alternative methods of training to help keep trainees proficient and up to date prior to commencement of their type courses. This includes the retention of Black Hawk Aircraft and Avionics maintenance training. The Black Hawk will provide suitably qualified technicians to undertake transition training on either the ARH or MRH 90.

MRH Wing has also undergone restructuring with each Avionics and Aircraft training team broken into 'bricks', each being military led and contractor supported. Specific competencies within Phase 1A and 1B of the MRH training have been moved to develop two discrete phases instead of three. This has the advantage of consolidating training and closing training gaps. Plan Polly provided optimised AV and AC MRH Tech Courses and OJT training to the remaining elements of the Black Hawk workforce in Technical Support Squadron (TSS) and B Sqn within 5 Aviation Regiment, in preparation for transition to MRH operations. Through the work of CAPT Gilson, and all those involved in the planning process, a significant training burden on RAMS has been alleviated for 2014.

RAMS is also seeking to increase the number of IET ARH avionics technicians from two to four per year, and address ARH Ground Training Devices deficiencies through incorporation of regular access to a live aircraft. Some of the more significant changes within RAMS courses include updates to the Professional Development Program for officers, the Defence Aviation Training Academy assuming control over the delivery of AEI and AEM at RAAF STT Wagga, and the introduction of on-the job experience (OJE) for the new engineering officers, to be implemented in 2015.



RAEME Birthday Enoggera Dec 13.

At the break of dawn I rolled out of bed and stumbled into the bathroom to shower and shave in the usual way. It wasn't until I started to get dressed

that it finally dawned on me; finally, after a long year, it was here once again, the RAEME birthday celebrations!

We all got to work, as usual, and began work on setting up for what would undoubtedly be another great day in the history of the corps.

A glorious day of competition began with some traditional events prior to the billy- cart race. At the same time, a year's work of blood sweat and tears finally paid off as all the cart entrants lined up for scrutineering. Of course, the elite 106 FD WKSP's racing cart passed with flying colours. The quality of the billy carts throughout the Brigade was seemingly at a very high standard, that is, until the 7 CSSB Recovery Support billy cart was unveiled, leaving all other carts to bitter shame and disappointment. Of particular note was its thumping stereo system and the reinforced lifting chassis. The vehicles were then manoeuvred, or towed by the 106 FD WKSP Recovery cart, to the start line. The combination of the blistering speed of the racing cart and the indomitable power of the recovery cart was intimidating. It was at this very moment where our fellow RAEME brothers realised their inferior skill and workmanship when facing up against the great field workshop.

It would be remiss not to mention that prior to the billy cart race there was some tug of war and spanner toss events conducted, which resulted in mass injuries as wayward spanners ended in the crowd and brawls erupted on the tug-of-war pitch.

It was an extraordinary sight! All the cars lined up under the start banner, the haze of the road glimmering ahead not to mention the smell of rubber melting slowly on the tarmac. The grid was set; the marshal stood ready, anticipation swelled as the sweat ran down the brow of both driver and pushes.

"On your marks, get set ...GO!!!"

And they were off. Clearly with the best car, 106 FD WKSP racing cart screamed off in the lead. The other teams had little choice but to choke on the dust and fumes left behind the blazing boots and wheels of this well-oiled machine. Built for sheer speed, the racing cart almost tore itself apart as it went flying around the corner at break neck speeds. It managed to reach speeds so close to terminal velocity that they actually broke one of their front wheel stations, but still managed to cross the finish line a good minute ahead of second place.

Recovery lured all other competitors into a false sense of security as we allowed their lesser carts to take off down the hill although it wasn't long before the replica HRV was dominating the competition. Recovery had gained such immense utility that in fact we decided it was inhumane of us to continue to

dominate by sheer presence. It was not until one of the competitors wrote off their billy cart were we able to effectively display commiseration, turned around and offered our second to none recovery support. On completion of the race, we valiantly crossed the finish line hauling the crippled vehicle, whilst being hailed as heroes.

As we entered the Borlace Club, there were high fives all round. After 106 FD WKSP's outstanding performance throughout the day, and the compassion we showed to fellow competitors, the rest of our RAEME brothers took it as their duty to provide Recovery with as many beverages as they desired, with 7 CSSB providing a well stocked bar at the Borlace Club and a significant number of beverages being available to celebrate the birthday of our glorious Corps.

After, what could only be described as a white wash of a victory (one for the history books I might add), there was an exuberant demonstration from a legend of a stunt bike rider. This provided such spectacle that even the acting RSM of 7 CSSB had to come down, and was not so politely told to "TAKE OFF!" A couple of formalities then took place in the way of thanks. In particular of note was to Jimmy Donovan, for organising sponsorship for RAEME events throughout the year (like the stunt bike) and the mass of displays that he has organised both for this event and previous ones. And finally there were the awards to both CFN of the year and NCO of the year.

Unfortunately, it must be mentioned that, even though the most important event – the billy cart race – was won by 7 CSSB, the overall winning team for the day was the 8/9RAR TST. The boxing ring was then opened up and more drinks were supplied. Drinks and food were enjoyed by all, including a massive RAEME cake!

Thus another exciting day in the Corps was wrapped up. We look forward to the next year's challengers, good luck, you will need it.

The first spanner club of 2014 will be held by 8/9 RAR, as penance for claiming victory. We look forward to catching up with the rest of the mafia again next year, and needless to say we will all enjoy a few more drinks and good times I'm sure.

By: CPL M.J. Klefisch, CFN J.H. Sullivan and CFN L.K. Walker

Arte et Marte



RAEME BIRTHDAY 2013 FESTIVITIES — OAKLEY

December 1st, 1942, and the Corps of Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers is formed. Some 70 years later we find ourselves in an Army seemingly very different from our predecessors, but traditions hold and the formation of the proud and vital Corps of RAEME is celebrated.

The day at Swartz Barracks began with the traditional competitive event of the Spanner Throw. As the spanners became ballistic, Sergeant Paul 'Mac Mac' McDonald, performed a BFA in a weight vest to raise money for ProsCan, with RAMS raising \$7,000 in the fight against prostate cancer.

This was followed by the fearless CO, LTCOL Tsamis, protected by only a helmet and shield, becoming the guardian of a large target under a barrage of eggs fired from various catapult devices built by RAMS staff and trainees. This was part of the Egg Heads Challenge; the legacy of MAJ Steve Eves in which the ingenuity of competitors is tested.

As the sun went down, the home of Army Aviation welcomed the Head of Corps, Brigadier Andrew Mathewson, to help commemorate the 71st birthday of RAEME. Within the RAMS hangar the rows of tables laden with food and fine supplies of port brought Craftsmen and Officers together.

The night, however, was more than a celebration of the Corps. The service of two men to RAEME and the greater Army was honoured. The retirement of Colonel Anthony (Tony) Borg and of Major Terry (Sandles) Johnson CSC whose careers, combined, spanned the better part of a century, brought a more subdued, reflective tone to the evening as the celebration of their careers tied with their goodbye. As well-deserved tributes were read, the invited guests, Brigadier Grant AM (Rtd), Colonel Crowe, Colonel Evans, Colonel Millar, Colonel McWatters and President of the Western District RSL, Mr Foot, all enjoyed the best hospitality the RAEME brethren of Swartz Barracks had to offer.

LT Clive Banks
RAMS AAvnTC



BRIG Andrew Mathewson and MAJ Terry (Sandles) Johnson

**RAEME BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON BRISBANE
– PORT OFFICE HOTEL – 1 DEC 13**



RAEME Association QLD (RAQ) Chairman, Mr Jeff Maurice welcoming everyone



(L to R) MAJGEN((Rtd) John Kingston, Mr Fred Newby, BRIG Mathewson and CPL Stapleton cutting the RAEME Birthday Cake

ANZAC DAY 2014

We are approaching that time of the year again when we get out the medals, glam them up, spit polish the shoes, press the suit and grab that favourite RAEME tie (don't forget the hair cut. By the way that is my reminder). Yes ANZAC Day is just around the corner.

Now put this URL into your Web browser:

<http://anzacmarchbrisbane.com.au/>

This is the official site of the Brisbane Anzac Day Combined Parade Committee. Everything you will need to know about the march in Brisbane will be posted on this site as the information becomes available, including the following:

1. The march commences at 1000 sharp.
2. Our Parade Leader will be COL Tony Borg
3. We are **serial 77**.
4. Our FUP is in George Street somewhere near Mary Street. Look for our number on a building and of course the BANNER.
5. Our march off time is expected to be sometime after 1040. This year the Navy are leading the push followed by the Army. (Air Force where they belong.)The first Army serial is 20. It is anticipated their march off time is 1040.
6. The after Parade function is at the Port Office Hotel on the corner of Edward and Margaret Streets. More details on this as we firm them up. Similar to last year with some adjustments. Commencing at 1200.

**ANZAC DAY COMBINED PARADE
COMMITTEE 2014 MARCH PROTOCOLS**

- *The wearing of fraudulent medals and awards is NOT permitted*

Section 80B(1),(4) of the Defence Act 1903 makes it an offence for a person to wear a service decoration that they are not entitled to wear, or to falsely represent themselves as a person on whom a service decoration was conferred.

- *Veterans are to wear **full size medals**.*
- *Those WW2 Veterans able to march the full distance of the Parade are welcome to Parade behind their Banner at the front of the parade with one carer or one person of discretionary age.*
- *Large groups of Descendants wanting to march may only do so behind the banner "Descendants of Veterans All Conflicts" – Please check the Order of March for positioning.*
- *Those disbanded Units/Ships or Squadrons wishing to Parade their Banner at the front of the Parade may only do so when they have gained approval from the ANZAC Day Combined Parade Committee without descendants – P O Box 45 New Farm Qld 4005*
- *Pictures of deceased Veterans are NOT permitted to be carried on Parade*
- *Any livestock, including Dogs MUST have approval from the ADCPC to enter any area*

of the ANZAC Day Parade – There is NO exception (WHS requirement).

- Children being pushed in pushchairs or carried in slings are a potential OH&S risk and we ask that parents refrain from including them in the Parade.
- Unit Leaders on Parade are responsible for the appearance of those marching with their associations and to stipulate the need to respect the March Protocols as set down by the ADCPC. Copies of the Protocol are available on Parade or prior by visiting www.anzacmarchbrisbane.com.au
- These protocols are designed to respect the dignity of the occasion.

What you need to do:

1. Put the 25th April in your diary NOW.
2. Get your gear together.
3. Do you need to be picked up from home in a taxi? If you do we can arrange this. We need your pick up address, telephone number and the name of your carer. The taxi will bring you to the parade and back home immediately afterwards. I need this information by the 15th April.
4. Do you need Jeep/Buggy transport for the march? Once again this is easy to arrange. Give me the name of your carer and a contact number. I will do the rest. I need this information by the 15th April.
5. Finally, BE THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!

Ian Hartshorn
ANZAC Day Committee

RAEME NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

As previously reported to you in the past we are progressing very well and I am pleased to report that all State and Territory RAEME Associations are on board with the RAEME National Association (RNA).

The big task at the moment is getting the new web site for the RNA up and running and I am happy to say this is very close to coming to fruition in the next few weeks, including connecting all State and Territory and Head of Corps (HOC) to the newly created RAEME Network. Once again we have had terrific support from all and it looks like all will sign up to the network. You will have connectivity soon.

Most of the RAEME Associations are rewriting their websites using common software called Joomla and these sites will have a common modern appearance. Richard Legge and Dean Ellis are facilitating this process with the support of the respective State and Territory Webmasters. Additionally Richard Legge, saving lots of dollars for all, will host the majority.

Once again one of the aims of the RNA in using economies of scale principals.

Along the same lines we will then invite other RAEME groups/units to join in the network as, after -all one of the main purposes of forming the national association was to bring together all of the various RAEME organisations into the RAEME family regardless of shape and size.

A great outcome is that we know have all state and territories and HOC talking to each other through the President/Secretary and Webmaster network using SKYPE regular conversations.

Many more project in the pipeline like writing the Constitution and setting up a RNA Email system to connect to all especially our serving folk.

The RAEME National Facebook is also receiving plenty of visits and you are encouraged to have your say on the great social media site. Our online administrators keep this site very clean. <https://www.facebook.com/RaemeAssociation>

Regards,

Ray

Raymond G. Norman OAM
President
RAEME National Association



“Giddy Raymond,

Just got the ties. Very impressed. The people involved in the design and associated process are entitled to ten minutes on the back patting machine for the finished product.

Regards,

Eddie Bevans”

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OUT AND ABOUT AND ASSORTED STORIES

Brief History of the RAEME Reserve/ CMF in South East QLD

On the raising of the Citizens Military Forces (CMF) on the 1 JUL 1948, 104 Infantry Workshops (Inf Wksp) was formed at ANNELEY and, shortly after moved to BULIMBA. The Unit had its origin in WW2 as the 104 Independent Brigade Workshops, which saw service in NEW GUINEA; it was disbanded after the war. Other RAEME CMF units were raised in QUEENSLAND at the time included 11 and 21 Light Aid Detachments (LAD), and 49

LAD, raised in TOWNSVILLE. RAEME CMF personnel were also attached to 2 Transport Squadron and 2 Mobile Laundry and Baths Unit.



Other Units formed at the time:

2/14 Queensland Mounted Infantry LAD

5 Field Regt LAD

11 Field Regt LAD

2 Transport Company Workshops

5 Transport Company Workshops

These units and attached personnel were under the command of HQ 2 CRAEME (Headquarters 2 Commander Royal Australian Electrical and mechanical Engineers) based at BULIMBA. 104 Inf Wksp was renamed 104 Field Workshop (Fd Wksp) during the Army re-organisation of what was called the Pentropic Division in the 1970's. In 1974 the Army component of the CMF became the Army Reserve (ARes), and in 1975 104 Fd Wksp was disbanded and became 1 EME COY (1 Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Company), which still retained its workshop role along with other RAEME which were under direct command of EME Services Unit.

In 1987 104 FD Wksp was again raised to meet the requirement of Army reserve Field Workshop and along with other ARes RAEME Units was placed under command of HQ 1 DIV EME (Headquarters 1 Division Electrical and Mechanical Engineers).

In 1991 these Ares RAEME Units were placed under command of Headquarters 7 Brigade (HQ 7 BDE). In 1995 104 Fd Wksp was amalgamated with other Service Corps to form the 7th Brigade Administrative Support Battalion (7BASB). On July 1997 the amalgamation of the 6th and 7th Brigades, brought all workshop personnel under command of what was the newly named 7th Combat Service Support Battalion (7CSSB), at that time the name of the combined workshops became simply 7 CSSB Workshop Company.

Currently the 7th Brigade is moving to full time personnel only, although the progress is slow on the part of 7 CSSB its part time members will eventually move to 11 CSSB.

104 Fd Wksp is the last Reserve Workshop to be removed from the ORBAT.

Ian Leabeater

Spanner Pack – February 2014

As most would know and appreciate that the Spanner Pack operation has reduced dramatically as a result of the draw down from Afghanistan of our RAEME members and support staff.

We can advise that a further forty three packs left for Afghanistan and Sudan mid-February bring our total packs sent to 3039, a great effort by the team.

The RAEME National Association in conjunction with RAEME Association Queensland is committed to continuing this operation whilst we have any troops on operations.

Thanks to all those that support and sponsor this activity.

Regards,

Raymond Norman
Spanner Pack Coordinator
rgnorman1944@gmail.com



CORPS HISTORY PROJECT (CHP) BOOK.

The project is now in the vital stage of editing and proof reading of the second draft of the CHP book. This will involve a range of volunteers over about three months while the project team reduces the size of the manuscript and ensures the stories are accurate, and interesting. Concurrently we will be looking at publishing strategies as we head towards 1 Dec 14, the nominated publishing and launch date.

To obtain a sense of the stories that may be in the forthcoming book, and to commemorate the activities of the work of electrical and mechanical engineers in World War 1 (WW1), I am going to publish some short stories in each edition of the Spanner News this year, to excite your imagination. The following story is a bit different but exemplifies the work of our forebears.



1918: Major R V Morse, DSO

“Specialist units were also developed during the course of the French campaigns, one being the Australian Electrical and Mechanical Mining and Boring Company, commanded by Major R V Morse, DSO(1) The Australian Electrical and Mechanical Mining and Boring Company was not part of the AAOC and the qualifications of its members and its function more closely resembled that of contemporary RAEME(2). The role of the Company was to install and maintain lighting, power plant, pumps and fans throughout the 1st and 2nd Army AOs for deep well boring in both forward and rear areas and for shallow boring along the front(3). A large proportion of Company members were subjected to shell fire as they worked in and transited the forward areas. Electricians repairing power cables were especially vulnerable and often served in hazardous conditions where they displayed gallantry and devotion to duty.

The following extract from the citation for Corporal John Nancarrow’s Distinguished Conduct Medal provides an example of the bravery and conditions faced:

“While in charge of the pumping and electric power of mining systems, two out of his three engines were smashed, and the mines commenced to flood. By working continuously, in 56 hours he installed a new plant under shell fire, and by keeping the remaining set running continuously heavily overloaded, the water was kept from rising more than 2 feet in the galleries.”⁴

The Company established workshops in different locations, notably at Hazebrouck and at Maroeuil and relied heavily on recovered items of equipment and mechanical engineering improvisation to carry out its tasks. During April 1918, a successful German attack in the Armentieres sector forced the Company’s withdrawal from Hazebrouck, to a new location behind the St Omer-Aire Canal. The Company successfully recovered, by convoy of lorries, about 300 tons of stores and equipment to the new location in a paper mill. The mill’s 28 horse power water turbine was overhauled and installed in conjunction with an 18-kilowatt 220-volt generator, belt driven by the water turbine. Thus was power provided to machine, carpenters’ and blacksmiths’ workshops for portable drills, testing, and general lighting.⁵



1

Morse was educated at Sydney Grammar School and Technical College. On leaving school he entered the service of the Standard Waygood Company, and in 1905 proceeded to England and joined the Engineering works of Dick Kerr and Company in Preston, Lancashire, to obtain further practical experience. During February 1916, he enlisted in the AIF and deployed on war service to France as a Captain in the Mining Corps. After the Battle of Messines he was promoted to the rank of Major and command of the Australian Electrical and Mechanical Mining and Boring Company, the only electrical unit which did front line work. For service commanding the Company Major Morse was awarded the DSO, and twice mentioned in despatches. After WW1 Morse joined the Tasmanian hydroelectric department. Major Morse died in 1925.

² After the Battle of Messines, the Australian Mining and Boring Battalion was broken up and its three tunneling Companies dispersed. However, the value of the Battalion’s electrical and mechanical elements was recognized and retained as a separate capability, the Australian Electrical and Mechanical Mining and Boring Company.

³ <http://www.tunnellers.net/files/aemmbcraebook.pdf>

⁴ Op. cit.

⁵ <http://www.tunnellers.net/files/aemmbcraebook.pdf>

1917, France: The Electrical Section of the Australian Electrical and Mechanical Mining and Boring Company made use of a captured 12 H.P. Gardner-Bosch engine to power its workshop. The Company also made maximum use of recovered items of equipment

During two and a half years of war service on the Western Front, decorations won by members of the Australian Electrical and Mechanical Mining and Boring Company included: one Distinguished Service Order; two Military Crosses; five Distinguished Conduct Medals; three Military Medals; and fifteen Meritorious Service Medals. The Company was disbanded at the end of the war."

Many such stories will be used in the forthcoming book, but those which we do not use, are being saved electronically in the RAEME Book Repository for future use. Eventually they will become accessible via the evolving RAEME National Association website. So if you have RAEME stories, photos, video clips, or other media material you want preserved, then send it to raemebookproject@hotmail.com.

Kind regards,

Ross L. G. Grant
PD CHP

raemebookproject@hotmail.com





COMING EVENTS

2014 Annual Reunion of Army Apprentices for South East Queensland.

Planning is in progress for the 2014 Annual Reunion of Army Apprentices for South East Queensland. Permission has already been requested for the use of the facilities of the old Sergeants Mess at Bulimba Barracks, now known as the "Quarry Club". As has become our custom, the event will again be held on the Sunday of the Queen's Birthday long weekend, hence the date will be Sunday 8th June 2014. The clock is ticking for our time of reunions at Bulimba, as by 2015 the workshop may be gone!

So please gather as many mates as you can for what could be our last gathering at Bulimba.

Regards,

Bryan Daley
Apprentice's Association - Qld
bjdaley@hotmail.net.au



VALE

The Association has been advised of the passing of the following:

- **Philip J Ferguson,**
- **Bruce Clive Eklom,** 18th Intake Electrician passed away 15 March 2014
- **Desmond James Armbruster** 27th Intake Fitter Maintenance, passed away 6 March 2014;
- **Jack Westernhagen;** 3rd Intake Apprentice Vehicle Mechanic, passed away 18 Dec 2013;
- **Douglas James McIntyre, OAM,** passed away, 30 Jan 14, aged 80.
- **Pete Wood (28th) VM,** passed away 17 Jan 14;
- **Dennis Edwards (20th)** Blacksmith, passed away 26 Dec 13.
- **Phil Turley (30th)** Electronics Technician, passed away suddenly on 20 Jan 14;
- **Harry Hopper, MBE,** Artificer TELS and RDR, passed away on 25 Jan 14 aged 93;
- **LTCOL Ed Sullivan,** passed away 26 Dec 2013;
- **Major Ian Davis** passed away on 6 Feb 2014 aged 69.
- **Fred Millar,** passed away 26 Feb 2014 aged 90.

SICK LIST

- **Glen Fuchs.** The Association has received word that Glen Fuchs is very ill with a serious lung problem and is receiving treatment. He has agreed to have his contact information sent to our members – State and Nationally. His new Email fuchsy46@me.com. His postal address 20 Gilmore Street Bentley Qld 4869. A get well card would be appreciated.

John Parfitt

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



MATES 4 MATES

“The Power of Mateship”

Mates4Mates is a not-for-profit organisation committed to providing holistic welfare and treatment programs that give direct support to current and ex-serving Australian Defence Force (ADF) members who have suffered physical or psychological wounds, injuries and illnesses as a result of their service, either in Australia or overseas. Integral to supporting our Brave Mates is providing support to their family.

Mates4Mates provides a wide range of services including psychological counselling, career coaching programs, wellbeing workshops, family support meetings, physical rehabilitation and conditioning programs including individual recovery plans and physical training sessions for adventure challenges.

We are proud to announce the opening of our second Family Recovery Centre in Townsville as from May 2014. Mates4Mates gives new hope for those in need. It presents everyone a new start and the chance to reflect and refocus. For help or to support our wounded, injured and ill ADF mates, visit www.mates4mates.org or call 13004 MATES (62837).

VETERANS & VETERANS FAMILIES COUNSELLING SERVICE (VVCS)

VVCS provides counselling and support services to:

- Australian veterans
- Peacekeepers
- Eligible members of the ADF
- Their partners and children

VVCS services are specialised, free of charge, and confidential.

VVCS offers counselling and group programs (training workshops) in all capital cities and many rural centres, and it has an extensive network of contracted counsellors across the country.

To arrange an appointment with your nearest counsellor, or to obtain more information about VVCS (including eligibility), please call **1800 011 046** or visit our website www.dva.gov.au/health/vvcs.

See the *services provided by VVCS page* for information on the group programs being run by VVCS in 2014.

Topics include:

- Sleeping Better

- Mindfulness
- Doing Anger Differently
- Beating the Blues (depression management)
- Mastering Anxiety
- Building Better Relationships
- Parenting
- And more!



DFWA COMMUNICATIONS

As advised in the Nov 2013 Newsletter, we are on track to receive indexation of our Defence Superannuation. The question has been asked of politicians repeatedly and the firm answer is that it will occur on 1 Jul 2014. Legislation will be introduced into Parliament in time to meet that deadline. However, the Bill will then have to pass the Senate to become Law.

Also as advised:

This will apply to DFRB/DFRDB over 55s, disability and reversionary pensioners only. A reversionary pension is the widow's pension. The fight will continue for:

- DFRB/DFRDB under 55s;
- disability pensions to try and retrieve the 2.7% we didn't receive when civilian disability pensions were increased in 2009; and
- the MSBS indexation, which is still tied to CPI. Follow this link: <http://standto.org/component/content/article/57-fg-campaign/adf-current-issues/msbs/240-msbs-inequities.html#Indexation> which also covers :

- Superannuation for Reserves. All personnel in the reserve should have access to government superannuation.

MSBS super applies mainly to still serving members (the numbers retiring since it was introduced are increasing) but it is of concern that not many of those still serving are aware of the problem. If you know any people still serving, talk to them about the effect upon their super down the track with CPI indexation and shake them up a bit. This is a serious problem and the word needs to be spread far and wide. If anyone wishes to talk to me about MSBS, or anything at all about Defence Super, feel free to contact me on pm.snowdon@bigpond.com

A recent development is the question of how DFRDB determines the Notional Rate of Pay and how that determination is applied to Widows' pensions. A bit complicated but suffice to say "we are being missed, again". The DFWA leadership is pursuing this question directly with the Minister. Add this to the bullet points above and you can see that we still have a long fight ahead.

DFWA needs your support. The DWFA exists purely to protect the welfare of serving and ex-serving ARA and ARES soldiers, and it needs your help to do so. www.dfw.org.au/branches/qld is the DFWA Website. Please visit and have a browse.

The fight for better super is also being waged by the Alliance of Defence Service Organisations (ADSO) of which DFWA is one of the senior partners, and again your help is needed if we are to win this long fight. Again visit www.standto.org to see the full range of their activities. You can even check out how much pension you have lost over the years; become a member and even make a donation.

Regards
Peter Snowden
DFWA Rep
pm.snowden@bigpond.com





AWARDS

MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA (OAM) – IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

IN THE GENERAL DIVISION - Mrs Judith Ann KRANEN, Bray Park Qld 4500 – Congratulation to Judith Kranen, a life member of the RAEME Association Queensland, who was awarded the OAM for service to veterans and their

families. Amongst other services Judith performs on the behalf of her community, she is also a Life Member, Pine Rivers District Women's Auxiliary, Returned and Services League of Australia, 2003; President, 1998-2006; Member, since 1981; Delegate to Brisbane North Women's Auxiliary; Deputy President, Pine Rivers Sub-Branch, Returned and Services League of Australia, since 2004; Member, since 1987; volunteer badge seller and fundraiser, ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, ongoing; actively involved with maintaining the 'Memorial Gardens' ongoing; and a Life Member, Queensland Branch, Returned and Services League of Australia, 2013.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

2014 year brings its usual challenges for your association, but our Committee has recently received a boost in the form of some young fresh faces – congratulations to Shad Marsh, our new events coordinator; Peter Mathews, our new webmaster whom we featured in the last edition, and Ty Bodle, who is the new RAEME Birthday Luncheon organiser on joining the Committee. We are very pleased to have you aboard, gents.

One challenge for the new committee is how to properly contribute to the broader community's desire to undertake and support suitable remembrance activities for the 100th Anniversary of the commencement of World War 1 (WW1). Given that we didn't exist as Corps at that time, perhaps the flavour should centre on what our forebears did to maintain and repair equipment in WW1, and later, even though they didn't wear a RAEME badge – because they were on the Western front, at Gallipoli and in the Middle East and their stories are interesting and instructive.

We have depicted one such story earlier in this edition, which highlights the work of electrical and mechanical engineers in Boring Companies, which we hope you find interesting. If you have more recent stories then please provide them. If you have ideas that may help the remembrance process, please let the Committee know, especially as we head into 2015.

Future editions of Spanner News will bring forward stories in the life of the Corps, as small snippets of those stories in our evolving Corps History Project book. We have received many such stories to date, some of which appear in the book, many of which are now being safely stored in the RAEME electronic repository for future use.

I am privileged in my other life to be part of a major logistics transformation program for the Australian

Defence Forces (ADF). A key part of that program is the construction of new fourth line transport, distribution and maintenance facilities. I thought a number of the 'olds and bolds' in our association may be interested in the photograph below, which shows the new facilities nearing completion at West Wattle Grove, on formerly vacant land to the east of the current DNSDC facilities at Moorebank. They will be ready for occupancy in early 2014.

The photo shows a most of the new facilities, but for the old hands, it also shows the old 2 Base Wksp Bn workshop facilities running parallel to Moorebank Avenue – see the saw toothed roof – much needed facilities for a modern AADF and long overdue.



History changing before your eyes - new workshop, warehouse and distribution facilities nearing completion at Moorebank and about to be occupied by Joint Logistic Unit (East). The photo is looking North West and the old 2 base Wksp Bn workshop can be seen running parallel to Moorebank Avenue which in turn runs diagonally across the photo from top centre to left centre.

As I said in the last edition the year ended on a very positive note in respect of the several functions organised by your committee and the local RAEME units – I attended both the major ones at Oakey and the Port Office Hotel, but missed the Enoggera one, but I am yet to meet anyone who wasn't satisfied with the work done by the local Association and units – well done to all.


Enjoy 2014.

Regards,



Ross Grant
Chairman the Comms Committee
commschair@raemeqld.org

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RAEME Association Queensland Inc.
Calendar of Events 2014

January

21st Management Meeting- LA Hotel

February

4th Monthly General Meeting- Vic Barracks

9th Spanner packing- Buderim

March

1st Army Birthday-Nationally

4th Monthly General Meeting- Vic Barracks

1st -2nd 44th Class Apprentice Reunion-Bris

April

1st Port Office Co-ord Luncheon 1230 Hrs.
(Invitation only)

1st Monthly General Meeting- Vic Barracks

25th ANZAC Day March- Brisbane CBD

25th ANZAC Day Function-Port Office Hotel

May

4th 104 Fd Wksp Reunion-Bulimba **TBC**

6th Monthly General Meeting-Vic Barracks

TBA- Spanner packing- Buderim

June

3rd Monthly General Meeting-Vic Barracks

8th Apprentice Reunion- Bulimba

27th RFD Cocktail Party-Vic Barracks

28th RFD Recognition Ceremony-Bris ANZAC
Square

29th RFD Recognition Ceremony-Ipswich

July

1st Monthly General Meeting-Vic Barracks

27th Sunshine Coast RAEME Gathering

August

9th Monthly General and AGM meetings-LA Hotel
1130 hrs. - Luncheon to follow w/partners.

10th RAEME Reserve Reunion **TBC**

TBA Spanner packing-Buderim

September

2nd Monthly General Meeting-Vic Barracks

October

7th Monthly General meeting- Vic Barracks

29th RAEME Corps Committee Meeting –Bandiana
& B-B-Q

30-31st Corps Conference-Bandiana

30th RAEME Corps Dinners- Bandiana

November

11th Monthly General Meeting- Vic Barracks

16th Spanner Packing- Buderim **TBC**

28th RAEME Birthday- Oakey **TBC**

28th RAEME Birthday- Enoggera/Amberley **TBC**

30th RAEME Birthday All Ranks Luncheon

December

1st RAEME Birthday-Nationally

No Monthly General Meeting

Notes:

1. October- Dinners maybe combined
2. **Spanner Clubs Enoggera, Amberley, Oakey-**
TBA

Legend: TBC - To be confirmed

TBA - To be advised