



**RAEME ASSOCIATION –
QUEENSLAND**

SPANNER NEWS – EDITION
2/16
4 Jul 16

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome Spanners, to the second ‘Spanner News’ for 2016. The first half of the year has flown by, and yet again, many of our members have been fortunate to participate in a number of activities. These include a well-attended ‘Spanner Club’ at Enoggera; and an important milestone for the Corps history, the 50th Anniversary All Ranks dinner celebrating the raising of 102 Fd Wksp in Townsville. Of course it goes without saying that the ANZAC Day March, including our post march function at the Port Office, was superb. Nick Rees (ANZAC Day RAQ member) did us proud – great job, Nick, and thank you also to Raymond Norman, who played a key role assisting Nick.

Our association continues to strengthen its ties with serving members in Enoggera, Amberley and Oakey with each of these localities providing a very welcome representative to our Committee. The new OC 106 Fd Wksp, MAJ Fleming, will take up his post in the Association now that he has returned from deployment. I’d particularly like to thank the ASM’s of RAMS and 6 ESR for their recent participation – it is appreciated.

Planning is well underway for the Corps’ 75th Anniversary next year (1942-2017). In SE QLD, this will include the Prince Phillip Banner being paraded on ANZAC Day in Brisbane with a 100-person guard. Naturally, we would dearly love to see all local ‘Spanners’ march with us to celebrate this occasion.

The regional gatherings are gaining momentum with the a very successful Gold Coast lunch held at the Mermaid Beach (AEME) SLSC on 25 Jun 16; and the Sunshine Coast Lunch, following immediately after the RAQ AGM, being held at the Maroochy RSL on 6 Aug 16.

Please come and join us in some of these and other activities – for further details please see: <http://www.qld.raeme.org.au/index.php>.

All the best,

Jeff Maurice
Chairman RAQ
07 3268 2148
chairman@qld.raeme.org.au



FROM THE COL COMDT

Greetings everyone. I’d like to begin with a big thankyou to CO ASEME for again allowing the Brisbane based trainees to march with the RAEME Association at this year’s ANZAC Day march in Brisbane. Their contribution in not only numbers, but also in mixing with past members of the Corps, is invaluable and a great source of pride to our Association. Marching behind the RAEME Association Queensland (RAQ) banner, we were again one of the strongest contingents taking part in the march.

I would also like to acknowledge the tireless efforts of the Chairman, Jeff Maurice, and the RAQ Committee for supporting another great ANZAC Day march and post march activity. For Nick Rees, who took on the task for the first time with help from Ray Norman, well done. It was a memorable day with a good turnout of local ‘Spanners’ – and current and past members of the Corps.

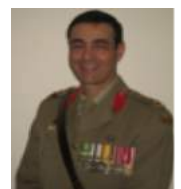
During the post ANZAC Day march activities, I was lucky enough to catch up a former RAEME officer and soldier, Mr Ron Parrello. Ron is now the Rheinmetall MAN Through Life Support Manager responsible for managing the delivery and support of Army’s new medium/heavy trucks. It was interesting to hear about the capability the new trucks are going to provide, not only in technology improvements and overland capability, but also in protected mobility for the crew. Certainly a massive leap in technology and capability over previous vehicles and great to see one of our former RAEME colleagues at the helm of such an important program.

Plan CENTAUR is progressing well and is certainly at the forefront of what is happening for the Corps. Whilst I will not be discussing it further here; I refer you to the update on page 3 of this newsletter. I reiterate the importance for the serving members to be well informed and involved, ensuring you understand what is being attempted here to modernise the Corps’ capabilities to meet future operational and technical challenges.

Lastly, it’s almost time for Craftsman of the Year (COTY) nominations. Commanders, I know it’s a busy time of the year, but this task is also very important. I was particularly impressed with last year’s quality contributions, however the numbers were still low, considering the large population of RAEME soldiers serving in Queensland. I look forward to seeing the 2016 QLD nominations very soon.

Arte et Marte,

Tony Borg
COL COMDT – QLD
anthonyborg@optusnet.com.au



MEMBERSHIP

Our membership continues to grow, with 14 new members and eight members upgrading to Life membership since the last Spanner News (see below). I'm sure that a lot of the new memberships are from current members asking that question when they catch up with mates 'Are you a member of the RAEME Association Queensland?' and if not 'Why haven't you joined?' So keep up the good work and let me know why they haven't joined, if they indicate a reason?

A reminder to our annual subscribers that memberships are due for renewal on 1 Jul 2016, we still have some 17 of 47 that have yet to renew (as at 20 Jun 16). If in doubt, please log into the 'members section' of the website and check your expiry details, or drop me a line at membership@qld.raeme.org.au. Email reminders will be sent to those that don't renew by 1 Jul 16 and then memberships will be archived on 1 Aug 16.

New Members:

Life Subscription	Annual Subscription
Andrew Perry	Paul Vonow
David Larkin	Emma Matthews
Glenn Batten	Gavin Senior
Michael Phillips	Pieter Reus
Jonathan Swinn	John Barker
Myles Frost	Mark Carlsen
Brian Roche	Robert Fraser

Upgraded Membership:

Norm Snape	Pat English
George Giles	Mark Hein
Jim Kelly	Jonathan Petry
Bruce Ryan	Noel Bonell

Regards,

Steve Howells
Membership Member
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TREASURER'S REPORT

By the time the Newsletter hits the street, I will have handed over the reins of my role as Treasurer of the RAQ to my successor, Stephen Howells. Financially, I am pleased to say we remain in a good position, and we can be very proud of the work the RAQ has undertaken over that time. I am pleased to have been able to make a contribution to our situation and I can hand over to my successor confidently with the knowledge we can do more in the years to come because of our current financial stability.

I would like to thank Stephen Howells for taking on the Treasure's role. May I encourage other members to nominate for the position of assistant treasurer of the RAQ at our next AGM – this position relieves the treasurer's workload a little, spreads the load and ensures our continued success.

On my other role as a representative of the Reserve Forces Commemoration event, I am not able to report on this activity as yet; suffice it to say, I am sure the forthcoming Cocktail Party at Victoria Barracks will be a success, as it has always been.

May I thank everyone for their support during my tenure.

Ian Leabeater
Treasurer
RAQ



SECRETARY'S FAREWELL

After 12 years I am hanging up my hat as the RAQ Secretary to concentrate on my nomadic travels towing our caravan around this wonderful country.

It has been a privilege to have served under the chairmanship of both Raymond Norman and Jeff Maurice as well as working with a remarkable and dedicated committee during this period. Such an amazing journey since BRIG Ross Grant resurrected this association some fifteen years ago and to have been a part of it has made this journey even more special.

Your association is in great shape with a progressive and dedicated committee at the helm. At the AGM in August I will be handing over to MAJ Shad Marsh. I wish Shad the very best in his new role.

Kind Regards,

Gary Sargent
Secretary RAQ



CORPS HAPPENINGS



Plan CENTAUR Heads Into Phase 3. Phase 3 of Army's maintenance reform program, Plan CENTAUR, will be considered by the Army Resources and Capability Modernisation Committee (ARCMC) in early July,

following the endorsement of 26 projects and five 'Big Ideas' by the Program's Governance Board in June.

CENTAUR focuses on the elimination of ground-based maintenance constraints that impede the deployment, operation and sustainment of Army units. Army's three Armoured Cavalry Regiments will be the lead units, but outcomes will be applicable to all elements of the Combat Brigades.

Phase 1 of CENTAUR identified a number of issues and constraints via a 10-week analysis, and Phase 2 has focused on gathering and analysing data over the past eight months to inform potential solutions.

More than 60 projects designed to address the maintenance constraints and issues identified in Phase 2 were proposed by participants at a major stakeholder event in Darwin in April. Those project ideas were reviewed and analysed by the CENTAUR team, and prioritised to form the proposed Phase 3 program below:

Project Number	Endorsed Project	Endorsed Stream
9	Improved Contract Management	Maintenance System Design & Operation
26	Maintenance Task Analysis - Major Systems	
28	Asset Management Plan - Quarterly	
30	Logistic Support Analysis System CASG	
32	ISO55000 Asset Management Audit	
33	AHQ Maintenance Structure and Accountabilities	
60	Availability Optimisation	Demand Management
21	Defining Demand	
22	Demand Input to Capability Life Cycle	
2	Handheld Diagnostic Tools	Productivity Management
3	Portable ICT Devices	
14	Tiger Team Training Courses	
15	Workshop Operating Guide (Battle Rhythm)	
19	LEAN Workshops	
46	In-inspections	Trade & Training
4	Multimedia Training Aids	
23	Certifying Individual Maintenance Competency	
49	Officer Training	
7	Reduce Specialist Training	Maintenance Support Systems
8	Trade and Training Modernisation	
5	Future ERP Requirements Determination	
6	Improve MILIS Effect	
16	Validate ERTs & Implement Related KPIs	
43	Reverse Supply Chain	
44	Updating Approved Parts Lists	Big Ideas
52	Data Cube/Data Mining (enable planning)	
12	Forward Basing of A Vehicles	
37	4PL/OEM Supply Chain Support	
53	Constant Production	
54	CASG/JLC Re-Alignment	
55	Autonomous Parts Delivery	

The Governance Board, chaired by Head Modernisation and Strategic Planning - Army, MAJGEN Gus McLachlan, considered a comprehensive business case outlining the proposed projects, their benefits and estimated costs.

'I am convinced that the rigorous data gathered – and the significant contributions of stakeholders who attended the U-Collaborate event in April – have led us to a set of well-considered projects for Phase 3 of CENTAUR. The feedback I have received from 2 Cav Regt, who have been the pilot for many of the initiatives emerging from Centaur, has been incredibly positive. They see that we are serious about supporting their productivity improvements.'

'I am confident that Plan Centaur will continue forward with solid momentum,' MAJGEN McLachlan said. When endorsed by the ARCMC, Phase 3 of CENTAUR is likely to begin in August.

For more information, contact the CENTAUR team on plan.centaur@defence.gov.au

FROM THE HEAD OF CORPS CELL

Managing Corps Funds. The RAEME Corps fund continues to operate in a healthy state, which is a direct response resulting from membership subscription uptakes. There is always a strong representation of retired and ex-serving members, who have subscribed and continue to make their annual subscription, so it would be good to match this with Corps subscriptions from the newer members of our Corps.

To explain, the Corps Fund provides a valuable resource to the members of the Corps, both serving and ex-serving. It can fund many activities and provide financial assistance to regional and unit activities, such as prizes for Corps awards, financial assistance to Unit Adventure Training Activities, financial support to Unit charity events, contributions to funerals and memorial services and the Corps fund also allows ongoing Corps Corporate and merchandise activities (Craftsman Port, Craftsman Magazine, Corps Conference and assorted merchandise).

With the continued pressure to achieve budget cuts within Defence, discretionary expenditure at unit level will become increasingly difficult to secure. As the Corp Fund grows it is anticipated that the range of supported activities and Corps funded activities will also increase.

Please consider being a Corps subscriber and note the details on the last page of this Newsletter on how to become a subscriber.

COMING EVENTS

General Outline. The Association across Queensland is now well into its busiest year for some time. Later in this newsletter you will see some reports of the activities to date, but this section lists the activities, which are imminent, or which are due in the next four months. Watch for the specific details on line, or here, on these important events because we wouldn't want you to miss out.

RAQ Sunshine Coast Luncheon – 6 Aug 16. The annual luncheon is to be held at the Maroochy RSL on 6 Aug 16 commencing at 1230 hours. Flyers have already been despatched and the RAQ website contains more detail, but on the last page of this newsletter you will find more detail. Our guest speaker is Steve Baxter, of 'Shark Tank' fame, who graduated from the Army Apprentices School, and served in RAEME for a number of years. Please join us and enjoy the day with many like-minded friends.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

24th Intake Army Apprentices Reunion. The 24TH Intake of Army Apprentices is having a reunion in Cairns over the weekend 12th to 14th August 2016. For those wishing to attend, please contact Paddy English 07 4033 1933 or englishe@tpg.com.au

UNIT AND EVENT REPORTS

ANZAC DAY. I was truly honoured to be offered the opportunity to organise the 2016 ANZAC DAY march for the RAQ. I realized this wasn't going to be an easy task, following in the footsteps of Ian Hartshorn. For those who don't know, Ian has organised this event for a long time and has always produced a quality outcome, as acknowledged by all that participate, and then attend the post march event at the Port Office Hotel doors. I was also grateful for the huge support I received from Ray Norman and Jeff Maurice, as I set about planning, influencing and negotiating in order to produce the final result.

The 2016 ANZAC Day march again saw the participation of soldier tradesmen/tradeswomen from the Australian School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, (ASEME). Their numbers bolstered the participants to approximately 250, which included past and other current serving RAEME personnel, all of whom proudly accompanied the RAQ banner through Brisbane on nation's most important commemorative day. A special thanks must go to the staff and management of the Fix Restaurant, Port Office Hotel, who made not only the organising of this day simple, but whom also, turned on a wonderful event for our organisation.

Now that the 2016 ANZAC Day march and luncheon has been completed we look to the planning of the 2017 ANZAC Day ceremony. It is important to note the RAEME Corps Banner will be paraded here in Brisbane for the 2017 ANZAC Day March. It will be joined by members of RAEME personnel from most units within the SE QLD region. Please consider joining us for this important occasion and show the support and pride we have for our Corps and its Banner.

Keep a sharp look-out for detail on next year's ANZAC Day march and I look to all of you to spread the word of the importance of next year's ANZAC Day ceremony.

Regards,

Nick Rees
RAEME Association Queensland
Phone 07 53617882

50th Anniversary of the Raising of 102 Field Workshops. The following report was provided by CFN Joe Elliot. On 28 May 16, a formal dinner was held on the main workshop floor of 102 Fd Wksp Coy to commemorate its 50th Anniversary. Over 180 past and current members of the workshop attended the dinner included the OC 1968-1969, COL Max Tinkler, AM (Retd); the OC 1981-82 when the unit was re-raised, BRIG Ross Grant, AM, (Retd); the RAEME Head of Corps, BRIG Hadyn Kohl; the Deputy Head of Corps, LTCOL Colin Blyth; and the Corps RSM, WO1 Robert Turnbull. There was a large contingent of former serving members, including past OCs, ASM/CSMs, senior ranks and soldiers. To commemorate the history of the workshop, serving members set up an outstanding museum display for the night which included a huge range of memorabilia, photos, articles and equipment depicting the life and evolution of the workshop of 102 Fd Wksp over 50 years.



L to R: CSM, WO2 Ken Brown; ASM, WO1 Andy Pethybridge, OC, MAJ Michael Fry, COL Tinkler and BRIG Grant before the dinner

Representatives from Billabong Sanctuary were in attendance with snakes and crocodile hatchlings to represent the unit's famous and much loved but absent mascot, SGT Soutl Walter Crock, who was promoted during the dinner to WO2. Mr Gus Angus, presented a workshop flag that he had 'borrowed' during the time a workshop element was deployed to Somalia. The guest speaker for the evening, BRIG Grant, elaborated on the proud history of the workshop over the last 50 years, exhorting everyone to ensure the unit's reputation for service is preserved.

In conclusion, the night was a great celebration of the shared history of all the current and previous members of 102 Fd Wksp Coy and the camaraderie that has been a mainstay of the workshop since it was formed. The following photos speak volumes for the good time had by all and highlights the effort the unit went to mark this important occasion.



COL Max Tinkler, SGT Daniel Trew and New Best Friend, enjoying the display put on by the unit staff.



Many Past and Current Serving Members of 102 Fd Wksp



HOC, BRIG Haydn Kohl Enjoying the Company of the Officers and Men of 102 Fd Wksp



CO 3 CSSB, LTCOL Gabrielle Follett, RAEME, presents the Billabong Sanctuary Manager, where WO2 Soutl Walter Crock with a well deserved Promotion Certificate



The Corps Banner being Paraded for the Dinner by LT Matthew Cook



During his speech, BRIG Grant also congratulated the unit staff for the work they had put in into making the evening successful, especially given the high workload the unit is experiencing. He said: 'I especially want to thank the CO 3CSSB, LTCOL Gabrielle Follett; the RSM of 3 CSSB, WO1 Jo Downes; the current OC 102, MAJ Michael Fry; his CSM WO2 Brown, and the ASM, WO1

Andy Pethybridge for their efforts and support – you and the rest of your team have collaborated, conceived, developed and organised an important event to celebrate an equally important milestone in the history of this unit – thank you and well done.’



A Long Night for Some!



Let's Hope the Unit Continues Fixing for another 50 Years at Least!

RAQ Gold Coast Chapter Gathering - Mermaid Beach (AEME) Surf Life Saving Club. The gathering was held at the Mermaid Beach (AEME) Surf Life Saving Club on the 25th June, 2016. The aim of the luncheon was to bring together RAEME serving and retired members in the Gold Coast Region; much the same as RAQ does on the Sunshine Coast.

Eddie (Beans) Bevan and Barry Skinner got the ball rolling with the help of several members from the RAQ – many thanks to those members. They considered that if around 30 turned up, it would be a successful day, however, they were very surprised when the attendance topped 62.

The day was a huge success and thanks to many that travelled from the Sunshine Coast, Brisbane and Yamba and Ballina in NSW. A special mention to Phil and Maureen Pitchers (from Perth) who are 'grey-nomading' around Australia, as well as Kevin & Beverly Parkes

(from Townsville) who were in Brisbane for a short holiday.

A very big special mention to Brian Windsor (9th Intake Apprentice) who was the eldest member to attend. His son, David, also attended and the RAQ wishes David all the best – he is about to serve a short stint as the Australian Ambassador to Afghanistan.

Speeches were kept to a minimum, but Barry Skinner offered thanks to all who attended and explained the affiliation of RAQ with the Surf Club. For those that are not in the know, the reference to AEME in the club name acknowledges those RAEME soldiers of the Watercraft Workshops at Bulimba, who in 1945 established the club. Barry went on to explain that members of the RAQ can gain automatic membership of the Surf Club on application. COL COMDT-QLD, COL Tony Borg provided a few words of wisdom and again thanked all for attending. An excellent day was had by all, with many old friendships renewed. We all look forward to the next luncheon at the Gold Coast.

**Arte Marte
Barry Skinner**



Manfred Ressel and 'Blue' Morrissey



Lindsay Morison, Brian Roche and Bob Fraser



'Fred' Reus and Tony Borg



Robyn Jenkins, Errol Craig, Rick O'Shea, Paul Jenkins & Rod McCormack

The Army Apprentices Association Queensland. The 4th Jun 16 dawned on the 16th Annual Army Apprentices Reunion South East Queensland at Bulimba Bowls Club, and 'Huey' the weather God, did not seem pleased. SE Queensland was deluged with unseasonal rain and battered by strong winds.

However, about 100 Army Apprentices were not daunted, and with about 40 wives and friends, they arrived at the Bulimba Bowls Club and all had a great time. Luckily the Bowls Club had plenty of space inside, and later in the afternoon, the weather cleared a little.

Peter Snowden from the 9th Intake (with his wife Maree) was our most senior Appy, together with Gary Swan and Ian McVie, from the 11th Intake. The youngest attendees were Brett Thomsett, Sean Roberts and Pauline Burton, all from the 44th Intake. The intake with the largest attendance was the 30th – they had 20 members, from all over Australia. The 14th were next in strength, with nine classmates, including three from NSW and one from WA. Apprentices attended from various parts of Australia including an Australian Army Apprentices

Association Committee Member, Richard Pike, 21st Intake.



Three 14th Intake Attendees L to R – Dave Grant, Brian Daley and Norm Wells



Many Intakes Staying Dry – One Way and Another

Each attendee, on departing the event, received a special coffee mug emblazoned with a copy of the Apprentice School badge in memory of the day.

Regards,

Brian Daley
Convener
bjdaley@hotmail.net.au



Coast to Coast Walk for Soldier On – Retired BRIG Dave McGahey and BRIG Phil Edwards.

The following excerpt is taken from a log kept by both gentlemen as they walked across the UK following the famous Wainwright's Coast to Coast (C2C) walk from St Bee on the west coast of the UK to Whitby on the east coast. The 309 kilometres walk took them 18 days and this excerpt covers the final 21 Kms.

'We set off in light fog for our last day on the C2C. With a pep in our step we followed a picturesque river valley, and we visited a very pretty set of waterfalls at Falling Floss; shortly we reached Hawsker our lunch time destination and enjoyed a light lunch, and of course a G&T, at the Hare and Hounds Pub.'

'We departed lunch and got our final chance to navigate the last of the North Yorkshire Moor bogs, after 40 mins of squelching through the bog we finally reached the coastal strip of the North Sea and contoured the coast south to Robin Hood's Bay. After 18 days we wet our feet in the North Sea and threw our pebbles from the Irish Sea at St Bee into the North Sea at Robin Hood's Bay.'



Starting at St Bee's



Pebbles carried from the Irish Sea at St Bees to the North Sea at Robin Hood's Bay

'We made it and what a great adventure we have had. Some tough bits, some easy bits, some funny bits and we admit it some really bloody hard bits, but all said and done, it was another adventure of a life time.'

At the time of printing the final amount of funding raised isn't clear but if you would still like to donate, please go to:

<https://soldieron.giveeasy.org/campaigns/walking-across-the-uk/>

VALUABLE LINKS IN WHICH YOU MAY BE INTERESTED

RAEME National Website, RNA and RAQ Web Site.

Just put 'RAEME' on your browser, select 'RAEME National', go to the map of Australia and select a State or Territory on the right of the home page.

It is worth looking at the 'Gallery' on the RAQ site, where there are many quality photos of functions and events from the past few years. See who attended and you might find a long lost mate – really worth a look!

On the National site www.raeme.org.au go to 'Join the Social Network' on right of Home page. This is where all the RAEME family (YOU) can log in. You may join for free and you can find mates present and past with their email contact. This Social Network will grow to be a very useful tool for you and your friends.

The latest '**Craftsmen**' magazine can be found at:

<http://walshmedia.realviewtechnologies.com/?xml=crafterman>

The latest **Australian Army Apprentices Association Newsletter** can be accessed at:

<http://austarmyapprentice.org/wp-content/uploads/TAA-Nov-2015-v1.0.pdf>

Veteran's Link:

<http://adso.org.au/latestnews/723-video-adf-veterans-lest-we-forget>

RAEME NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Progress on Developing the RNA. Your RAEME National Association (RNA) continues to develop and is at another crossroads in terms of improved administration, procedures and documentation to be put in place and activated. Some work remains to have the draft Constitution, Newsletter and Committee position descriptions formalised, but thanks to a lot of work by President of the RNA, Richard Moyses, and Lyell Wedd from the ACT Association, progress is being made.

Operation Spanner Pack. We are delighted to advise that the 'Spanner Pack' program has received great support from our regional associations, individual members and sponsors. Recently, the 'Spanner Pack' account received \$350 from Queensland members, \$1000

from North Queensland RAEME Association Branch and \$2000 from a very loyal sponsor, in Victoria, the Northern Golf Club. These donations will go a long way to keeping the 'Spanner Pack' program viable and the RNA wishes to acknowledge these generous donations.

A further shipment will be dispatched to our soldiers on operations late July or early August and if you wish to contribute please contact any committee member of the RNA listed at www.raeme.org.au, or me, at rgnorman1944@gamil.com. The men and women of our Corps on operations really appreciate your support, thank you on their behalf.

Best Regards,

Raymond Norman OAM
Manager Operation Spanner pack
RAEME National Association



VALE

It is with regret that we advise of the following:

- **Hyde**, Robert (Rob) (39th Intake) passed away on 3 April 2016. His funeral was held at the Albany Creek Crematorium Lake Side Chapel.
- **Campbell**, Mal (22nd Intake Electrical Fitter & ASM of 'C' Company) passed away peacefully on 28 Apr 16 following a gallant fight against terminal leukaemia. His funeral was held at Lake Macquarie Memorial Park, 405 Cessnock Road, Ryhope, NSW 2283.
- **Bond**, Frederick William Maxwell (Max) long-standing member of the RAEME and the RAQ, passed away 15 May 16 in Southport Private Hospital. Max was buried at Newhaven Funeral Crematorium and Memorial Gardens, West Staphylton, Qld.
- **Bull**, Jenny, wife of Peter Bull and long-time supporter of the RAEME Association, passed away peacefully on 26 May 16, after a long battle with cancer. Her funeral was held at South Chapel Forest Lawn Memorial Park - Camden Valley Way, Leppington, NSW, 2179.
- **Stapleton**, Brian (1st Intake) passed away 2 Jun 16. His funeral was held at Forest Lawn Memorial Garden Camden Valley Way, Leppington NSW 2179.
- **Dean**, Brigadier John (Retd), OBE, passed away peacefully on 7 Jun 16 at age 94 years. BRIG Dean was DGEME-A from 30 Dec 69 to 31 Jul 75. His funeral service was held St George's Anglican Church, 296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, Vic, 3144.
- **Holt**, WO2 Andrew (Max) (37th Intake) passed away as the result of a motor cycle accident south of Albury on 13 Jun 16. A memorial service was held for Max at South Bandiana on 18 Jun 16.

SICK LIST

The following members are in hospital or recovering from illness:

- **Strugnell**, Peter - is recovering from a back operation (Ningi Qld).
- **Smith**, Ron - is recovering from shoulder operation (Ningi Qld).
- **Perry**, Ron (8th Intake VM) - had a nasty fall, and has a pelvic and pubis rami fracture. The specialist thinks he may have had a mini stroke.
- **Power**, LJH (John) (9th Intake VM - recently diagnosed with aggressive lung cancer as well as spots on his liver. He is home convalescing from chemo at the moment and is in good spirits.

Barry Shipway
Welfare Officer
RAEME Association Qld
welfare@qld.raeme.org.au



DFWA MATTERS

The first four items (there are many others) outlined below are the priorities currently being actively pursued by DFWA and ADSO on your behalf. It will be a long fight, but you should be aware that the fifth item will become more contentious in the near future:

- DVA Culture and Processes as they apply to all veterans when they become a client of DVA.
- Veterans Disability payments as they apply to 120,000 persons and families.
- Military Superannuation including Fair Indexation for all DFRDB recipients (2,000 still serving and 3,000 retired but still under 55 years) and Fair Indexation for all other Military Superannuation payments, MSBS access to Employer Benefits (100,000 persons) and DFRDB Commutation (50,000 persons). So even with this priority there are priorities - the numbers effected will give you a guide. Then again the Government in their largesse may go for a different priority of what is the cheapest to placate some.
- Proposed Australian Military Accord as it may apply to ADF and all veterans and their families.

The fifth issue is related to a trial of an anti-malarial drug, Mefloquine, in Timor. About 2000 troops who deployed to East Timor took part in a trial of this drug. Apparently these troops were chosen for a trial, just days before departing for Timor. They could have opted out if they wanted to, but would be replaced/not go to Timor, if they chose not to. None opted out despite a paucity of information being provided.

On return from deployment they were told if they had any of the side-effects, they could report them to the medical admin people at the airport who would interview them and conduct checks as necessary before they went on leave. This would mean a few hours' delay in seeing their families and getting further flights.

Apparently there were some side-effects reported but they affected only a small number. The ADF also administered a large initial dose commencing the course. This is not recommended by the manufacturer. Some of the mental side-effects are very similar to depression and PTSD; however, the standard 'drug' treatment of PTSD, actually makes the condition worse if the person is suffering the side-effects of Mefloquine. It is not sure if treating GPs or psychiatrists would be aware of Mefloquine history of a veteran and hence possibility of alternative diagnosis and the dangers. People need to get their Med Records from the ADF.

Canadian and US Armed Forces have banned it. UK Armed forces have just issued a report on it. Defence Force Welfare Association and the Alliance of Defence Service Organisations have requested that the ADF cease/suspend its use, investigate proactively all of the ADF members who were 'trial' personnel.

An article from the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (a respected professional organisation) makes an interesting read. You will find it at: <http://www.pharmaceutical-journal.com/opinion/comment/stop-prescribing-mefloquine-to-our-military-personnel-for-malaria-prophylaxis/20200021>.

If you need further info please contact me at: pm.snowdon@bigpond.com

Now the commercial 😊. DFWA needs your support. They exist purely to protect the welfare of Regular and Reserve soldiers, whether still serving or retired, and they need your help to do so. The DFWA website can be found at: www.dfwa.org.au/branches/qld. Please visit and have a browse. If you are not yet a member, please consider joining.

Regards,

Peter Snowdon
DFWA Rep
pm.snowdon@bigpond.com



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

I was privileged to be invited to the 102 Fd Wksp Coy 50th Anniversary celebrations in Townsville on the 28 May 16, together with a large contingent of 'olds and bolds', participating in a wonderful celebration of the Corps and a well-respected unit. The unit, now a company of 3 Combat Service Support Battalion, from the CO to the 'Crafties', had gone to a lot of trouble to make it a significant event in the life of our Corps. Collectively, they provided a terrific welcome to all attendees – those currently serving and many past members of the Corps. The memorabilia display was outstanding and had something for anyone who had served in the unit over the last 50 years. The only shortfall was a lack of written history and contemporary memorabilia from the unit's distinguished tour of duty in SVN from 1967 to 1972.

However, thanks to retired COL Max Tinkler, who commanded the unit on operations in 1968/69, we were able to piece together some historical aspects. It was my privilege to deliver a short speech about the unit's birth and re-birth, and highlighting from COL Tinkler's notes from 1968 that: '... as a result of our efforts and relying largely on our own resources and competencies – we achieved very high levels of productivity in SVN, and we were recognised as a very good workshop, which made an important contribution to the war effort in SVN.'

In describing the tortuous re-birth of the unit as part of the ODF in 1981, I explained my pride when we came back from our first serious deployment on K81 to a very pleased Brigade Commander, and explained in my speech that: 'All our hard work raising the unit had paid off. I was very proud of the unit and the team, who supported me. I believe we set a standard for effectiveness that has been emulated and grown by successive OCs, SNCOS, and soldiers to this day – even now I watch with pride at the achievements of this unit, and its people, and know what it is capable of, especially as it faces other challenges in a Plan Beersheba construct. I am clear in my mind that the ethos displayed by the unit now had its genesis not just 35 years ago, but 50 years ago! It has a reputation to be guarded jealously.'

In a great way, this event and our other very successful event at Mermaid Beach (AEME) Surf Life Saving Club, where 62 of our RAEME community turned up, fulfils the goals of the RAEME National Association and the RAEME Associations in each state – to '... celebrate the Corps achievements and promote the Corps activities'. These significant celebratory events show the Corps at its best today. If nothing else, they resurrect many memories and day to day work events that shaped and built the reputation of the Corps over the last 75 years.


This brings me to the point that in 2017 we will be celebrating the Corps 75th birthday and many associations and the Corps, more generally across the nation, will be holding special events. So watch out for these and join in – there is much to be proud in the spirit of our people.

Regards,

Ross Grant
Chairman Comms Committee
commschair@qld.raeme.org.au



ACKNOWLEDGING OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS



RAEME Corps Committee and Corps Fund



FIX RESTAURANT & WINE BAR

IMPORTANT DATES

REMAINING ACTIVITIES FOR 2016

- **Sunshine Coast Function – Saturday 6 Aug 16**
- **All Ranks Function – Sunday 6 Nov 16**

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AN INVITATION TO ALL BLUEBELLS

You, your partner and interested friends are invited to attend the RAEME Association – Queensland (RAQ), Sunshine Coast Chapter Luncheon to be held at the Maroochy RSL on Saturday 06 August 2016 hosted by the COL COMDT – QLD, COL Tony Borg (Retd).

The prime purpose of the gathering is to provide an opportunity for those of us lucky enough to live in this wonderful region to renew old friendships and meet newly retired 'Bluebells' who may have moved to SE Qld since our last activity in May 2015.

Mr Steve Baxter of 'Shark Tank' fame is the guest speaker and will be talking about his life's journey from the outback Queensland town of Cloncurry, joining Army as an Apprentice at age 15, his time in RAEME and his transition at an early age to entrepreneur and millionaire.

Lunch Details:

- **Venue** - Room M4 Maroochy RSL, corner Memorial and First Avenues, Maroochydore.
- **Timings** – 1230 for 1300 hours on Saturday 06 August 2016.
- **Dress** – Neat casual.
- **Catering** – As per a limited menu provided for a two drop method, drinks at own expense, at the bar. Please contact Mike Prain with special dietary needs.
- **Parking** – Free parking is available in the multi storey car park directly opposite the RSL.
- **Cost** - \$32.50 per head.

RSVP to Mike Prain at: commschair@qld.raeme.org.au by 20 July 2016 with the following details:

- **Full Name** -
- **Accompanied by** –
- **Dietary requirements** –

Payment:

Payment may be made by cheque or direct deposit as follows:

- **Make cheques** payable to RAEME Association Queensland Inc. and post to:
RAEME Lunch Sunshine Coast
PO Box 167
Mount Ommaney QLD 4074
- **Direct Deposit**
Bank – Defence Bank
A/c name – RAEME Association Queensland Inc.
BSB – 803205
A/c No – 20682037
Reference – 'SCL' followed by your family name
- **Confirmatory** advice of payment to Mike Prain at: commschair@qld.raeme.org.au



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Subscription Rates by rank at retirement:

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WO2 – CAPT \$390 and MAJ + \$520

Methods of Contributions:

Annual direct deposit/funds transfer to RAEME Corps Fund.
DEF BANK Account Number: 20509705. DEF BANK BSB: 803205. Account Name: RAEME Corps Fund Membership.

OR

Payment by cheque to RAEME Corps Fund or cash to SO2 Corps RAEME.

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The Membership Medallion is designed on the St Eligius (Corps Patron Saint) coin. Regardless of which method of contribution is chosen, it is requested that this subscription form be completed, or send an email with the form below to SO2 Corps RAEME. This ensures we have your correct contact details to enable us to post your Corps Medallion. Subscribers may elect to choose *Life membership* which equates to ten years' subscriptions. Payment of *Life membership* entitles the member to a framed print, once the 10-year full payment is complete; either in full or over 10 years of annual subscription. (This is not aligned to recognition of service certificates. Please contact the SO2 Corps for ROS certificates).

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