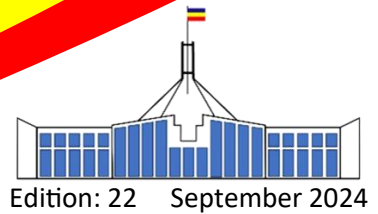


RAEME in ACTION

The Newsletter of the ACT RAEME Association



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings All,

For those not aware, we have recently farewelled another of our Corps faithful who achieved the rare feat of being promoted MAJGEN, having commenced his service as a direct entry officer. MAJGEN Powell leaves a rich legacy of being a committed and talented engineer, a major influencer of our Corps' capabilities and a dedicated husband and family man. He had many direct touch points with the management of the Corps throughout his military career that included serving as Director General of RAEME, as well as in his civil capacity post his military service that focused on the connection between the military and industry. On assumption of his appointment as DG RAEME in 1978, he was credited with observing that 'The greater challenges included providing services for the latest technological acquisitions while ensuring the continuing use of current equipment and a lean, adaptable inventory system.' It is always difficult to capture the influence, passion and support provided by an individual, particularly one where self-aggrandisement was not in his nature. Suffice to say that MAJGEN Powell will be remembered as a RAEME officer who walked his talk 'every member needs to exercise skill and dedication to achieve the results required'.

Stay well, APA

GETTING OUR ACT TOGETHER

- Fri 6 Sep Mixed Lunch [Details](#)
1230-1330h Ainslie Football Club
- Tues 24 Sep Informal drinks [Details](#)
1930-2030h Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club
- Fri 4 Oct RAEME Spanner Club [Details](#)
1630-1800h Olims, Ainslie (The Mecure)

THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

Legend

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
30							28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	

VALE MAJGEN DOUG POWELL

The strength of RAEME as a Corps has been built throughout our history by men and women with great intellect, passion and a vision. One such man was Major General Arthur Douglas Powell, or Doug as he was known to his friends. On 12 Aug 2024, General Powell left our ranks, aged 94 years old. His funeral was held in Box Hill, Victoria on Monday 19 Aug. It was a small but humble service with no fuss as General Powell had requested.

General Powell was born in Ballarat on 19 Nov 1929. Armed with a Diploma in Electrical Engineering from the Ballarat School of Mines, in 1952 a younger General Powell debated whether he should join the Tasmanian Hydro Scheme (where he had been accepted) or if he should join the Army. He made his decision for the latter and for that, we are thankful. Clearly a year of big decisions, General Powell also wed Beverley in 1952. He adored her until her passing in 2004. General Powell is now at rest, re-united with his beloved Beverley.



As a Direct Entry Officer, General Powell was commissioned as a LT in 1953 and commenced his first posting at the Southern Command Workshop before moving on to the 3rd Base Workshop Battalion later in the same year. Following promotion to CAPT in 1956, General Powell enjoyed a range of postings, including within the Director of EME's office followed by a few years in the UK for Specialist Engineering Training. In 1961, General Powell was promoted to Major. He commenced a Diploma in Production Engineering at RMIT. He was promoted to LTCOL in 1967 and appointed as the Assistant Director of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. In 1969, he was then attached to the NZ Army as their Director of EME. Promotion to COL came in 1974. In 1977, General Powell was promoted to BRIG and posted as the Director General of EME (DGEME); the position he held in the above photo. In this role, General Powell welcomed the first ever edition of *The RAEME Craftsman* magazine, in which he recognised our Corps greatest asset was our Craftsmen, calling on them all to be resourceful, versatile and always learning. In 1982, General Powell became the first RAEME officer to be both promoted to MAJGEN and appointed as Chief of Supply. He was one of only a few officers who had not graduated from RMC to reach that rank; a remarkable achievement! Retiring from the Army in late-1984, General Powell's service continued in the Australian Public Service. General Powell held RAEME dearly throughout; referring to himself not as a "military officer" but as a "RAEME officer."

Retirement gave General Powell the time needed for his other passions; his family and friends. He adored every moment he spent with them, especially when he could support them to achieve whatever they strove for. He was quite a family man who cared for them all deeply.

Whilst General Powell's passing is a somewhat sombre moment, it is also worth reflecting on some of the more humorous parts of his career. One of our members shared a story of a time from the late 70s or early 80s when, General Power and his wife were in attendance at a RAEME Birthday Parade. The Parade Ground was below an elevated area in which the spectators assembled. A young lady photographer tried to get into various positions to capture some photos of the parade however her choice of light clothing and a well-timed breeze meant she left little for the imagination of all of the soldiers on parade as well as many of the spectators. General Powell however had



been facing the parade; hence he had no idea why so many of the soldiers started to smile or why the spectators were laughing. At the reception after the parade, General Powell asked a group of diggers about their good humour and their repeated comments about the photographer. At that point his wife commented, "Don't worry, Dear. I will tell you when we get home". It was clear that Mrs Powell had experienced the unexpected show as well!

Rest in peace, Sir.

The funeral service may be viewed until 17 Nov 24 at: <https://url.au.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/9lgZCE8wlOuO4Q8xFQuPu7JZJ5>



SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO DEFENCE AND VETERAN SUICIDE

Earlier this year I gave evidence during the final hearing block of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide. For three years, the Royal Commission has heard evidence from serving and former-serving members, and their families. The Royal Commission has examined extensive data and sought expert testimony.

The Royal Commission has noted that for most Soldiers¹, service in our Army is a positive aspect of their personal and professional lives. This is an important point to acknowledge but that is not what this Royal Commission is about. It is about those for whom service has been a negative experience, the effects of which have been life-long, life-altering and in the worst-case life-ending. The Royal Commission has heard of many such experiences, historic and recent. Our failings – whether institutional or individual - have had terrible consequences for those we have failed.

The evidence is compelling. Since 2017, for example, we know we have lost 30 serving Soldiers either suspected or confirmed to have died by suicide². Many more have been lost across our wider community.

This is not acceptable. We must do more. These are **our** people, members of our teams and our Army. To fight and win in war our teams must be built on the foundations of trust, respect, and cohesion.

Last year we identified and brought home the remains of Australian soldiers who were killed in the battle of Fromelles in 1916. This reminds us all that 'Lest we Forget' is not rhetoric, it is a **promise**. We continued the search for our soldiers for over a century, a commitment of which we ought to be proud.

Now is the time to apply the same approach and effort to the challenge of suicide and suicidality among our people. We will not leave our mates behind, fallen on their own personal battlefield.

This Royal Commission presents us with a once in a generation opportunity to reduce the incidence of suicide and suicidality in our community. To make a **step change** rather than incremental improvement. It is both our individual and collective obligation to do so.

I am ultimately accountable for Army's people, culture, mission and resources, but like everything we do - it requires a committed team effort if we are to be successful.

¹ 'Soldier' - refers to all whom have worn and wear our uniform today, regardless of rank.

² This figure is according to statistics compiled for the Defence suicide database. While I acknowledge that this number does not represent the entirety with a connection to Army who are either suspected or confirmed to have died by suicide, this number does provide a sobering reminder of the impact that suicide and suicidality have had, and continue to have, on those who serve in our Army and their families.

CHIEF OF ARMY LETTER Continued

We need not wait for the Royal Commission to publish its findings and recommendations before we act. The opportunity exists today, and we must act on it today.

We will focus on three outcomes: achieving a measurable reduction in the incidence of suicide and suicidality amongst Soldiers; building our individual and collective resilience; and strengthening our culture³. When we achieve this, we will have a stronger Army, an Anny that is more capable and better able to fulfil its mission.

We must move on this effort together, as one team, and we must stay together. We train and fight in teams. Trust among our teams is our main effort.

I am grateful for all that you and your families do in service each day. I am proud to serve in an Army that owns its failures; an Army that is genuinely determined to learn from the past and committed to improving our future.

Our Army's future begins today - with each of us reflecting our values in our thoughts, words and actions today and every day.



Simon Stuart, AO, DSC
Lieutenant General
Chief of Anny

16 July 2024

³ 'Culture' - our culture is how well we translate our values into what we think, say and do every day.

RU OK DAY 2024

R U OK? Day is the second Thursday in September. In 2024, that is Thursday 12 September. That aside, you can and should ask that question every day of the year. Asking one person could make a world of difference.



Got a feeling that someone you know or care about isn't behaving as they normally would? Perhaps they seem out of sorts? More agitated or withdrawn? Or they're just not themselves. Trust that gut instinct and act on it. Learn more about the signs and when it's time to ask R U OK? here: <https://www.ruok.org.au/signs>

By starting a conversation and commenting on the changes you've noticed, you could help that family member, friend or workmate to open up. If they say they are not OK, you can follow the conversation steps on the above website to show them they're supported and help them find strategies to better manage the load. If they are OK, that person will know you're someone who cares enough to ask.

By acting as 'eyes and ears' and reaching out to anyone who's going through a tough time we can show them they're supported and encourage them to access help sooner.

CORPS RSM UPDATE

As extracted from the RSM's status update dated 26 Aug 2024.

Corps Conference Confirmation

Registration for the conference is now locked (we have the numbers), there is still limited room available for the dinner (03 Oct) for those interested. MAJ Howells has been able to secure funding, which in turn has ensured the costs will not change from that shown in the Admin Inst. Payments for the conference may be made using this link: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1272762>

Regional Maintenance Dashboard (RMD)

DHOC-G (CO ASEME) has updated the RMD. The RMD allows for a snapshot of all maintenance capacity, forecasting & major issues. It is purely a guide and only as valuable as the data members enter into our Logistic Information Systems.

St Eligius Trophy

St Eligius Trophy event is locked in for 27 Nov 24. The Main Planning Conference has been conducted and we are full steam ahead. To clarify some of the questions asked of myself recently, the reasoning behind inviting only 1/3/7 BDE was to have a starting point with a small group IOT build the foundation of the competition. The founding competition will set the ground work for every iteration following (with the participants providing feedback into how we went). We plan to expand the competition to all RAEME trades (RAEME AERO inclusive) within all BDEs.

RMC Graduates

HOC would like to welcome 20 of our newest Corps members. The lanyard Parade held in Canberra was a massive event this time around and extremely well supported by the Corps. 12 will be returning to ADFA to complete their engineering degrees, prior to posting to units in 2025/26. LT Alina Hutton has been offered an amazing opportunity to undertake work experience with a placement inside McLaren Automotive in the United Kingdom. This will be an amazing opportunity. We look forward to reading of her time in the Craftsman Magazine article she will provide.

Regimental Pathway – Building future RSMs

As a Corps, we have bounced around this concept since 2001 (original concept of pathway presented to Corps Conference). In 2018 we revisited the concept, which outlined the who/what/where/when and why, yet here I am rethinking and providing guidance. Now this is not a shot at anyone, nor disparaging any work previously conducted, we have just failed to keep to momentum.

RAEME (unlike Arms corps) does not have a specified regimental pathway, we rely on those previously filling regimental roles to take those that express an interest under our wing and foster them.

In order to be appointed as an RSM, a WO2 or WO1 must have completed the following:

- a. any career development courses including the RSMs course
- b. minimum of one regimental posting as a CSM/BSM/SSM
- c. have entered the PCZ for promotion to WO1 (WO2 only)

A previous All Corps instructional posting as a CPL, SGT or WO2 at ATW, ARTC, WO & NCO Academy or RMC is highly desirable. The Corps RSMS can provide more information if required. Reach out so he can assist as much as he can.

RAEME Corps Awards

We are running short of time to get all award nominations in (this is imperative, as we need time to prepare the awards and send to respective locations). **Nominations were due NLT 30 Aug, the latest this can be extended to is 10 Sep, after that time all voting will be closed.**

Please don't let maladministration lead to our soldiers not being recognised.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RNZEME – NEW ZEALAND

The big news from across the ditch is the NZ Army has just appointed a new Chief of Army; MAJGEN Rose King.

The even bigger news is that General King is not only the first woman to be appointed a service chief across all of New Zealand's armed forces, but she is also the first to reach the rank of Major General. On top of all of that, General King is also a member of the former Royal New Zealand Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RNZEME)!!!

General King said ""When I first joined, I couldn't join certain areas of our organisation based on my gender, but now that's open to everyone." General King had previously been Deputy Chief of the Army and had been acting in the top role since June. She said she brought a different approach to leadership as a woman and mother of two. "Perhaps that empathy piece. That's a little bit of a point of difference that I bring... Diversity of thought for me is really important and makes us stronger as a team."

A remarkable military journey

General King began her military career in 1991. She joined the Corps of Royal New Zealand Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, and has held diverse roles since then.

In June 2021, General King achieved the rank of Brigadier, a testament to her exemplary leadership and expertise. Following this promotion, she became the Deputy Chief of Army in December 2021, assuming a critical role in the military hierarchy.

As the Deputy Chief of Army, she was responsible for strategic planning, developing innovative strategies, and managing future capabilities. As the Chief of Army, she will continue to play a pivotal role in shaping the NZ Army's direction and ensuring its readiness for future challenges.

Awards of Distinction

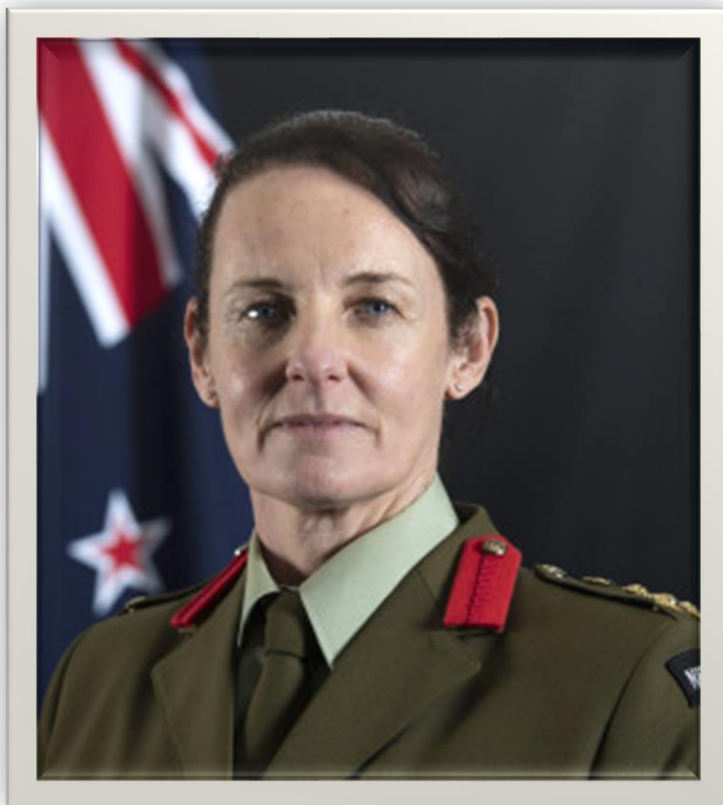
Recognized for her exceptional capabilities, General King previously served as the Special Projects Officer for the Army General Staff. In this role, she undertook vital initiatives to enhance operational effectiveness and drive innovation within the military.

Her remarkable service and unwavering commitment have garnered prestigious awards, including the NATO Meritorious Service Medal, the US Meritorious Service Medal, and the US Army Commendation Medal. These accolades reflect her exceptional contributions and dedication to duty.

Academic accomplishments



General King's dedication to continuous learning is evident through her impressive academic achievements. She holds a Bachelor of Defence Studies, a Masters of Management Defence Studies, and a Masters of Arts Strategic Studies. These qualifications have equipped her with a comprehensive understanding of defence strategies, management principles, and strategic thinking, enabling her to make informed and effective decisions in her leadership role.



RAEME HUMOUR BOOK

The third editions of RAEME's humour book, *Straight from the Horse's Mouth* is currently being drafted.

There is clearly a lot of funny stuff that happens in RAEME service but the editors need more stories!!

This is your chance to share any funny stories you have from your service.

If you have any stories to share, new or old, factual or yal New Xenhanced, please send them to the book editors at FunnyStories@raeme.com. Even if you have heard someone else's story or made it up, we want it!

Stories don't have to be true, just believable!

The editors understand that not everyone has the time or talent to write something funny so they will accept stories over the phone. All you need to do is to email your contact details to them at the above email address. Include your preferred days or times to receive a call from the editors and take it from there.

As a special incentive for this edition, the editors will be awarding a free edition to the member(s) who submits the funniest story for this edition. Depending on how many stories are received, this may be expanded to a series of prizes for funniest story in each category, eg service vs retired, barracks vs field, appy vs thick and so on. The editors will work that out based on the number of submissions they receive.

Whilst all story contributors will be named in the book, this will be in the back and not listed against any particular story. This is to ensure your anonymity.

Re anonymity, the editors will change all names provided to ensure the guilty are unidentifiable. Those who were there at the time will know the truth but they don't plan on embarrassing individuals (too much). Likewise, any current unit name will also be changed as the purpose of this book is to have a laugh, not to embarrass the ADF.

If you didn't get your order in for Edition 1 or Edition 2, it is not too late. Our Head of Corps Cell was gifted several hundred copies for sale from the Corps shop with all funds raised to be made available to support serving and retired members of our Corps.

The Head of Corps Cell shop is up and running online (at <https://raeme.org.au/index.php/shop>) but at time of writing, they haven't as yet uploaded their books for sale. When they do, we will let you know but in the interim, requests for books can be sent to Head of Corps Cell at RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au.

Send your funny story or contact details today! FunnyStories@raeme.org.



RAEME PORT 2024

The 1st Aviation Regiment is proud to have the opportunity to present the 2024 RAEME Port, and, for the first time offer a 2024 RAEME Whisky.

The theme that we have chosen for the port this year is 'The Sundowner'.

The Sundowner holds a special place in the hearts of the craftsman that serve amongst the Regiment and we find it fitting with the circumstances 1 AVN currently finds itself in.

With 1 AVN beginning its move to Townsville next year the theme sits well, the Sundowner bar has followed the Regiment around Australia throughout its many relocations.

Buller Wines (Rutherglen, Vic) has kindly taken on the job to supply this year's port, and is well up for the task as they've supplied the RAEME port many times over the previous years. We've chosen a beautiful Old Fine Tawny this year.

2024 RAEME Port is valued at \$30.

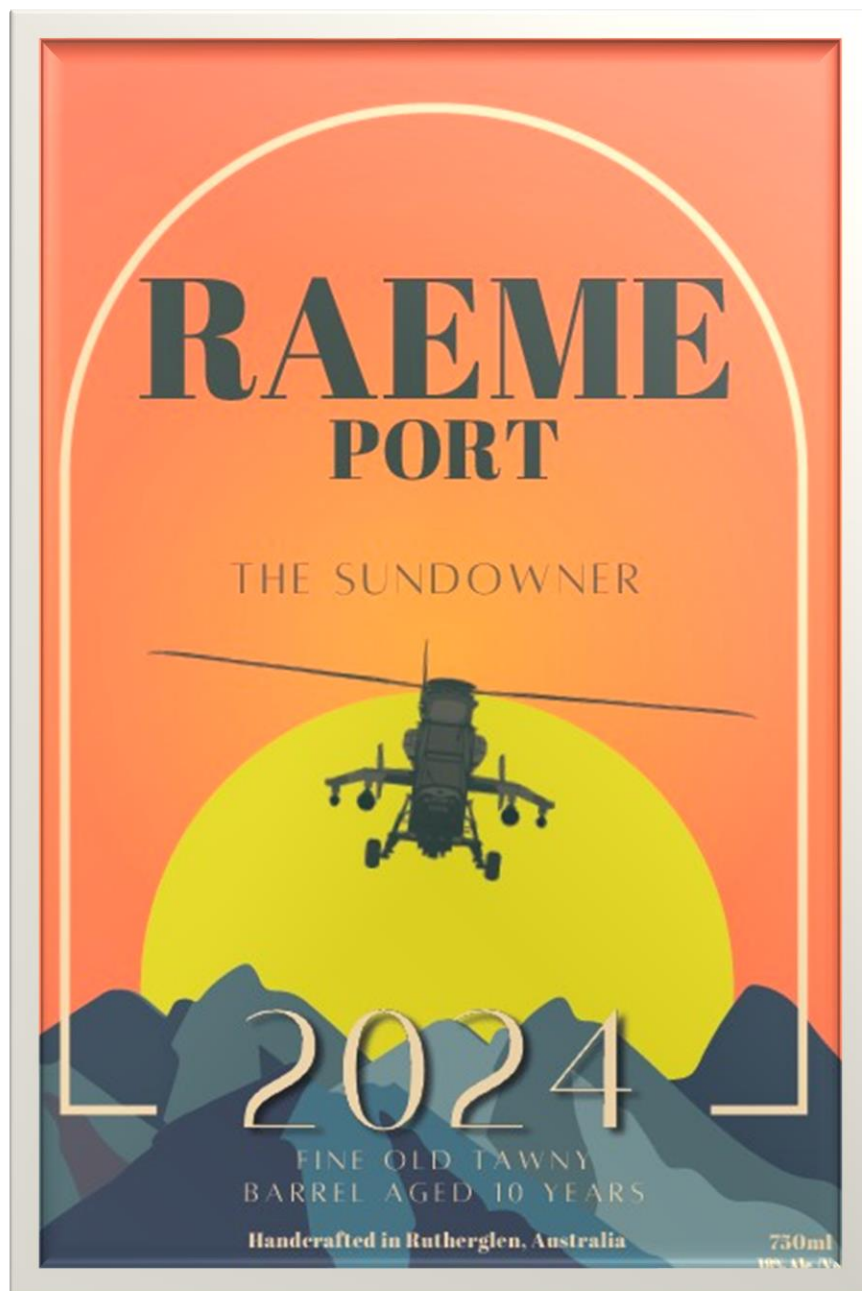
Ancient Wisdom Distillery (Pakenham, Vic) has offered a lovely Australian Whisky aged in Tawny Port barrels which is a captivating expression that marries the robust qualities of the whisky with the luxury of fortified wine casks.

2024 RAEME Whisky is valued at \$70.

Please use the following link to secure yourself a 2024 RAEME Port and Whisky; <https://www.trybooking.com/CUCVK>

The sales event will finalise 19 Oct 24, to allow for delivery by RAEME Birthday

2024 RAEME Port and Whisky



Select tickets

Thursday 1 August 2024 7:00 PM - Saturday 19 October 2024 11:00 PM

1x 750 ml Port Bottle	Fine Old Tawny Blend - Buller Wines	\$30.00	- 1 +
1x 700 ml Whisky Bottle	Tawny Barrel Aged Whisky - Ancient Wisdom Distillery	\$70.00	- 1 +

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME CANBERRA

On Friday 06 Sep, we will hold our bi-monthly mixed lunch at Ainslie Football Club. Last lunch we had a great bunch of members attend, including some still serving, as well as a few spouses. We will kick off from 1230h. If you aren't a member of the Ainslie Football Club, tell the staff at the desk you are there for the RAEME lunch. If they have any concerns, they should be able to come and find us so we can sign you in but if you would like to come and you aren't one of our regular attendees, please drop me an email on Secretary@act.raeme.org.au so I can ensure you are able to get in.

After that, we will have our regular monthly catch up at Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club. This will kick off at 7.30pm on Tuesday 24 Sep, being the last Tuesday of the month as is our custom. If you are available, please come along. Again, if you aren't one of our regular attendees or if you aren't a member of Gungahlin Lakes (which is the same as Ainslie Football Club), please email so I can get you in.

Next on the calendar will be our Spanner Club at Olims. That will start from 4.30pm on Friday 06 Sep. After seeing upwards of 50 members at the last Spanner Club (and RMC Lanyard Presentation), it would be awesome to see more people in attendance for this one, especially serving members. We will have the RAEME Room booked (Olim's call it the Limestone Room but we know the truth) which is right next to the bar area. We always have space to overflow out in the bar area if required. It will be great to see you there.

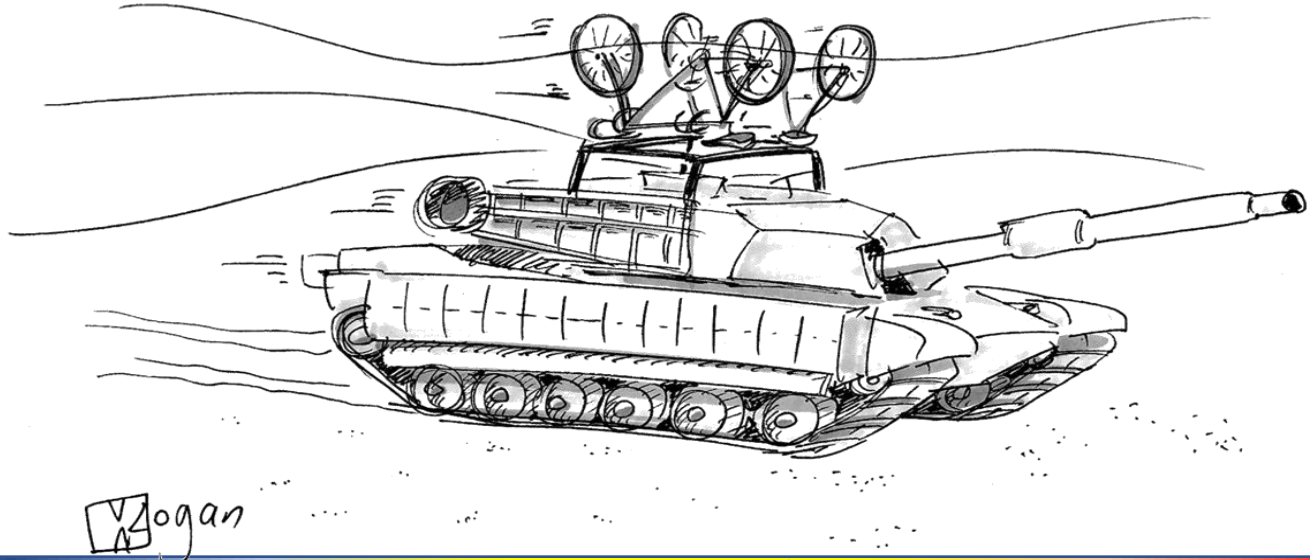
As scary as it is, the year is starting to wind down so we need to start planning for this year's RAEME Birthday Celebrations; an event that is traditionally one of the biggest on the social calendar each year. This year, we are aiming for a gathering on the afternoon of Friday 29 Nov. This date appears to coincide with what most other States and the Top End are working towards. Last year's birthday celebrations saw one of the biggest turn-outs we have had for years. That may have been due to the amazing cake but it was probably more to do with the company shared. Not surprisingly, none of us looked a day older than last year!

Please mark these dates in your diaries now. More details will follow on RAEME Birthday as they are locked in but if you have any ideas about what we can add to make the day even better, please let us know.

Other than that, we would like to start publishing more stories about what those who are serving actually do in their day jobs, especially so we can hear about how broadly our Corps is influencing the Army's future. If you are a serving member of any rank within the ACT, please drop us an email (Secretary@act.raeme.org.au) so we can commence a discussion as to how we can capture your role. Aside from submissions about your posted role, we would also welcome any papers or journal articles you may have written that could be of interest to the Corps.

Also watch this space for details for our end-of-year function. Planning is underway now!

ADF NEWS – TANKS TO COME TO CANBERRA!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME NSW

If you want to have a reunion that rocks, you need to get the 101 Fd Wksp team to organise it for you! That was clearly evident when seeing some of the smiles from the reunion they organised for Army's Premier Workshop at Ingleburn RSL on Sat 17 Aug. This event was months in the making and every minute of planning was well spent.

All guests, some of whom travelled from around the nation, were warmly welcomed by the iconic 101 archway, faithfully reconstructed by one of the organisers, Michelle Lafferty. She along with Karen Cairns and Rebecca Yoxall ensured all attendees had a night or a weekend (for some) to remember. We aren't sure if they organised any PT under the archway but it certainly would have triggered a lot of memories for those in attendance.

Attendees included the current Wksp OC and ASM, MAJ Jesse Voyer and WO1 Marcellin Chee, who were able to talk about what the Wksp is up to these days, as well as at least one other OC and ASM pair, Michael Culley and Henry Gibson. Guests of honour included three who served with 101 in Vietnam, Allan Moore, Bryan Fyfe & Geoff Watts.

Most attendees hadn't been in the same room as each other for 30+ years, but on the night, it felt like it was only last week when they shared a chat in the old unit club. There were lots of laughs and reminiscing about the 'old days'. Best of all, everyone looked exactly the same as they did back then!! **Well Done, 101 team!**



101 Fd Wksp Reunion continued



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME QUEENSLAND

Vietnam Veterans Honoured at Canungra Memorial Service

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Service held on Sunday, 18 August 2024, at Kokoda Barracks, Canungra, was a solemn and significant occasion, drawing a large gathering of veterans, their families, and community members. Organised by the Canungra RSL Sub Branch with the support of the Kokoda Youth Foundation, the service paid tribute to the courage and sacrifice of those who served in the Vietnam War.



A highlight of the event was the laying of regimental military plaques, with Corps RSM WO1 Jon Tynan representing RAEME in the ceremony. WO1 Tynan laid the RAEME memorial plaque, which will now remain permanently displayed at the memorial site, ensuring the enduring recognition of the contributions made by RAEME personnel during the Vietnam conflict.



The service was warmly received by all in attendance. Following the official proceedings, many veterans and guests gathered at the Canungra RSL for a light lunch. Among those in attendance were RAQ Members Adrian Butcher, Jeff Jenkinson, Major Steve Howells, and Ray 'George' Moore, underscoring the strong presence of the RAEME community at the event.

The Canungra Memorial Service serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of remembering and honouring our Vietnam Veterans, ensuring that their legacy continues to be recognised and respected by future generations.



Recent functions in Queensland

As possibly the most active Association within the RAEME National Network, the Queensland Team have been busy organising gatherings State-wide. Over the last month, they have met for:

- The Reserve Reunion was held at the Sherwood/Indooroopilly RSL on 17 Aug. This reunion was well-attended by over 70 guests. This year's reunion was thoughtfully scheduled on a Saturday to avoid clashing with Vietnam Veterans Day, which fell on the following Sunday. Attendees enjoyed a BBQ lunch, and refreshments, creating a relaxed atmosphere for socialising and reminiscing. The day was further enlivened by a series of great raffles, offering prizes such as books, wine, and gift vouchers worth up to \$100, adding an extra element of excitement to the proceedings.
- A Darling Downs Luncheon was held in Toowoomba on 18 Aug with over 30 attendees, including several first-time participants. Despite the winter chill, which often sees a decrease in attendance as many members head north to warmer climates, the event was well-received.
- The Gold Coast Luncheon was held on 24 Aug at the Mermaid Beach AEME Surf Life Saving Club. Again, a well-attended event with all members enjoying the meal and the company of like-minded individuals.

RAQ Sunshine Coast Annual Luncheon – Sat 21 Sep 2024 – Ticket sales now open

The Queensland team are also planning for their Sunshine Coast Annual Luncheon. This will be held on Sat 21 Sep 2024 – Ticket sales for which are now open.

An 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.

The Queensland Association are pleased to confirm that their guest speaker is COL Kane Wright; the Director of Logistics – Army within Army Headquarters. COL Wright also recently returned from Fiji where he was the Defence Attaché at a very interesting time. He will speak a little about his career, his time in Fiji and the challenges of his current job.

The Association will again be ably supported by the Maroochy RSL catering and bar staff, who as many know, look after our every need including providing our meals from the Club's famous Gold Plate Menu.

Details of the lunch are as follows:

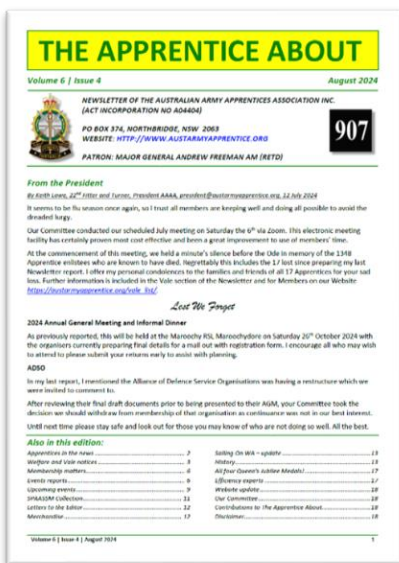
- Venue – Room M4 Maroochy RSL, corner Memorial and First Avenues, Maroochydhore.
- Timings – 1200 for 1230 hours on Saturday 21 September 2024.
- Dress – Neat casual.
- Drinks – The bar will be open from 1200 to 1630 hours with drinks being purchased at your own expense.
- Parking – Free parking is 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.

If you do wish to request specific seating, or arrange that table of friends, or you have specific dietary restrictions please email the RAQ. If you have any difficulties booking or paying electronically, please email the Webmaster at: webmaster@qld.raeme.org.au.

Bookings need to be made and paid for by COB Wednesday 11th September 2024, as the convenors need to confirm numbers with the venue management one week prior to the event. This is a popular event with over 40 tickets already sold in the first week!

To book to attend, please visit: <https://qld.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/events/Register/603-raq-sunshine-coast-luncheon-2024>

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH ARMY APPRENTICES

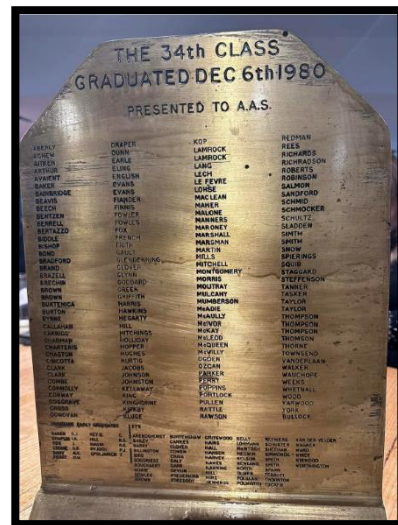


The Australian Army Apprentice Association released their latest newsletter, *The Apprentice About*, in August which is chock full of Appy goodness.

In this edition, the Appy team have formally recognised those members who were honoured in the King's Birthday honours list.

They have also provided a report from a significant function held earlier this year; the 45th Year Reunion of the 34th Class. This was held over 25-26 April 2024 in Mornington, Victoria.

Sixty-one Apprentices and 41 partners and family attended the reunion. They attended the dawn service and also marched in the 0930h Street Parade, followed by the 1000h service. Wreaths were laid at both services.



A dinner was held at the Dava Hotel on 25th April, as well as another get together at the Portsea Hotel on the night of the 26th April.



The Appy's have also celebrated the commissioning of one of their longer-term members, Captain Michael 'Mick' Patman who received his commission at a ceremony in Brisbane...

Mick joined the Army as a 46th intake Army Apprentice Fitter and Turner in Jan 91 and finished his full-time service after 32 years in January 2023 as ASM of the 7th Brigade. Mick transferred to the Reserves in January 2023 working in HQ 7th Brigade and was commissioned just before RAEME Birthday last year.

Mick's military career has seen him work all over Australia with postings to Albury, Brisbane, Townsville, Darwin, Cairns and Canberra. He completed 8 years as a unit ASM at 51 FNQR, 1 CER and 1 Signal Regiment. He managed the Army's finest soldiers as the RAEME Career Advisor for three years. He has had many deployments including the Middle East, East Timor, The Solomon Islands and Border Protection here in Australia. Mick was awarded a Silver Commendation for his work as the RAEME Career advisor. **Congratulations, Mick!**

All of this and so much more can be found in this latest newsletter, including details regarding multiple impending Apprentice reunions, a little history, a photo-identification challenge, merchandise and the list goes on.

To take a look, please visit: <https://austarmyapprentice.org/newsletters/>

DVA NEWS – VETERAN TRANSITION STRATEGY

Source: <https://www.dva.gov.au/newsroom/vetaffairs/vetaffairs-vol-39-no3-december-2023/veteran-transition-strategy>, 4 December 2023

The Veteran Transition Strategy, the first of its kind, was released by the Australian Government on 22 August 2023.

The Strategy is a joint initiative between Defence, the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) and the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (CSC)—agency partners in the Joint Transition Authority (JTA).

The Strategy aims to align transition stakeholders with a shared vision for what it means for a veteran and their family to transition well.

The Strategy has six priorities:

- Veterans and their families plan and prepare early for their transition;
- Veterans and families are aware of and able to access support appropriate to their needs;
- Families are engaged through transition;
- Veterans and families have access to employment, education and skills opportunities;
- Financial wellbeing for veterans and families; and
- Veterans and families feel supported and recognised.

The priorities outlined in the Strategy were developed following extensive consultation with serving ADF members, veterans, families, ex-service organisations, Commonwealth and state and territory government agencies, academia and industry.

DVA, Defence and CSC are all critical partners in supporting the effective transition of ADF members and families to a predominantly civilian life. Together, we are working to improve the transition experience through the sharing of data, addressing gaps in services, integrating existing services, and influencing new services as they are developed. To this end, a dedicated Transition Branch has been established to drive these efforts within DVA.

Building on the vision outlined in the strategy, initiatives have already been put in place to improve the services and supports available to veterans in transition:

- the skills recognition program, which translates military training to civilian qualifications. (This means ADF personnel are better recognised in the civilian workplace for the skills, training and experience they have gained in service.)
- improved, individualised support for personnel transitioning
- amendments to Defence Housing rules to allow members to occupy a rent allowance property before they leave the ADF to help them get established in the community they wish to live
- allowances for transitioning ADF members to attend civilian GP appointments to support the handover of any medical care needs from Defence Health to the GP who will manage their health care after transition
- out-of-hours transition coaching to better support families, to be piloted later this year
- expansion of some transition services to be available throughout an ADF member's career.

The strategy and related action plans will evolve as needed, particularly in response to the findings and recommendations of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide. The Veteran Transition Strategy is available on the Defence website.

Transitioning members are able to access DVA's broad service offer, based on their eligibility and circumstances. Veteran Support Officers deliver support and advice about DVA benefits and services, including MyService and lodging of claims, in a consistent manner tailored to the needs of the individual. Veterans and families can also use MyService to do their business online.

For further information, call 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372).

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF AUSTRALIAN SERVICE IN TIMOR-LESTE

Source: <https://www.dva.gov.au/recognition/commemorations/commemorative-services/commemorative-services-australia/25th-anniversary-australian-service-timor-leste>

Introduction

In 2024, to mark the 25th anniversary of Australian service in Timor-Leste, the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) will be holding a National Commemorative Service at the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial in Canberra on 20 September 2024 from 9:30am.

Australian service in Timor-Leste spanned between 1999 and 2013 and encompassed Australian Defence Force and Australian Federal Police personnel, as well as civilians. This anniversary provides the opportunity to honour and remember the service of all Australian men and women who served in Timor-Leste, and the sacrifice of their families. Tragically, six Australians lost their lives whilst deployed, or as a result of their service, in Timor-Leste.

Planning your attendance

DVA strongly encourage all attendees who are planning to attend the service to register their intent to attend.

Although a formal ticket or attendance pass will not be required to enter the service, the registration process ensures that adequate arrangements can be put in place by DVA.

What to expect

The service will be broadcast nationally by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC). DVA are still finalising arrangements for this service; this webpage will be updated with further information in the near future.

Service details

- Service:** Nationally broadcast commemorative service to mark the 25th anniversary of Australian service in Timor-Leste
- Date:** Friday 20 September 2024
- Time:** 9:30am: Pre-service program commences
10:00am: Official service commences
- Venue:** The Australian Peacekeeping Memorial, Anzac Parade, Campbell, Canberra
- Register:** You can register at: https://dva.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dbAVSnF8mkdBK06



AUSTRALIAN VETERAN PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

Source: <https://pointandshoot.online/>

WARNING: This website contains images that may be confronting or disturbing for some viewers. If you need to talk to someone 24/7 help is available.

Open Arms: 1800 011 046

Lifeline: 13 11 14

Showcasing a powerful collection of career imagery and accompanying stories from Australian veterans, this exhibition brings a voice to the unique experiences of serving personnel. From its Tasmanian beginnings in 2020, *Point & Shoot* launched onto the national stage in 2022 and



continues to grow. Covering military service from post-World War II onwards, the exhibition commemorates a range of modern conflicts, peace operations and service and provides a rare glimpse into the life and experiences of fellow Australians who have served their country.

Point & Shoot is the concept of Point Assist founder Mark Direen, a former Infantry and Special Forces soldier with over 20 years military service including 6 overseas deployments. Mark's own experiences as a soldier were the impetus for this project.



Operating in remote, high-threat environments is both physically and mentally demanding. It was behind the lens of a camera, capturing both the ordinary and extraordinary experiences as a combat soldier he found stillness and meaning. Looking back at a plethora of images post service, Mark then began to wonder, maybe others do this too and so the concept began.

The purpose of the *Point & Shoot* exhibition is not to display perfectly captured photos from professional photographers. But rather, to share some of those moments frozen in time that those who serve our nation thought were worth



remembering. We invite all Australian veterans to submit an image. Everyone has a story and we encourage you to share yours.

The Australian Veteran Photography Exhibition is touring the country from 1 August – 30 November 2024. **It will be in Canberra from 26 – 28 Sep at the Canberra Services Club (51 Blackall St, Barton).**

Details of the exhibition's showing in other regions may be viewed at: <https://pointandshoot.online/2024-exhibition/>



DVA NEWS – APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR LONG TAN BURSARY

Source: <https://www.dva.gov.au/news/latest-stories/applications-open-long-tan-bursary>

Correct as at: 19 August 2024

Today we honour Vietnam veterans, by supporting the future of their children and grandchildren through the 2025 Long Tan Bursary. Applications are now open to eligible children and grandchildren of Vietnam veterans, who can apply for up to \$12,000 over 3 years to assist with the cost of their education.

Each year, 37 Long Tan Bursaries are awarded. They provide education support to recipients, helping them to acquire qualifications in their chosen careers. The Long Tan Bursary scheme is named after the Battle of Long Tan, the best-known battle fought by Australians during the Vietnam War.

Vietnam veterans were instrumental in setting up the Long Tan Bursary more than 20 years ago. The Bursary is funded by DVA and administered by the Australian Veterans' Children Assistance Trust (AVCAT¹) on the Department's behalf. So far, the Bursary has supported 967 children and grandchildren of Vietnam veterans. It has helped aspiring doctors, teachers, lawyers, artists, mechanics and many others succeed in their chosen professions.

Julia Clugston, whose father served in Vietnam, received a Long Tan Bursary in 2019.

'Without [the Bursary], I would not have been here with a finished university degree, driving around national parks fighting fires and seeing a good vision for the future with my career,' she said last year. 'I have had the great opportunity of meeting people from AVCAT from all around and being mentored and supported by them. I feel like I could not be in safer hands.'

Leon Ross is multimedia composer who was awarded the Long Tan Bursary in 2018. The Bursary helped him complete a Bachelor of Applied Music before going on to study overseas.

'[My] goals take extreme dedication, perseverance and quite possibly a lot of support in coping with rejections,' said Leon. 'AVCAT has provided me a mental stabiliser of sorts, allowing me to focus on my aspirations and act on them to bring them to fruition. Thank you, AVCAT, and all for the countless support throughout my growth as a composer.'

More information on the Long Tan Bursary, including eligibility criteria and how to apply, can be found on the Long Tan Bursary page of the DVA website².

To apply, visit the AVCAT website³. **Applications close on 31 October 2024**

Eligibility. To be eligible for a Long Tan Bursary, you must:

- be the child or grandchild of an Australian veteran who served in the Vietnam War during 31 July 1962 to 30 April 1975
- have Australian residency status
- plan to enrol, or be enrolled, in post-secondary education at an Australian University, TAFE College or Registered Training Organisation
- be studying, or planning to study full time, either online or face-to-face
- qualify for continuous payment of educational benefits under Youth Allowance or a comparable Commonwealth educational benefit, for example Abstudy or Austudy.

You can only receive this bursary once. You cannot apply again if you have already received this bursary. The Long Tan Bursary is not available to students undertaking professional training, such as the College of Law. Each course must be approved by AVCAT.

¹ <https://avcat.org.au/>

² <https://www.dva.gov.au/about-us/overview/consultations-and-grants/grants-and-bursaries/long-tan-bursary>

³ <https://avcat.org.au/forms/apply/>

ADF NEWS – 3D PRINTERS BREATHE LIFE INTO MEDICAL TRAINING

Source: <https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2024-08-14/3d-printers-breathe-life-medical-training>

When damaged or blocked airways stop a patient breathing, medics can cut through the cricothyroid membrane and insert a valve to make an alternate airway in the throat.

This procedure, known as a cricothyrotomy, was added to the medic's scope of practice two years ago, but training aids were hard to come by and replacement consumables expensive.

Increasing costs quickly became a problem for instructors at the ADF School of Health, and with nothing available through the Q system, one instructor, Sergeant John Bray, found a solution.

Listening to a podcast by an American doctor who specialises in teaching the procedure, he learned the doctor had created a free 3D-printable training aid.

Sergeant Bray took the designs to the MakerSpace at Latchford and spent the next few days printing different components.

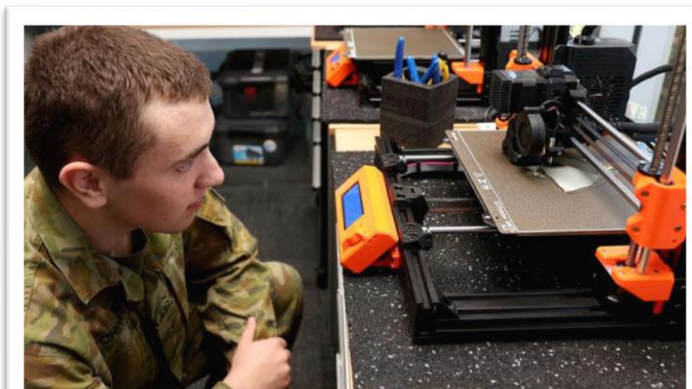
"It was a case of print it off, glue it together, find something to use as a piece of skin and you're ready to roll," Sergeant Bray said.

What emerged was a head on a hinge that flips back and exposes a piece of rubber used to simulate skin over a plastic trachea.

"You slice through that fake skin to get to the trachea so you can insert an airway and ventilate with a bag-value mask," Sergeant Bray said.

The procedure can be needed following explosive blasts, burns or any injury that causes trauma to the head where an airway is blocked.

Instructors replace the training aid's skin with skin from worn medical mannequins, but everything else is permanent.



Army Craftsman Ben Hutchings watches as a 3D printer produces an object at the MakerSpace workshop at Latchford Barracks, Victoria.



A 3D-printed training aid, created at the MakerSpace at Latchford Barracks, helps instructors teach how to perform a cricothyrotomy – which involves cutting through the cricothyroid membrane and inserting a valve to make an alternate airway in the neck.

"We've been using it on the CBRN (chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear) health course since July last year, where it's getting thrown around. In the rotary-wing aero-medical evacuation course it's been stepped on a few times; it's actually pretty durable," Sergeant Bray said. He next plans to use the MakerSpace equipment to create an improvised explosive device noise simulator to make a blast sound to trigger the start of a trauma scenario.

"The people that are running MakerSpace are happy to help out, but they're more interested in helping people learn to do it themselves," Sergeant Bray said. "It's not there for people to go in and ask the staff to print off knick-knacks; they're helping personnel to learn the technology."

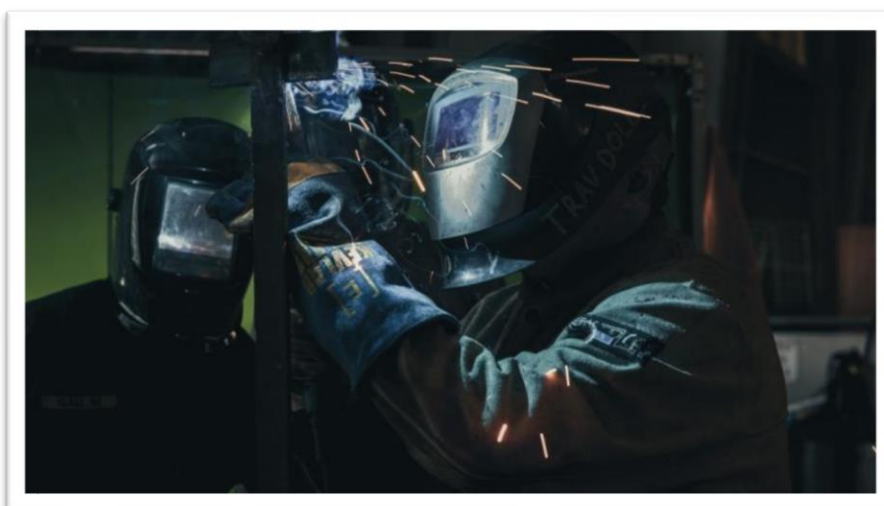
ADF NEWS – WELDING COURSE JOINS FRIENDS TOGETHER

Source: <https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2024-08-13/welding-course-joins-friends-together>

Army personnel from 3rd Brigade conducted training with their Papua New Guinea Defence Force (PNGDF) counterparts recently to develop a variety of military skills.

As part of Exercise Olgeta Warrior, a welding course was held at Murray Barracks, Port Moresby.

The two-month course focused on welding techniques used on all types of materials, including stainless steel and aluminium.



Australian Army soldier Sergeant Travis Doll demonstrates a welding practice at Murray Barracks, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. Photo: Corporal Guy Sadler

The course instructor, material technician Sergeant Travis Doll, of 3rd Combat Service Support Battalion, said the course ensured the PNGDF had the capability to weld their ships.

“They have been learning how to use the new welding machines and the dissimilar techniques for different situations, and not just using a stick welder to weld everything,” Sergeant Doll said.

A marine engineer from the PNGDF, Ordinary Seaman Mervan Gau, said the course was great.

“It’s good to get extra training, specifically on the aluminium side to welding, as we conduct lots of this at the Navy base,” Ordinary Seaman Gau said.

“This course has broadened my understanding of welding with different types of materials.

“I’m loving every day; it makes me want to come to work.”



Australian Army soldier Sergeant Travis Doll, front, with his welding trainees, PNG Defence Force's Private Andrew Dua, left, Warrant Officer Edgar Kuliniasi and Ordinary Seaman Mervan Gau at Murray Barracks, Port Moresby.

Olgeta Warrior has been held annually since 2009 to build shared understanding, professionalism, leadership, discipline and military capability.

“It strengthens the relationship between the ADF and PNGDF,” Sergeant Doll said.

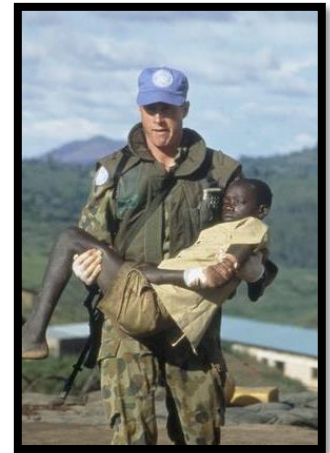
“The friendship that has been formed between the PNGDF welders’ course members and me has been amazing.

“It will be something that I cherish forever.”

AWM NEWS – 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN TROOPS TO ARRIVE IN RWANDA

Source: <https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/blog/30-year-anniversary-of-first-australian-troops-in-rwanda>

There was little that Australians could do to prepare themselves adequately for what they would encounter in Rwanda. In early 1994 the tiny East African country had been the site of one of the most concentrated genocides of the twentieth century. In the space of just three months, an estimated 800,000 men, women and children, mostly from the Tutsi ethnic group, were massacred by extremist Hutu militias. Machete was the most common weapon; churches provided no refuge; and former friends, neighbours, community leaders and school teachers took part in the violence.



A UN peacekeeping force, the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR), was established in 1993 as tension escalated in the country, but the force did not have adequate resources to stem the increasing violence nor to stop the genocide. Australia did not participate in UNAMIR, but did contribute to the second iteration of the mission, dubbed UNAMIR II, an expansion on the original UN mission starting in May 1994. Australia's contribution was Operation Tamar, in which some 656 ADF personnel served in two contingents to Rwanda between August 1994 and August 1995.

When the Advance Party of Australians began to arrive in Rwanda on 7 August 1994, the first main task was to prepare the military wing of the Kigali Central Hospital for use as a working health centre. This would become a main base of Australian operations for the next year. The hospital had been damaged in the civil war, and during the genocide it had become a shelter for hundreds of desperate refugees. The Advance Party found the hospital covered in months of accumulated filth; it had no power, water, or working sewerage system. The toilets, lacking running water, needed to be cleared of solidified excrement, and the gas masks worn by those tasked with their clearance did little to assist. The hospital morgue, which had no power and therefore no refrigeration, needed to be cleared of human remains.

In a little over a week, the hospital wing was nearly ready, and before long the main body of Australian medical staff and infantry began to arrive. Although they were in the country principally to provide health care to the 40 nation strong UN mission, the Australians used their spare capacity to assist the civilian population as well. The Australian medical staff found themselves treating a variety of cases that were unfamiliar to many in the medical profession in Australia: mine blasts, gunshot wounds, and rare diseases. By early 1995 it was estimated that the Australians were providing 50 per cent of Rwanda's primary health care needs.

Although the Australians had arrived in Rwanda after the civil war and genocide, the country was not completely free of violence. In Kigali, it was not uncommon for Australian medics to treat people suffering wounds from beatings, to hear gunshots during the night, or to find beaten and bound bodies left in rubbish dumps. Hutu militias continued deadly attacks on civilians, and the Australians assisted by treating the wounded in the aftermath. Similarly, the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic Army carried out reprisal attacks on Hutus, including Hutu civilians returning home from camps across the countryside. The continued violence made the process of returning Rwanda to some sense of normality difficult. Australian troops providing security for the Australian medical team had frequent run-ins and stand-offs with the increasingly hostile Rwandan troops, many of whom resented the international presence in their country so soon after they had emerged victorious from the civil war.

In January 1995, Australians of the first contingent investigated a massacre at Busanze; and in April 1995, 32 Australians of the second contingent were present at the Internally Displaced Persons camp at Kibeho when Rwandan government troops opened fire on mostly Hutu civilians, killing an estimated 4,000 of them in a single day. The Kibeho Massacre has become a defining event for the Australian experience in Rwanda, and four Australians were awarded Medals for Gallantry for their efforts to protect and treat the wounded on that day; but it was only one of many traumatic events for the more than 600 Australians who served in Rwanda over the course of a year.

Few who served in Rwanda came home unaffected by the scenes they had encountered and the hardships they had endured.

By David Sutton 07 Aug 2024

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME TASMANIA

The RAEME Association of Tasmania (RATS) have been busy recovering from an amazing "North meets South" gathering recently held on neutral ground at the Man-o-Ross Hotel. It looks like the team had a great turn out too!



The RATs have recently received their new line of Premium RAT'S Stubbie Coolers.

Limited Stock are available now at \$10.00 per Cooler.

These Stubbie Coolers are stitched with the RAT logo on the front and rear.

You can purchase one of these online, along with a range of other Corps merchandise at: <https://tas.raeme.org.au/index.php/shop>

Other than that, the RATs have been busy planning a big reunion for Hobart Workshop Platoon. The Expressions of Interest phase has finished with the results overwhelmingly supporting the Reunion being held.

Those persons indicating an intention to attend will be contacted with further information as plans are finalised

The initial planning and dates for the reunion are:

- Friday 15 Nov 2024 – Welcome drinks 1730 for 1800 start, venue to be advised
- Saturday 16 Nov 2024 – Dinner at Queens Head Hotel, Menu with costs to be circulated closer to the event
- Sunday 17 Nov 2024 – 12.30 for 1.00pm - BBQ lunch Derwent Barracks.

This looks like it is going to be a ripper of an event so any former member of the Hobart Workshop should make an effort to attend. Details re this are at:

<https://tas.raeme.org.au/>

In the lead up, the RATs have two social gatherings planned. The first is on 17 August at Ross Hotel, Ross, commencing at 1200h. The second is at the Claremont RSL commencing at 1200h on 19 October. Details of both are on the RATS website posted above.

If you are in town for either of these events, I encourage you to get along and enjoy the company on offer.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME WA

The RAEME Association in WA recently released their latest newsletter, *The Horse's Mouth*, edition 51.

In this edition, the Association have given a good summary of events since their last newsletter, which commences with a report from their ANZAC Day vigil and service.

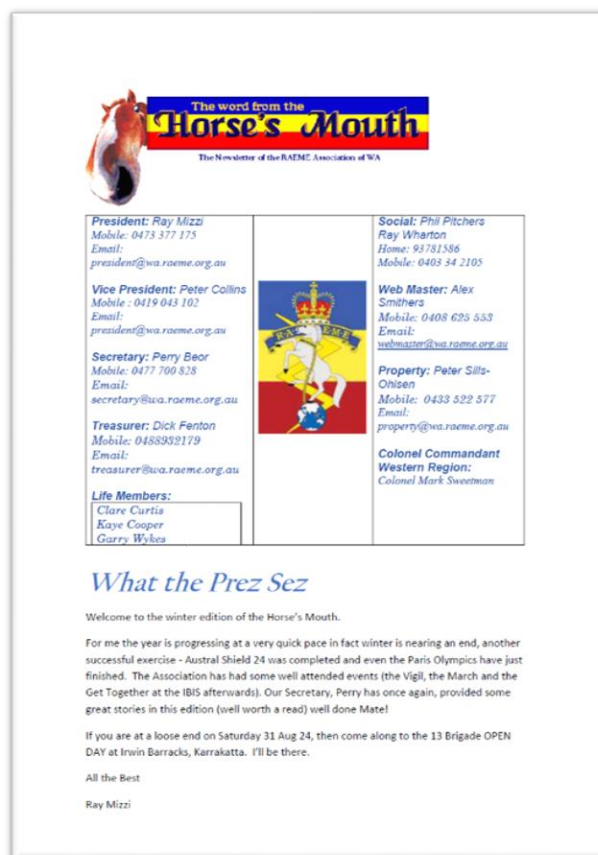
The newsletter also provides a summary of Exercise Austral Shield 24, being an exercise in which an FRT from 113 recently deployed to RAAF Curtin (Derby). 84 vehicles made the 2,500+ km trip for the exercise. Testament to the technical skills of the workshop crew, they only lost two vehicles on the way up and one on the way back. Well done team! Of course, once they got into the fine sand around RAAF Curtin, placed some vehicles at risk so the return convoy was a little smaller. I don't want to know how they transported spare vehicles back....just don't ask to look in the back of the dump truck!

One of WA's greatest waterborne challenges is Avon Descent. This is an incredible 2-day, 124km adventure river challenge from Northam to Bayswater, WA.

The two RAEME teams in this year's event were captained by MAJ Rob Reeves and BRIG Amanda Williamson. BRIG Williamson, in a team with her brother Todd (Two Williamson's – Boat #166), finished 4th overall and 4th in her category of 10hp Sports, with an average speed of 52.4 km/hr.

Rob in a team with Liam Walton (Aqua Bogans – Boat #020) finished 23rd overall and 8th in his category of 10hp Super Standard, with an average speed of 27.1 km/hr. He did however lose a few places by stopping off at Bell's Rapids to help a mate who was in trouble.

Congratulations to both teams, who reckon they can improve their placings next year and have shown what the Corps is capable of. Looking at these photos, I expect a few more RAEME teams will enter next year!!



The word from the Horse's Mouth
The Newsletter of the RAEME Association of WA

President: Ray Mizzi Mobile: 0473 377 175 Email: president@wa.raeme.org.au	Vice President: Peter Collins Mobile: 0419 043 102 Email: president@wa.raeme.org.au	Social: Phil Pitchers Ray Wharton Home: 93781586 Mobile: 0403 34 2105
Secretary: Perry Beor Mobile: 0477 700 828 Email: secretary@wa.raeme.org.au	Treasurer: Dick Fenton Mobile: 0488992179 Email: treasurer@wa.raeme.org.au	Web Master: Alex Smithers Mobile: 0408 625 553 Email: webmaster@wa.raeme.org.au
Life Members: Clare Curtis Kaye Cooper Garry Wykes	Property: Peter Sills-Olssen Mobile: 0433 522 577 Email: property@wa.raeme.org.au	Coloneel Commandant Western Region: Coloneel Mark Sweetman

What the Prez Sez

Welcome to the winter edition of the Horse's Mouth.

For me the year is progressing at a very quick pace in fact winter is nearing an end, another successful exercise - Austral Shield 24 was completed and even the Paris Olympics have just finished. The Association has had some well attended events (the Vigil, the March and the Get Together at the IBIS afterwards). Our Secretary, Perry has once again, provided some great stories in this edition (well worth a read) well done Mate!

If you are at a loose end on Saturday 31 Aug 24, then come along to the 13 Brigade OPEN DAY at Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta. I'll be there.

All the Best
Ray Mizzi



All of this and so much more can be found in this edition of *Horse's Mouth*. You can download a copy from: <https://wa.raeme.org.au/index.php/publications/horsesmouth>.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The President of RAEME Association South Australia, John Prince, is leading the way by demonstrating his resolve to save lives. He is doing so through his participation in the National Breast Cancer Foundation's **Step up to Breast Cancer** challenge.

Every day, 57 Australians are diagnosed with breast cancer, and 9 people lose their lives to this disease.

The National Breast Cancer Foundation is asking Aussies to join **Step Up to Breast Cancer**; walk or run 57km throughout August to raise funds for vital breast cancer research to help save lives.

Every death is one too many, and research is critical to better understand, prevent, detect, treat and stop breast cancer from taking the lives of the people we love.

John walked at least 57km this August to do his part to help save lives. **Well done, John!**

Will YOU step up to breast cancer?

John's goal was to raise \$100 for the National Breast Cancer Foundation to support vital breast cancer research. At the time of writing, over \$700 had been generously contributed by many who wanted to join the fight against breast cancer. **You can still donate.**

Ongoing research is the only way we can improve our understanding of how breast cancer originates, grows and spreads, in order to develop tests, treatments and interventions to improve outcomes for people with the disease.

None of us can do this alone so your support of John's efforts will be greatly appreciated.

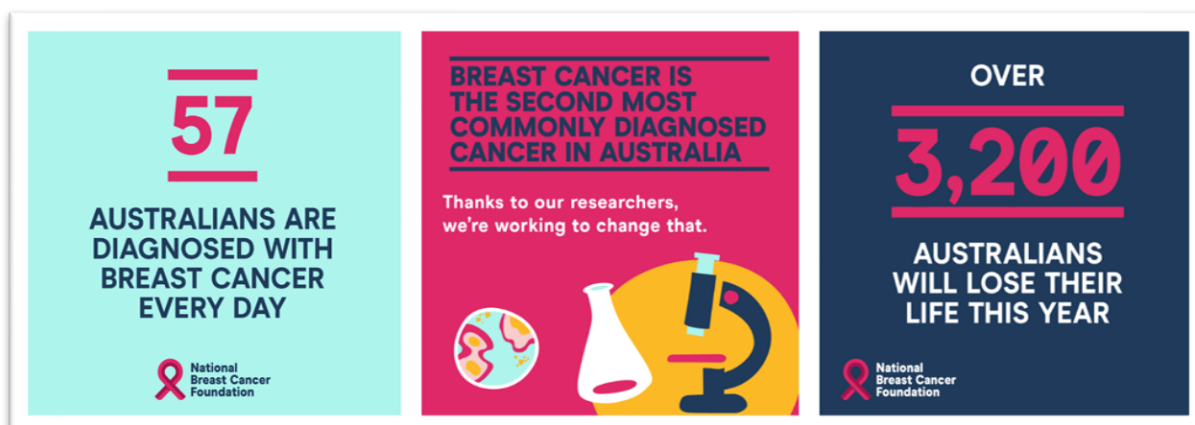
Please view John's fundraising page and make a donation to support his 57km challenge:

<https://fundraise.nbcf.org.au/fundraisers/johnprince>

Your donation (if over \$2) will be tax-deductible so you'll be provided with a receipt via email.

To learn more about the National Breast Cancer Foundation's work visit them at:

<https://fundraise.nbcf.org.au/event/step-up/home>



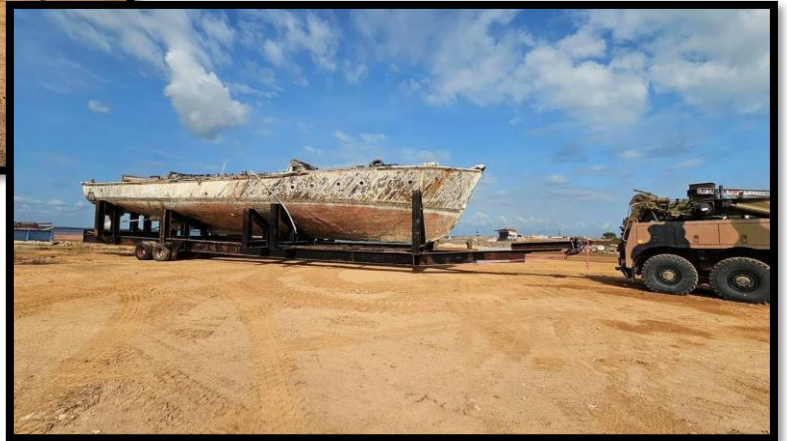
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME NT



Mission Success for 101 Fd Wksp by recovering a 80 foot historic warship known as The 'Rushcutter'.

The Tasmanian-made Huon pine patrol boat HMAS HDML1321 took commandos behind enemy lines in WWII.

The patrol boat has now been recovered to a safe destination to enable its transit south to Tasmania and keep history alive for generations to come.



Winners are grinners! Well done to the 1 CER Workshops team for taking out the Darwin Lions Beer Can Regatta. All for a great cause supporting Legacy NT.

The Darwin Lions Beer Can Regatta is an annual event that is not to be missed!

This iconic annual family fun event of Darwin was established in 1974 and is an event for all to use their imagination to design a vessel from cans as well as plastic bottles or milk cartons as long as it floats. Popular myth says that the Beer Can Regatta started in 1975, after Cyclone Tracy, to assist in the post-cyclone clean-up of Darwin. **Wrong...**

Yes, it was an endeavour to clean up Darwin's empty beer can litter, but the effort started earlier, with the first regatta on the 16th June 1974, six months prior to Tracy.

<https://beercanregatta.org.au/>



The 1 CER RAEME workshops team designed and built the unit's Chariot of Victory. They are hardworking superstars and the unit loves that they have pride in both the unit and their Corps.

Well done, 1 CER Workshops!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN REME – UNITED KINGDOM

Tour de REME

With the dust settled and the recovery complete, Colonel REME and the Corps Adjutant thanked everyone for their generous support of the Tour de REME. Over 5 days they completed 320 miles, visited 25 units, riding for 27 hours and 37 minutes in total, climbing 4450m and raising £6525 in the process for the REME Charity to support members of the REME Family that will be put to great use for the benefit of REME people, past and present, and their families.



Recruiting drive

In a novel approach to recruiting, the UK REME team recently called for recent school-leavers who had an interest in technical trades to visit their webpage to learn more about joining the Corps.

Those receiving their General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) and Business and Technology Education Council (BTec) grades, if you haven't figured out what you want to do next, you may want to consider joining the REME where you can learn a trade and travel the world all whilst getting paid.

For more information on our eight trades and the GCSE grades you need to be eligible to apply go to: <https://jobs.army.mod.uk/roles/royal-electrical-and-mechanical-engineers/>

The Craftsman Magazine

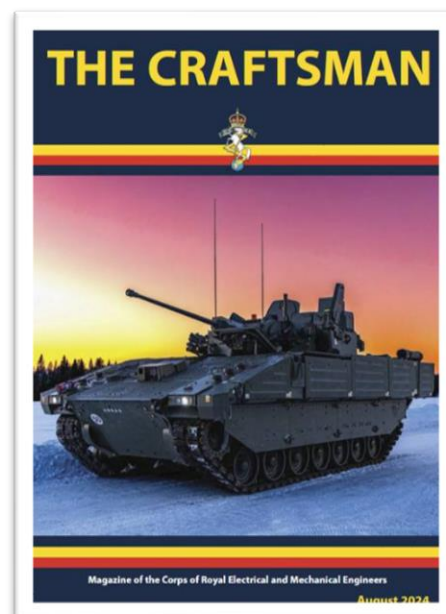
REME recently released their latest Corps magazine, *The Craftsman*. This is still released as a monthly publication. As you may expect, it is chock full of interesting articles and unit submissions.

Of particular interest is the opening introduction by the outgoing Colonel REME, COL Phillips ADC, as aside from recognising the strength of the Corps, he also touches on significant Corps initiatives, include honours and awards, engineering unit accreditation, and the "REME Career Offer" which appears to be a term used to encapsulate the benefits of being a Corps member. This includes the standard housing and allowances benefits but also goes towards enhancement of skill sets, payment of memberships to technical organisations and both professional and personal development opportunities. COL Phillips further notes that REME promotes more Regular and Reserve soldiers to WO1 than every other Corps each year.



The magazine also contains stories about field trials in rather cold climates, such as that shown in the cover photo.

Feel free to take a look at: <https://remeconnect.org/craftsman-magazine/>



ARMY LIFE BEFORE RAEME

On the 1st of Sep 1942, being the year of our Corp's formation, the Army News released what was important at that time. Some of the more interesting stories are below. For more see <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/3350782>

ANOTHER SEVEN JAPS DOWNED OVER SOLOMONS

Seven out of 14 Japanese planes were shot down when they made two attacks on American held positions on Guadalcanal Island, in the Solomon Islands, on Sunday, the 31st of August. A communication from the U.S. Navy Department at Washington revealed yesterday morning.

The seven planes included three bombers and four Zeros. The downing of the first plane was reported by the first command. No other enemy activity has been reported from the Solomon Islands since U.S. marine units their stopping up operations.

Mr. Zerkow's Press Minister (Mr. Peter Fraser), speaking from Washington on Sunday, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the U.S. Navy Department at Washington, said that the first plane had been downed and was now ready for the second.

Mr. Fraser said that the news was very heartening. He explained that the only way to defeat the Japs is to go out after them and not wait for them to attack.

Mr. Fraser, former U.S. Ambassador to Japan, on arrival in Washington, said that the American people against thinking that the morale of the Japs was low.

He said the Japs—individually or collectively—would fight until the last of his war weapons had been destroyed.

Mr. Grey said that unless civilians abandoned the hope of leaving the area by the fighting force, and unless they abandoned the hope of continuing to live normally, they were endangering the chances of victory.

He urged that workers go on all-out in their production efforts.

MALTA'S TOTAL IS 807 ENEMY PLANES

Thirty-seven enemy aircraft were shot down over Malta by anti-aircraft defences and fighter planes during August, which brings the total number of planes destroyed over the island to 807. These figures were released by the British Air Ministry yesterday.

On Saturday, 14 enemy aircraft were shot down when they attacked the island. An anti-aircraft ship was sunk by a Maltese plane.

Cairo reports continued air attacks and anti-aircraft skirmishes on the island.

Three Messerschmitts were shot down over El Alamiya, and others damaged.

In the Mediterranean, a large Axis tanker was left burning from stern to stern, and other ships in the same convoy were attacked by cannon fire. A British destroyer has reached port after fighting off an attack by dive-bombers.

The destroyer was part of a naval force which bombarded enemy positions at El Daba on Saturday.

The Sunday appeared to have been a never-ending formation and hundreds of bombs dropped all around the destroyer which put up a terrific barrage and finally made port safely.

ARMY NEWS

Vol. 1—No. 225 DARWIN, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1942 "Phone: LATER, 35"

MAJOR VICTORY AT MILNE BAY
Australian Troops Drive Japs From Area; Capture All Equipment, Supplies

The battle at Milne Bay (south-east tip of New Guinea) has resulted in a major victory for our forces. Australian troops, supported by American and Australian aircraft, defeated the enemy and are now pursuing the remnants of the Japanese troops along the peninsula on the northern side of the Bay. The enemy suffered heavy casualties and lost all their equipment and supplies, including tanks. Some of the Japs are believed to have escaped during the night on motor cars.

The capture and right transport which covered Milne Bay on Sunday night and were at last brought to a landing reinforcement, were probably sent there to evade the enemy's attack. The enemy's retreat was a tactical move, but it is believed that the enemy is now withdrawing from the area.

General MacArthur, in a special statement, said that the enemy at Milne Bay had been rapidly cleared from the area by Australian troops, and that the enemy's retreat was a tactical move, but it is believed that the enemy is now withdrawing from the area.

MAJOR - GENERAL C. A. CLOWES

MAJOR - GENERAL C. A. CLOWES who is in command of the victorious Australian troops at Milne Bay. General Blamey and yesterday shot down two Japs. Clowes is one of Australia's youngest and most brilliant soldiers.

Bombers Stretch Out From China

General Blamey's Headquarters in China reports that on Friday, United States bombers attacked targets in the north of Indo-China. On Saturday, they heavily bombed Lanchow, at the Burma end of the Burma Road, and big bombers, several direct hits on the railway station. An enemy airfield in Northern Burma was attacked on Sunday. All the American planes in China reports that on Friday, United States bombers attacked targets in the north of Indo-China.

NEW JAP FIGHTERS DESTROYED OVER WAKE ISLAND

An American Flying Fortress shot down two latest-model enemy planes last month when it flew on a special mission over Wake Island from Hawaii, 2000 miles east, says the New York Times' Honolulu correspondent.

The Flying Fortress also shot down two other Japanese fighters. It took the enemy by surprise and routed the island four times.

Four Zeros and two mystery planes which resemble Messerschmitts, then attacked, the correspondent adds.

"In a dramatic battle the mystery planes and two Zeros were shot down."

"The American gunners say they dropped away the falling stars."

"The Flying Fortress returned to its base unscathed."

'SMITHS' PACIFIC RECORD BROKEN

The record established by the late Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith in the Pacific crossing, from Australia to the United States, has been broken and it was revealed in Sydney yesterday.

The plane in which Lt-General George H. Brett, Commander Air Force South-west Pacific, travelled to America, was en route to the United States.

Lt-General Brett left Australia in a Flying Fortress bomber and arrived at San Francisco 38 hours later.

ALL FACTORIES AT STALINGRAD STILL WORKING

For the past three weeks the German assault on Stalingrad has almost reached the gates of the city. Soviet artillery is holding enemy positions and were after waves of heavy bombers and dive-bombers are attacking the invaders.

All factories in Stalingrad continue to work at full pressure and the morale of the people was never higher, state latest reports from Moscow.

South-west of Stalingrad, in the Krasnodar area, the Russians are fighting defensive battles but are holding the earth. In some places the attacks have been repulsed with heavy losses.

In the Caucasus, the German drive towards the Great caucasia is still held at Moudok. A heavy battle is taking place for the military highway which runs through the mountains in Tibet, leading to Hkaku.

There is no change reported from the Lorraine front.

At Kiev, Soviet forces are closing in slowly but steadily on the Germans who have fortified every house in the city.

91 Fires Blaze In Berlin

Russia continued her heavy bomber raids over German targets on Saturday night by bombing Berlin, Cologne, Dresden, Breslau and many other towns in Central and Eastern Germany.

Ninety-one big fires were started by the large-scale attack on Berlin and 21 explosions were observed in the city.

At Konigsberg, 20 fires were started, and 12 were left blazing in the city.

In Berlin, one of the biggest electrical works in the world was damaged, together with many other military and industrial facilities in the centre of the city.

An enemy airfield in Northern Burma was attacked on Sunday. All the American planes in China reports that on Friday, United States bombers attacked targets in the north of Indo-China.

GIBRALTAR CONCENTRATION

Rome Radio says that the Allies are concentrating a terrific number of transport aircraft and naval units at Gibraltar.

It is also claimed that landing operations are practised throughout the day, and that the straits area is being protected by a big screen of fighters.



RETURNING FROM JAPAN: Mr. F. W. Haginson (left), one of the heads of the Australian Legation in Tokyo, with other members of the staff has reached Melbourne. Mr. Haginson (left) is Attorney-General (Dr. Ewart) received a cable message of the yesterday. A vessel carrying Japanese officials and a number of civilians has already left Australia for Lawrence Harcourt, where they will be "hounded" for the Australians.



The record established by the late Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith in the Pacific crossing, from Australia to the United States, has been broken and it was revealed in Sydney yesterday.

Considering the significance of the Battle of Milne Bay, here are a couple of pictures taken from: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Milne_Bay, including CPL John French, posthumously awarded a VC for his actions.



MAJOR VICTORY AT MILNE BAY – Australian Troops Drive Japs from Area; Capture All Equipment, Supplies

The battle at Milne Bay (south-east tip of New Guinea) has resulted in a major victory for our forces. Australian troops, supported by American and Australian aircraft, have defeated the enemy and are now pursuing the remnants of the Japanese troops along the peninsula on the northern side of the Bay. The enemy suffered heavy casualties and lost all their equipment and supplies, including tanks. Some of the Japs are believed to have escaped during the night on naval craft.

The cruiser and eight transports which entered Milne Bay on Saturday night and were at first thought to be landing reinforcements, were probably sent there to evacuate the Japanese ground force.

Other warships were sighted and our planes went out the following morning searching for the enemy but could not locate him.

General MacArthur told of the victory in a special statement issued yesterday morning. He said that the enemy at Milne Bay has been rapidly cleared from the area by Australian troops, ably commanded by, Major-General Cyril Clowes, DSC, MC, and brilliantly supported by American and Australian aircraft.

Our forces have thrown the enemy back to the remaining confines of the peninsular on the northern side of the bay.

Heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy and all his equipment and supplies, including tanks, were lost.

OPEN ARMS NEWS – GROUP PROGRAMS

Source: <https://www.openarms.gov.au/get-support/programs-workshops/upcoming>

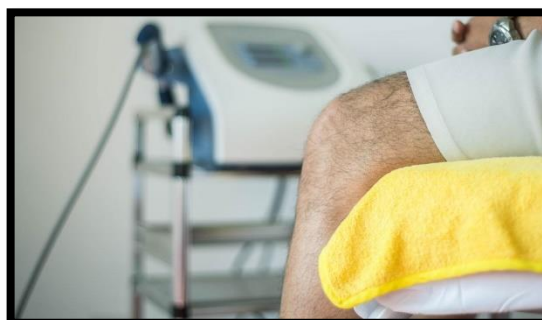
Sleeping better

What: A program to help you manage disturbed sleep
Who: Current and ex-serving ADF members, partners, adult children.
Venue: Online
When: 10 & 12 September, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
More info: <https://www.openarms.gov.au/get-support/treatment-programs-and-workshops#sleeping-better>



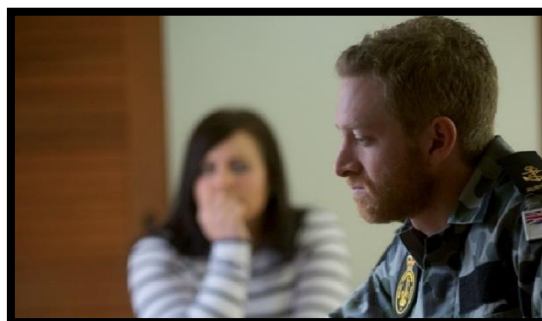
Managing pain

What: A program to help you learn about effective pain management strategies
Who: ADF members and their partners about to or recently in transition to civilian life.
Venue: Online
When: 19-20 September, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm
More info: <https://www.openarms.gov.au/get-support/treatment-programs-and-workshops#managing-pain>



Doing anger differently

What: A program to help you understand anger and aggression
Who: Current and ex-serving ADF members, partners, adult children.
Venue: Online
When: 11 & 13 September 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
More info: <https://www.openarms.gov.au/get-support/treatment-programs-and-workshops#doing-anger-differently>



Stepping Out

What: A workshop that examines the civilian transition process in both practical and emotional terms
Who: Current serving ADF members, partners, adult children.
Venue: Canberra
When: 19-20 September, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm
More info: <https://www.openarms.gov.au/get-support/treatment-programs-and-workshops#stepping-out>



To find more information about the programs offered by Open Arms to support veteran well-being, or to register for any of the above sessions, please visit: <https://www.openarms.gov.au/get-support/treatment-programs-and-workshops>

LOOKING BACK

At some stage, most RAEME members wonder what the heck happens at Army HQ, including people who are posted there! Back in Edition 4 of *The RAEME Craftsman* magazine from May 1980, someone thought it was worth sharing what happens. I'm not so sure much has changed....or maybe it has!



ARMY OFFICE JOTTINGS

RAEME IN ARMY OFFICE EXPLAINED

by WO1 Warren Wilde

After three issues of "The RAEME Craftsman" it occurred to me that the fourth may be the most suited to clarifying the role of RAEME in the Army Office. I am certain there are many members of the Corps who understand as much about this subject as I did – before being posted into Army Office.

As far as our Corps is concerned, Army Office consists of three areas, namely DGEME, Defence Central and the rest. The role within each area is as different as you could imagine. The ensuing brief descriptions of the areas and the sub-areas will, I hope, help you achieve a more complete understanding of RAEME's contribution.

DGEME looks after the organisation and planning aspects of the Corps, or, in officialese:

"Formulates Army policies in relation to equipment repair and maintenance. Responsible for the technical control of the Army equipment repair and maintenance services through functional commands and military districts. Performs Head of Corps functions for the Royal Corps of Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. Provides technical advice on equipment and repair and maintenance matters. Exercises financial delegations allotted."

DGEME is divided into several sections, which are:

- Office of the Director General of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.
- Directorate Management Section.
- Operations and Organisation Section, which – "Co-ordinates EME operations, organisations, establishments, contingency planning, war and mobilisation planning, static and

mobile workshop equipment and facilities planning and development. Monitors arrangements involving DGEME and other Directorates/Branches of Army Office, Maintenance Engineering Agency and other sources used by DGEME in the course of policy formulation on Corps management."

- Personnel Employment Section – "responsible for the management of personnel of the Corps of RAEME; Trade Structures; Trade Management, including Civil Schooling and the co-ordination of training of RAEME personnel with other services and civilian establishments."
- Systems, Production and Finance Section – develops, implements and monitors "manual and EDP management systems for the control of RAEME repair and maintenance functions. Assists with the formulation of major repair programme policy and planning. Provides input to and co-ordinates management of the Army portion of the defence repair and overhaul vote."
- Inspection and Defence Co-operation Projects Section – "Formulates and co-ordinates policy for DGEME in relation to; effectiveness of engineering support plans, adequacy of trade standard, technical documentation, quality control measures, compliance with engineering practices and Corps instructions (and) the correct exercise of financial delegation and management. Supervise and direct work in relation to Defence Co-operation projects."
- Maintenance Engineering Liaison Section (Maintenance Engineering Agency, Canberra Element). "The Maintenance Engineering Liaison Section provides direct liaison between the DGEME and his staff of the Maintenance Engineering Agency (MEA) and a point contact for Army Office and other Services, Branches and Directorates staffs for all maintenance engineering matters."

Then, there is DEFENCE CENTRAL in which there is a small six member RAEME element as part of the Defence Technical Staff. This is DGEME's "other hat" and, briefly, his duties are to "contribute to the formulation of engineering and maintenance policies common to all Services; formulate Army engineering and maintenance policies and implement Defence Central and Army policies within the Army."

You can take my word for it that RAEME is well represented in such sections as: CSD – Computer Services Division; DGOP – Director General of Operations and Plans (Army); MS PERS – Military Secretary; DSC – Director of Service Conditions; DAEM – Director of Armaments and Electronic Materiel (Army); DVGEM – Director of Vehicles and General Engineering Materiel (Army); DGLOG – Director General of Logistics (Army); DLO – Director of Logistics Operations (Army); DLP – Director of Logistics Plans (Army); DLD – Director of Logistics Development (Army) and DEMPE – Director of Equipment Management, Programming and Estimates (Army).

LOOKING BACK continued

The positions are not necessarily RAEME positions, however. They may be held by any Corps unless there is a definite need for engineering expertise.

It is in your best interests to learn more of the organisation and roles of your Directorate and Army Office. Your Orderly Room should be able to give you more information.

So much for your brief tour of Army Office. I cannot resist, however, ending with the statement, provided by a departing member, that RUSSELL OFFICES is a mnemonic for: Ridiculously Underpaid Servicemen Supporting Egotistical Liberal Labourites (RUSSELL) – Often Fiercely Fighting Insufficient Capital Expenditure Suppositions (OFFICES). Other suggestions put forward were far too hot to print in such a respectable magazine as this.

Now to the more serious news from the corridors of confusion – er – confusion – heck, I'll get it right sometime!

In true tradition, the Corps Birthday was celebrated on December 5th at Weston Park on the shores of beautiful Lake Burley Griffin. A series of sports were contested between Officers and Other Ranks at various venues before adjourning to Weston Park and then volleyball between ACT Workshop Platoon and Army Office. All the events were conducted during the morning and the afternoon with a barbeque and an adequate supply of the amber to maintain our energy reserves.

Our official guest was Brigadier Powell who proposed a toast to the Corps during the luncheon interval and also presented two trophies with "The Trophy" going to ACT Workshop Platoon, for their doubtful, wind-assisted, supremacy in volleyball and the "Themus Trophy" to the OR's as ultimate winners of the remaining sports. Later, the officers went on to the RAEME Officers Cocktail Party – which probably explains the deathly hush in the corridors of illusion next day!

Earlier in the year we celebrated the Director's birthday at the Ainslie Football Club in Canberra. A small presentation, in the form of a caricature of DGEME in a fighting stance over "the system", was made, which had been drawn by our intrepid (and bloody game, in my opinion) Editor. Sgt. Mario Gerhard presented the gift accompanied by some remarks about the Brigadier having reached some "milestone". Both Lt Col Burgess and Sgt Gerhard are wondering if anyone could assist with information about married quarters in the Ayres Rock area?

I'm joking of course. DGEME took it well and really did appreciate the thought, although I'm sure, he wished the thoughts had remained just that.

How old, or young is DGEME? Well may you ask. However, not being one to give away secrets I will admit half a cent will get you close to it.

Canberra, like most other cities in Australia, has its share of jogging citizens and its resulting disease – "Fun Runs".

RAEME has been well represented on a personal basis in two of the larger events, namely, "The Defence Spring Fun Run", with over 400 starters running five kilometres and "The Canberra Times Family Fun Run", with over 4,200 runners of every shape, size, age and sex (these days there are more than two I believe!), covering nine and a half kilometres.

Representatives in these runs included Major Mick Atkinson, Major Ian Morris, WO1 Trevor Harris and yours truly. It's true also, that Trevor was beaten home by his nine year old son, Gregory, in the latter of these runs. The reason for that is my secret.

On the subject of comings and goings we have been joined by Colonel Faulks, Lt Col's Schoeffler and Bade, Maj's Ellaby, Duus, Loughrey, Ford, Fitzgerald, Miller, Gilliland, Keevers, Dyne, Harvey, Henrys, Johnson and Marshall, Capt's Fraser and Heinrich, WO1's Huxley, Harris and WO2's Pearce and Watson and Sgt Radcliffe, all of whom stepped in when Lt Col Foley, Maj's McPartlan, Smiley, Patrick, Forde and Howe, WO1's Bugden, Reimers, Peachey and Burrell, WO2's Willis and Norman and Sgt McBow, stepped out.

Although there has been a large number of moves, our numbers really swelled this year with the move of Personnel Employment Section from Melbourne. Nevertheless some personalities and moves possibly rate a special mention.

WO1 Bill Bugden is one of those characters who, once met and worked with, cannot be forgotten – even though you may wish to. Ahem!

Seriously though, Bill's mood is known to change like the wind, which probably prompted his being presented with "Pills – Grumpy" and "Pills – Happy" at his farewell. It is also reliably reported he has a soft spot for "the spotted beast" and a good crunchy apple.

In complete contrast there was WO2 Rex Willis who had been hiding with the RAAF so long that few people ever met him to know him – let alone forget him. He even confused the RAAF pay system. So much so that his rank abbreviation had to be changed from WO to WOFF, thereby ensuring his pay and allowances reached him. Maybe that's why he's still with the RAAF – our computer may not recognise him.

To prove I'm not picking on the WO's alone, I must not forget Maj Dick Patrick, a keen collector of coins and stamps – not just a pay day collector like you and I, but a purchaser and seller who had frequently been seen manning a stall at the Jamison Trash and Treasure Market. It has still to be confirmed that he wanted to take his beloved Toyota out there. Unfortunately the organisers couldn't decide which category to place it in.

As previously stated the Personnel Employment Section joined us in Canberra. They arrived in mid-January and now we are one big, confused, but happy, family. Apparently the move went smoothly although we have yet to confirm if there is any truth in the rumour that some "special posting darts" were lost in the move. I haven't even seen their dart board – so what's the panic?

DO YOU CURRENTLY SERVE AT AHQ???

It would be incredible if one of our members who is currently serving or who recently served at AHQ could provide an update to this story.

If you are willing to help keep our Corps informed about the good work that happens in Canberra, please send me an email (Secretary@act.raeme.org.au). I would even welcome separate submissions from each Branch or Division to help paint the picture of how widely employable we are in high tempo and critically important positions.

Please take a moment to seriously consider sharing your experience with the wider Corps. I am even happy to respect requests for anonymity should you wish to remain un-named.

VETERAN SUPPORT CENTRE

The Veterans Support Centre (VSC) is a veteran-run organisation with a mission to help veterans through-life. Pre-2009, VSC was known as the *Vietnam Veterans & Veterans Federation*.

Contact. VSC is located at 9 Burkitt Street in Page, ACT. Their contact number is (02) 6255-1599 and their web address is: <https://www.vscact.org.au/> The office may be emailed at: office@vscact.org.au.

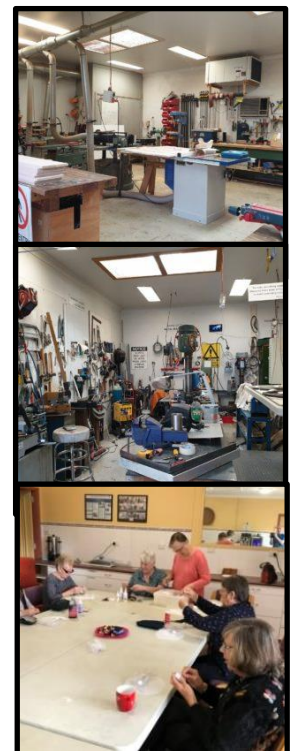


Services. Services provided by VSC include, but are not limited to:

- Advocates are available on week-days to assist with filling in paperwork and lodging claims with DVA
- Representation at the Veterans Review Board (VRB) and Administration Appeals Tribunal (AAT)
- Trained Wellbeing Advocate to support members
- The Food Van, which attends various community functions and a main source of fundraising

Regular activities. If any of the following regular activities sounds interesting to you, reach out to the VSC regarding your possible attendance:

- Mondays Gardening group from 1000-1200h
- Tuesdays Walking groups. Contact the organiser, Terry Lawler on 0401 109 550 or terrylawler71@bigpond.com to confirm starting locations each week.
Wood and metal workshops (all skill levels) from 1000h
BBQ lunch (\$5) from 1200h
- Wednesdays Coffee Connections for veterans and families from 1000-1200h (sponsored by Open Arms and the VSC)
- Thursdays Wood and metal workshops (all skill levels) from 1000h
Pie lunch (\$5) from 1200h
- Fridays Guitar group (all skill levels) from 0930h
Ladies Craft Group from 1300h (3rd Friday of the month)



Please contact the office for more details regarding any event.

Membership. Membership is open to Veterans of any conflict, serving and retired service personnel. Membership is not compulsory to attend functions or to attain support for DVA claims or welfare matters but it does support VSC work. It also gives access to early notification of a wide range of social activities held by the VSC. The VSC offers a place to get together with a mob of like-minded Veterans.

Cost: \$50.00 Single - \$55.00 Family. VSC warmly welcomes veterans or all ages but like many valuable organisations, they would appreciate the opportunity to support younger veterans. The VSC membership form may be downloaded from the VSC website or as attached at the end of the January 2024 edition of *RAEME in ACTION* (<https://act.raeme.org.au/> Look under Publications).

WHAT'S ON IN CANBERRA

The following public events are scheduled for the ACT region:

Happy and Glorious

- Lead:** The Museum of Australian Democracy
- What:** Old Parliament House was central to the royal tour while the late-Queen was in Australia and the exhibition is presented in the very room the Queen used while she was at Old Parliament House. You can explore this room in the President of the Senate's suite and see how it was while she was visiting.
- Where:** Old Parliament House
- When:** Daily until Jun 2025
- Cost:** Free
- Details:** <https://bit.ly/HappyAndGlorious>



Last Post Ceremony

- Lead:** Australian War Memorial
- What:** Each evening, the Memorial farewells visitors with its moving Last Post Ceremony. Each night the ceremony shares the story behind one of the names on the Roll of Honour.
- Where:** Australian War Memorial, Commemorative Courtyard
- When:** Commencing daily at 4.30 pm AEDT
- Registration:** <https://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/last-post-ceremony>



View the original Australian Constitution

- Lead:** National Archives of Australia
- What:** Don't miss your chance to view the original Australian Constitution and the Royal Commission of Assent signed by Queen Victoria
- Where:** National Archives of Australia, Kings Avenue Parkes, ACT 2600
- When:** Sun 15 Sep and Sat 23 Nov only
- Cost:** Free
- Details:** <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/lifting-the-lid-view-the-original-australian-constitution-tickets-803615835597?aff=oddtcreat>



REUNIONS AND GATHERINGS

The following reunions or gatherings are being planned:

SE-Qld Spanner Club

Who: All past and serving members
When: Fri 13 Sep 2024
Details: <https://qld.raeme.org.au/> (Under “Notices” → “Events”)

RAQ Sunshine Coast Function

Who: All past and serving members
Where: Maroochydore RSL
When: Sat 21 Sep 2024
Cost: \$28 for RAEME Association Qld/serving members. \$48 for non-members.
Details: <https://qld.raeme.org.au/>

RAT Luncheon

Who: All past and serving members in Tasmania.
Where: Claremont RSL
When: 19 Oct, 1800-2100h

RAQ Darling Downs RAEME Birthday Luncheon

Who: All past and serving members
Where: Toowoomba City Golf Club
When: Sun 17 Nov 2024 **POC:** functions@qld.raeme.org.au

RAEME Association of Tasmania Reunion

Who: All past and present serving members who have served in Tasmania
Where: Hobart **Cost:** Dinner cost TBA closer to the event
When: 15 Nov – 1730h for 1800h – Welcome Drinks – Venue TBA
16 Nov – Dinner at Queens Head Hotel
17 Nov – 1230h for 1300h – BBQ lunch at Derwent Barracks
RSVP: https://tas.raeme.org.au/index.php?option=com_rsform&view=rsform&formId=16

RAEME Birthday Celebrations

Who: All past and serving members
Where: Nationwide, details to follow.
When: Fri 29 Nov 2024 *Note: Dates may vary in some regions but the ACT is aiming for this date*

DID THAT REALLY HAPPEN?

The following is a summarised version of a story published in Edition 1 of *Straight from the Horse's Mouth: 101 Tall Tales from our Nation's Finest Tradies*.

I was out bush with an Armoured unit's A1 Esh when the enemy attacked. The RSM, who was filling in as a spare Crewy for one of our Tillies, directed his driver to chase the bad guys. At speed, the driver hit a log hidden by long grass and got the Tilly airborne. On landing, the RSM headbutted the .50cal twice. Once the car stopped, the RSM fell out the side door. He had punched a hole in his cheek and broken his upper palette. The medic on site declared it a Priority 1 casualty, so I jumped on the radio to call it in the CASEVAC.

I didn't have the CASEVAC proforma with me so I simply said "NODUF CASEVAC" and provided our location, callsign 'Pacestick' and 'Pri 1'. The Boss at the HQ responded with: "When the euphoria dies down, get the right proforma and send the message again." I was stunned, but thankfully his Sig organised an ambulance.

Fast forward a couple of months, we are now back in barracks and I was the duty NCO in the HQ. Said boss ran in holding his hand with a clearly dislocated finger (from PT). He was in a fair bit of pain. He screamed at me, asking "Where is the RAP? Where is the Dr?!!!"

I calmly responded: "Sir, when the euphoria dies down, you will find the RAP through that door there". He immediately calmed down, we exchanged respectful nods and off he went. The score was one all.

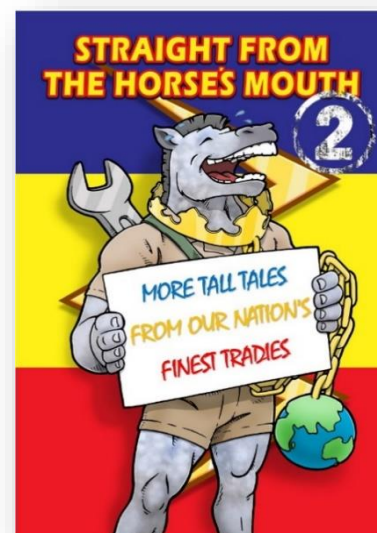
RAEME HUMOUR BOOK

Due to the huge success of the First and Second editions of RAEME's humour book, *Straight from the Horse's Mouth* a third edition is being drafted now. The editors need more stories!!

If you have any funny stories to share, new or old, factual or enhanced, please send them to the book editors at FunnyStories@raeme.com.

Remember, stories don't have to be true, just believable!

If you didn't get your order in for Edition 1 or Edition 2, it is not too late. Our Head of Corps Cell was gifted several hundred copies for sale from the Corps shop with all funds raised to be made available to support serving and retired members of our Corps. The Head of Corps Cell shop is up and running online (at <https://raeme.org.au/index.php/shop>) but at time of writing, they haven't as yet uploaded their books for sale. When they do, we will let you know but in the interim, requests for books can be sent to Head of Corps Cell at RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au.



That's about it for this edition. If you would like to submit something for future editions, or if you would like to see something in particular published that is relevant to the Corps, please email me at: Secretary@act.raeme.org.au.

Arte et Marte,

Ian Cook
Secretary, ACT RAEME Association



President: Andy Adams, President@act.raeme.org.au
Secretary: Ian Cook, Secretary@act.raeme.org.au
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Membership of the Association is free to all serving or former members with a connection to RAEME who also live or work within the ACT region.