

ACT RAEME ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

RAEME in ACTION

Oct 2023



TO: Members of the ACT RAEME Association

FOR INFO: Members of all other RAEME Associations

Your Committee

President: Andy Adams President@act.raeme.org.au

Secretary: Ian Cook Secretary@act.raeme.org.au

President's Message

Greetings All, I trust that this finds you all doing ok. I am looking forward to catching up with those able to attend our end of year dinner function (it is hard to believe it has been 11 months since we gathered at the Kingo for a catch up at the end of 2022?!).

It is great to see a number of our senior soldiers being recognised for their skills, knowledge and experience (details below). If the education I received from the many tormented seniors I had the privilege of working with over my time is any indication, their respective organisations and their staff are in good hands.

One of the opportunities that our monthly catch-ups present is to reconnect with our corps kin and share in reflections and aspirations of what was and what might be; I encourage you all to come along as they are proving to be most educational.

Stay safe and well, APA

Getting our ACT together

Members, families, friends or visitors to the ACT region from other Associations will be welcome to join us at our upcoming events. A reminder for each activity will be emailed to all Members in the week prior to the event. Further details can be found at: <https://act.raeme.org.au/>

Date	Time(s)	What	Where	Detail
Tues 31 Oct	1930-2030h	Informal drinks	Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club	Link
Thurs 2 Nov	1800-2200h	End-of-Year Dinner	Gryphon Caffe, Griffith	Link
Fri 24 Nov	1800-1900h	Lanyard Presentation	RMC Golf Club	Link
Tues 28 Nov	1930-2030h	Informal drinks	Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club	Link
Fri 01 Dec	1630-1800h	RAEME Birthday	Olims (TBC)	Link

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

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

JANUARY 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Legend Mixed Lunch Informal Drinks Spanner Club Significant Event

A first for the Army

We have just received confirmation that WO1 Andrew “Jim” Beaman has been appointed as Army’s first non-Regimental Teir C WO1.

For those readers who are unfamiliar with the tiered system of WO1s, this is something Defence introduced in recent years to note the increased significance of some WO1 positions and the value they bring to the Army. In general, the tier system includes the following levels:

- Tier A:** Applies to positions involving direct application of trade skills or entry level Regimental Sergeant Major (all corps) or Warrant Officer disciplinary positions at, or higher than, the relevant at a Unit level
- Tier B:** Applies to positions involving application of managerial skills (applied with or without reference to trade knowledge) at, or higher than, the relevant of the Formation level.
- Tier C:** This highest level, applies to positions involving high level management and representational duties, applied generally at a functional or environmental command level.



To date, only Regimental WO1s have been appointed to Tier C. Jim’s appointment as the ASM of Landworthiness within Land Capability Division is a key appointment that not only recognises his contributions to the Army but a position in which he will undoubtedly need to draw on his many years of experience which includes other demanding roles such as ASM of the 1st Bde, 3rd Bde, JOC and AHQ.

We hope to provide a more detailed profile of Jim and what his new role entails in future editions of *RAEME in ACTION*.

Congratulations, Jim!

Association Dinner – November 20223

An end-of-year dinner is being planned for all Association members and families. Guests to the region are also welcome to attend.

In keeping with our tradition, this will be a largely informal event although Head of Corps will be joining us so we will make up further details on the night.

Event details are:

Date: Thursday 02 Nov 2023

Where: Gryphons Caffe Restaurant, 18 Barker St, Griffith

When: 1800h or 6pm (your choice) for placing of orders by 1830h

Dress: Neat casual

Cost: Self-funded. Member to pay at the venue.

RSVP: Please RSVP by 30 Oct by either emailing Secretary@act.raeme.org.au or through the web at: <https://act.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/events/event/41-end-of-year-dinner>

Whilst Gryphons has the capacity to accept late arrivals who don't RSVP, we would like to let them know at least close-to-final numbers by Mon 30 Oct so thank you for letting us know by then if you are able to come.

RMC Lanyard Presentation

Our opportunity to welcome our Corps newest officers is almost here!



The Royal Military College – Duntroon
will be hosting the

**Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers
Lanyard Presentation**

for the graduating class of December 2023
at the RMC Golf Club (Duntroon Garrison)
on Friday 24th November 2023 at 6:00pm

RSVP
Wednesday 15 November 2023
Lieutenant Chaitanya Gunturi
chaitanya.gunturi@defence.gov.au



Dress: Smart Casual

Food: Light food will be served

Please note that whilst all members are welcome to attend, the Golf Club is not huge so numbers of attendees may be limited. I recommend you respond to LT Gunturi early if you intend to attend.

RSVPs are required NLT 15 Nov 2023.

Corps Status Update

Memorial to WO2 Ryan Leslie and CFN Brendan Payne. The HOC, DHOC-G and Colonel Commandant Queensland (COL Evans) attended the unveiling of the Memorial to WO2 Ryan Leslie and CFN Brendan Payne 30 Aug 23 in the TFTA.

Rest in Peace Gentlemen.



Corps Status Update continued

Divisional ASM. It is also our pleasure to announce that after recent Army structure changes announced by MINDEF and Chief of Army, WO1 Sean Roberts will take on the role of ASM of the 1st (Australian) Division.

Corps Conference. HOC Cell is aligning the Corps Conferences IAW Army Standing Instruction (P) Part 12 and Corps Instruction 19. As such the Corps are moving to a system where we will hold a Conference on a two-tiered system, run on alternate years:

Conference light. Deliberate planning activity to formulate an intent statement, position, courses of action, and requests for info for both Chief of Army and Corps.

The results will set the agenda for the Conference 'Heavy' and act as the Warning Order for those attending the 'Heavy'.

The 'Light' will be by invite only and predominantly run from Bandiana.

Conference heavy. Working groups will meet to break down the points raised from 'Light'.

Broader discussion will follow to discuss other relevant Corps points.

The 'heavy' will more broadly seek to foster Esprit de Corps.

The conferences will be no greater than 2 days in duration.

Corps Funds. RAEME Corps Funds are used for many things, including to provide annual awards to deserving members of the Corps and disbursements to regions under the control of the Regional RAEME Representative (RRR) (based on the number of RAEME personnel) for RAEME activities such as RAEME Birthday celebrations and spanner clubs. Members can assist in future funding, by purchasing items from the Corps shop or signing up as a Corps Funds Life subscriber.

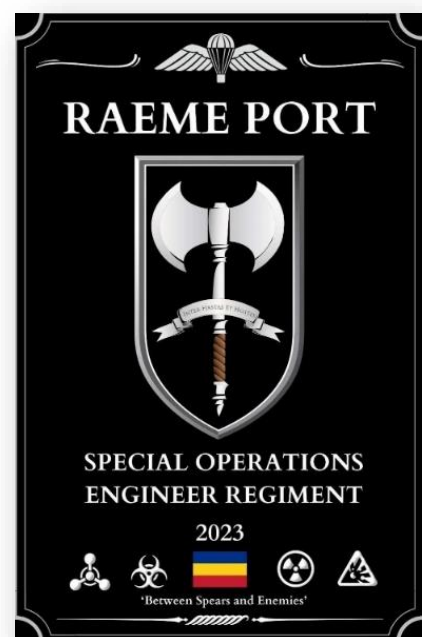
HOC Executive decided that this year's Corps funds disbursement to serving regions would be \$10k (in total) as the Corps Executive committee wanted to support Corps activities, specifically RAEME birthday activities. The amounts allocated to each region are proportional to the number of serving members in that region.

Career Course completion administration. Certificates and awards may be sent to respective OCs of members upon completion of Career Courses due to Distributed Learning (no residential phases).

Corps Port. Orders have now closed. Details regarding delivery will be provided to respective Regional Representatives soon.

Craftsman of the Year Awards. Nominations for this year's awards have now closed. The HOC Cell has now voted on all nominations. Awards winners will be notified shortly after, with all awards to be sent to the respective Regional Representatives NLT 20 Nov 23 so they may be presented at RAEME Birthday Celebrations.

The HOC Committee is interested in gaining the Corps perspective on changing the Corps awards (including the Corps Instruction) in order to recognise all ranks for their work throughout the year (not just based off course work for the majority of the awards). HOC Cell's intent is to discuss this matter at the Corps Conference – Light. Please send any ideas/comments to the HOC cell prior to 01 Nov 23 (RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au).



Corps Status Update continued

Corps Shop. The following concepts of items for the Corps Shop are provided to gauge interest from the Corps for bulk purchasing with the intent to sell.



RAEME Retractable ID Holder - \$2.60



RAEME-backed Playing Cards - \$12.00



RAEME Lanyard ID Holder - \$5.00

If you have ideas on the likely uptake of the above items or if you have recommendations for other items, please send them to RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au.

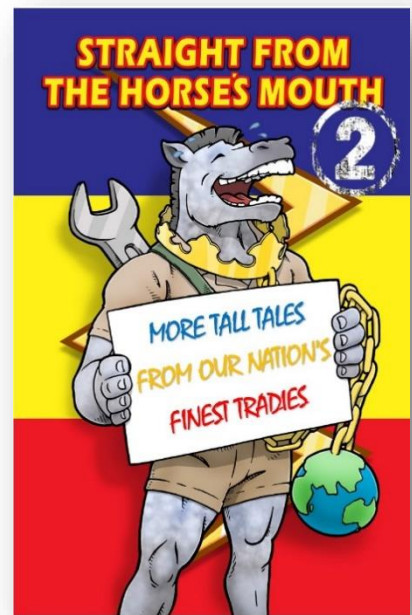
RAEME Humour Book

The Second Edition of RAEME’s humour book, *Straight from the Horse’s Mouth; More Tall Tales from Australia’s Finest Tradies* has now been published and sent to all purchasers!

If you didn’t get your order in before they shut off, you may still be in luck. Ian has a handful of spare copies of both Edition 1 and Edition 2 that he will take to future Association events but once they are gone (at \$25 each), they are gone!

After that, the books are likely to be available for sale through the Head of Corps Cell Shop and/or the Army Museum, Bandiana (both yet to be confirmed).

The Editors are now collecting stories for Edition 3. Whilst over 20 funny stories have already been received (thank you to all who sent them), more are required.



If you have any funny stories to share, true or otherwise, please send them to the editors at FunnyStories@raeme.com.

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



Looking Back

A little humour from Edition 2 of *The RAEME Craftsman Magazine*, May 1979!



"Dammit, ASM!! That bloody cap of yours doesn't serve to cement relations with the local wildlife!!"



"Looks like th' boss finally located that short, Fred!"



"No sweat, Sarge! I've located the fault... Mucky plugs!"



"— and over to our left... Oh! good morning ASM... our "B" vehicle section!"

2024 Napier Waller Art Prize Open Now

The Napier Waller Art Prize is open to all current and former service personnel in the Australian Defence Force. The prize encourages artistic excellence, promotes the transformative power of creativity, and raises awareness of the experiences and talent of service personnel.

Serving personnel and veterans are invited to enter an original artwork and an artist statement. Each year, entries are judged by a panel of art experts and professionals, and a winning artwork selected on merit. Entries using diverse artistic media and original concepts are encouraged.

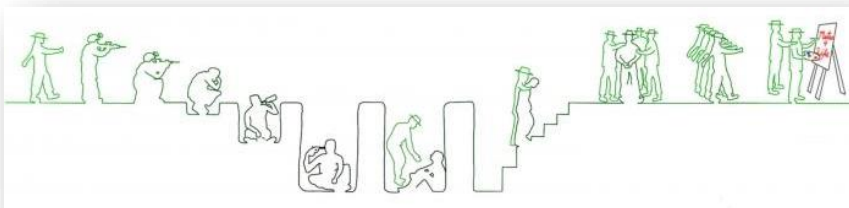
The winning work is accessioned into the Australian War Memorial collection, with the winning artist receiving a \$15,000 cash prize. Finalists' works will be displayed on the Australian War Memorial's website for the general public to vote for the People's Choice award, the winner of which will receive \$5,000.



2020 People's Choice Winning Entry:
Afghan diggers' ghosts at the AWM 2020
by Gary Ramage

drawing, sculpture, digital, decorative, and installation. There is no theme for the award, and entries do not have to address military or service topics. Entries using diverse artistic media and original concepts are encouraged.

Details of how to enter are on the Australian War Memorial site at:
<https://www.awm.gov.au/napier-waller-art-prize-hub/how-to-enter>



2018 (Inaugural) People's Choice Winning Entry:
Mates, for life
by Ian Cook



2022 Winning Entry:
The promotion
by Anneke Jamieson

Applications for
the 2024 Napier

Waller Art Prize opened on Friday, 8 September 2023, with veterans from across the country invited to apply. Applications close midnight Sunday 17 December 2023.

The Memorial invites entries in all visual art mediums, including (but not limited to) painting, photography, printmaking,



2019 Winning Entry:
*You are in danger
and I am far away.*
by Natalie Duncan



Reunions

The following reunions or gatherings are being planned:

Victorian Association Spanner Club

Who: All serving and former members of RAEME
Where: Mail Exchange Hotel, Cnr Spender & Bourke Streets, Melbourne
When: 10 Nov 23, and then on the second Friday of every month
POC: Rod Gillett, rod.gillett8@gmail.com

Victorian Association Lunch with Harry

Who: All serving and former members of RAEME and their families
Where: Village Green Hotel, Cnr Springvale Rd & Ferntree Gully Rd, Mulgrave VIC
When: 16 Nov 23, 1130-1300h, and then on the third Thursday of every month
Cost: Seniors \$22-00, Other \$35-00
POC: Alan Rogers, alang.37@bigpond.com, 0422 888 851

1 Armoured Regiment LAD

Who: All past and present members of 1 AR LAD
Where: Stalwell, Victoria
When: Oct-Nov (TBC)
POC: Robert Bail 0419-355-721, email r.bail@bigpond.com

106 Field Workshop Annual Lunch

Who: All past and present members of 106 Fd Wksp
Where: Steeples, Mornington Victoria
When: 20 Nov 2023
POC: Milton Pearson, 0488-050-261, csm1066869@gmail.com

17 Construction Squadron Workshop

Who: All past and present members of 17 Const Sqn Wksp
Where: Mount Gambier, SA
When: 20-22 Nov 2023
POC: gwhykes@gmail.com

RAEME Association North Qld

Who: All RAQ members and all current and former RAEME members
Where: The Mansfield Hotel
When: 25 Nov 2023 from 1230h onwards
POC: north@qld.raeme.org.au

What's On in Canberra

The following public events are scheduled for the ACT region:

Remembrance Day

- Lead:** The Australian War Memorial
- What:** As a mark of respect to those who have died and suffered, Australians are encouraged to pause at 11 am to observe one minute's silence and remember those who died or suffered for Australia's cause in all wars and armed conflicts.
- Where:** Captain Reg Saunders Courtyard and Sculpture Garden
- When:** 11 Nov 2023 from 1045h
- Details:** <https://bit.ly/RemembranceDayAWM>
-

Happy and Glorious

- Lead:** The Museum of Australian Democracy (MoAD)
- What:** An exhibition dedicated to The Queen's Visit in 1954. Old Parliament House was central to the royal tour while the 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 03 May 2024
- Details:** <https://bit.ly/HappyAndGlorious> **Cost:** Free
-

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:** Daily commencing at approximately 4.45 pm AEDT,
- Registration:** <https://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/last-post-ceremony>
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Veteran Support Centre

Happenings. If any of the following regular activities sounds interesting to you, reach out to the VSC regarding membership and attendance:

- Mondays Gardening group from 0930-1130h
 - Tuesdays Wood and metal workshops (all skill levels) from 1000h
BBQ lunch (\$5) from 1200h
 - Wednesdays *Cooking for One* course from 1030-1300h
 - Thursdays Wood and metal workshops (all skill levels) from 1000h
Pie lunch (\$5) from 1200h
 - Fridays Guitar group (all skill levels) from 0930h and
Ladies Craft Group from 1300h (3rd Friday) of the month
-

Veteran Support Centre continued

Call for advocates. Are you interested in becoming an Advocate to support Veterans as they negotiate the DVA claim process? If so, the Veteran Support Centre (VSC) would love to talk to you.

There will be an introductory training session so that the process can be described. It would be anticipated that where the opportunity arises then you will begin to conduct your own interviews.

Part of the training includes a number of on-line courses provided by DVA and you would be given access to these to complete in your own time.

Please contact Ward Gainey (ward.gainey@bigpond.com or ward.gainey@vsact.org.au) and let him know if you wish to begin the Advocate training.

Other News

Other State/Territory Associations. Here is a quick summary from other State, Territory or Other Associations since the last edition of *RAEME in ACTION*:

Victoria. Our Victorian brethren recently released their latest newsletter, *The Flash* (Edition 112). In this edition, the Association has put out a call for additional committee members; they currently have 3 vacancies that need to be filled. They also have interesting information regarding *Fallen Diggers*, a charity established in 2013 to research missing Australian servicemen and women. The Association recently donated \$1,000 towards the charity to help them perform their vital work. You can read about this and more by checking out the edition on the Victorian Association website: <https://vic.raeme.org.au/>

Tasmania. The latest RAT Newsletter recently hit the streets and as usual, this is a bumper edition (Edition 27). In this edition, the RATs have provided a good summary of what is happening around the Corps. They also provide a very interesting profiles from a couple of their members who are Vietnam veterans. It is well worth checking out on their website at: <https://tas.raeme.org.au/>. You might also learn the story behind Mogzilla (pictured)!



What tool am I?

Last month's tool challenge was:

I am a tool for opening paint cans. I am sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws and butchering your palms.

That tool was: A Flat-tip Screwdriver

This month's tool identification challenge is:

I am a tool used to make hoses too short.

The answer will be published in the next *RAEME in ACTION*!

Arte et Marte,

Ian Cook
Secretary
ACT RAEME Association

