

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

Secretary's Message

Our fearless leader, Andy, is off on a well-deserved break overseas but back home life continues for the rest of us and what a busy month it has been. Whilst the Association had no planned activity scheduled for the recent Vietnam Veteran's Day commemoration that marked 50 years since the withdrawal of Australian forces, there was a strong RAEME presence at the service with Spanners travelling from all over to join in. We trust all had the opportunity to catch up with those with whom they served and possibly share a drink or two whilst remembering those unable to be there.

Planning for the upcoming end-of-year dinner (02 Nov) is going well. Head of Corps has advised that he will be in attendance. We have also established a simple new method for RSVPs using the functionality of our website. Details for this are below on Page 3. Thank you to all members who have already RSVPed.

Speaking of end-of-year activities, I trust I am not the only one who is amazed that the end of the year is coming so quickly. We are also now planning for our Corps Birthday celebrations. Make sure you put a place-holder in your diaries for that!

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 26 Sep	1930-2030h	Informal drinks	Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club	Link
Fri 06 Oct	1630-1800h	RAEME Spanner Club	Olims, Ainslie (The Mecure)	Link
Tues 31 Oct	1930-2030h	Informal drinks	Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club	Link
Thurs 02 Nov	1800-2200h	Mixed End-of-Year Dinner	TBA (we are looking for ideas)	Link
Fri 01 Dec	1630-1800h	RAEME Birthday	Olims (TBC)	Link

OCTOBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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					

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 (seriously)						
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

Vietnam Veteran's Day 2023

On 18 August 2023, our nation paused to remember the 50th anniversary of Australia's withdrawal from armed conflict in Vietnam and to remember the almost 60,000 who served there as well as the 523 Australians who lost their lives. This occasion was marked with a moving ceremony at the Australian Vietnam Forces National Memorial on Anzac Parade in Canberra. This was observed by thousands of Vietnam Veterans, friends, families and supporters.



During the ceremony and afterwards, several people spoke of the poor manner in which veterans were treated on return to Australia by protestors who expressed strong anti-war sentiments and by older WW2 veterans who considered the Vietnam veterans hadn't fought in a "real" war. That was the attitude of an immature nation; one engaged in an unpopular war yet one which had difficulty separating the brave men and women who served their nation in good faith from a conflict few understood. We were also a nation that showed little consideration of individuals. For some who returned by sea, their individual debriefs came in the weeks at sea from mates with whom they had served. For those that flew home, they had a matter of days, yet few received full debriefings of what they had seen, done or felt.



Since then, our nation has grown up a little. Our PM recently apologised to those who served in Vietnam, roughly 35,000 of whom remain, for their treatment. The Hon Matt Keogh MP, Minister for Defence Personnel and Minister for Veterans' Affairs, noted that whilst hostilities ceased 50 years ago, the battle continued for many on their return and in some cases, continues today. We now try harder to ensure those leaving theatres of war are debriefed.

The Vietnam Veteran Counselling Service (VVCS) was established in 1982 after Vietnam veterans lobbied the Government for specialised counselling and support service for veterans and their families. That has since evolved into

Open Arms, Australia's leading provider of high-quality mental health assessment and clinical counselling services for all Australian veterans and their families.

Whilst some presenters spoke of the pain felt by Vietnam veterans, they also recounted underlying themes of service, pride and mateship. These fundamental elements of service in the Australian military were on clear display at the memorial service. Whilst some of the veterans who were present may not have been as nimble as their younger selves, the pride in their service and love of their mates was clear for all to see. They were challenged with impossible duties yet they faced them whilst combatting enemy forces as well as a harsh environment and exposure to various chemicals. They deservedly reflected on their service with pride.



We recognise Vietnam veterans for the positive lessons we learnt from their negative experience.

We thank Vietnam veterans for being the leaders who established the strong foundation veterans today stand upon.

We are grateful to Vietnam veterans for fighting for the strengthened mental health of veterans today and into the future.

We salute all Vietnam veterans for their service and sacrifice. Arte et Marte.

Vietnam Veteran's Day Programs

Fantastic booklets were available at the Memorial ceremony that include: an historical essay on the Vietnam war, an order of service for the commemoration, a summary of customs and traditions and a roll of honour for those who lost their lives in Vietnam.

I was able to acquire a box of these (46 copies) for those who were unable to attend.

If anyone would like a copy, please send me a quick email at Secretary@act.raeme.org.au or look out for me at one of our future functions. I'll be sure to take some with me.



Association Dinner – November 2023

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 join us so all going well, we may encourage him to share a few of his thoughts regarding our Corps today.

Preliminary details are:

Date: Thursday 02 Nov 2023, from 1800h

Venue: TBA. Please send any recommendations you may have.

Cost: Most likely member to pay at the venue although a small deposit may be requested closer to the date if required to lock in a venue.

RSVP: Your RSVP is requested NLT 30 Sep to aid with venue planning. You may RSVP by either:

- a. Email the number of attendees likely to attend (including yourself) to the Association Secretary, Secretary@act.raeme.org.au
- b. Fill out the RSVP form on the Association website by:
 - (1) Visit: <https://act.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/events/event/41-end-of-year-dinner>

TRY THIS NOW!!

- (2) Click on the "Join" button at the top:
- (3) On the form that appears, enter your name and email address before selecting the total number of guests in your party from the drop-down list. Then click on the "Add ticket" button.
- (4) There is room underneath this to submit a message if you so desire (not mandatory).
- (5) Once complete, click on the "Submit RSVP" button. You will then receive an email with your RSVP details.

The form will advise if you have missed any mandatory elements on the form.

Corps Status Update

Memorial to WO2 Ryan Leslie and CFN Brendan Payne. The HOC, DHOC-G and Colonel Commandant Queensland (COL Evans) unveiled the Memorial to WO2 Ryan Leslie and CFN Brendan Payne on 30 Aug 23 in the TFTA. A report from this important event will hopefully follow soon.

V8 Supercars. Thanks to a mountain of work by an ASM, WO1 Munro, several vehicle technicians (formerly called “vehicle mechanics”) were integrated into the V8 Supercar Team of Matt Stone Racing. This has now created a flow on effect of other V8 Supercar teams expressing interest in having our technicians embedded within their organisations.

Civilian Placements. The 3 Bde ASM in Townsville has worked tirelessly (with support) to engage with civilian industry in order to gain placements for our technicians. Vehicle Technicians will have an opportunity to nominate for positions (only 3 BDE at this stage). The opportunity for other ECNs is being explored by the ASM.

Corps Shop. The Head of Corps Cell shop has gone through the design process and is at the ordering stage. Hoodies appear to be the hottest item currently for sale.

Craftsman of the Year Awards. Nominations are being called for by HOC Cell. These were due to regional representatives by 01 Sep.

ASEME. In order to reduce training delay within VTW, the school has raised a separate training platoon. The members within the platoon will leave ASEME with more qualifications than any CFN before them. We have agreements to undertake 40M drivers’ courses, working at heights certification and dogging to all be completed at the Centre. The intent is to build on this as we progress throughout the remainder of 2023 into 2024, with G-wagon being included (training spots dependant).

Members within VTW, not undertaking training on the floor, are due to begin civilian detachments with JLU(V). This will build on their foundation skills, assist in providing context in vehicle maintenance and allow for the commencement of their skills tracker certifications (perceived this will reduce OJT time at the back end of their apprenticeship).

Workforce & Training Group, Maintenance Cell. Work continues on training for new projects, with IIS Learning Review Boards upcoming for new Joint Counter Radio-Controlled Improvised Explosive Device Electronic Warfare (JCREW) Force Protection Electronic Countermeasures (FPECM) and new medical and dental equipment. Both these maintenance courses will have changes that affect currently qualified Boffins (ECN 421). The trial courses for these updated capabilities will be conducted in Q4 2023.

Makerspace. Makerspace is an Army initiative providing a place for learning-by-making and education in innovative approaches, creative thinking, and agile methodologies. All Army personnel are invited to join their local community of makers to gain a professional toolbox of problem-solving techniques to tackle Army’s current and emerging challenges.

Makerspace is part of The Robotic and Autonomous Systems Implementation & Coordination Office (RICO) within Future Land Warfare Branch and contributes to realising a Future Ready workforce. Makerspace locations have been established at: Irwin Barracks, Perth; Robertson Barracks, Darwin; Edinburgh Defence Precinct, Adelaide; Holsworthy Barracks, Sydney; Gallipoli Barracks, Brisbane; Borneo Barracks, Toowoomba; and Lavarack Barracks, Townsville.

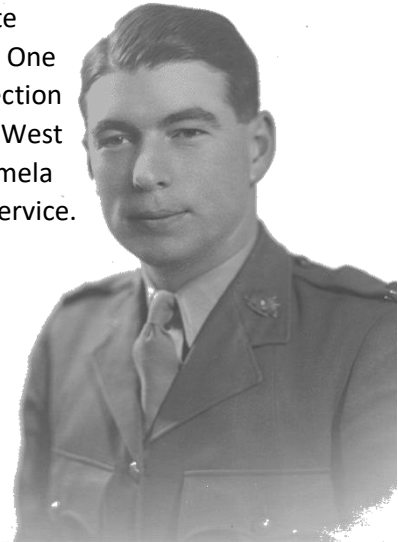
A Makerspace has progressed to site evaluation, looking to 2024 for the installation, at ASEME, Bandiana.



Profile of a former Spanner

In last month's *RAEME in ACTION*, we included a story regarding a tribute being unveiled for the late LTCOL Vivian Bullwinkle AO, MBE, ARRC, ED. One of the lesser-known facts regarding this remarkable lady was her connection to our Corps; she was married to a RAEME Officer, the late COL Francis West Statham, or Frank as he was known to his friends. Frank's daughter, Pamela Stratham-Drew supported compilation of this summary of his life and service.

Francis West Statham (1916–1999), engineer and Army officer, was born on 25 June 1916 at Toowoomba, Queensland and raised on Buki-Buki, Marovo Lagoon, British Solomon Islands Protectorate. He was apprenticed at fourteen to S. T. Leigh & Co. Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of British Tobacco Company (Australia) Ltd, as a fitter and turner. At the same time, he took night classes at Sydney Technical College, graduating with a Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (1939).



On 10 May 1938 Statham joined the part-time Citizen Military Forces (CMF) and was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Australian Army Ordnance Corps. He transferred to the Australian Imperial Force on 13 November 1939, so becoming one of the early volunteers to serve overseas in World War II. On 9 December that year at St Philip's Church of England, Sydney, he married Hazel Winifred Thompson. A month later, he sailed for the Middle East as Captain, commanding the advance party of the 2/1st Army Field Workshop, 6th Division.

Promoted to Major in December 1940, Frank was posted as Deputy Assistant Director of Ordnance Services at Headquarters 9th Division. He served with that Division through the withdrawal from Benghazi and the siege of Tobruk, Libya. In late 1942, being RAEME's formation year, he returned to Sydney. Now a Lieutenant Colonel, he was made commander of the 2/1st Armoured Troops Workshop and sent to Western Australia. There he was involved in fortifying the north-west, including the construction of airfields and gun emplacements.

In late 1944 Frank was posted to Lae, New Guinea. He was praised for work as Assistant Deputy Director of Mechanical Engineering of II Corps (May-June 1945) and the First Army (August-September 1945), and for having developed a repair technique to prolong the life of equipment. In October he returned to Sydney and was transferred to the Reserve of Officers. He was appointed OBE in 1947 for his 'consistent outstanding display of ability and leadership' (NA WO373/65). After the war, Frank would serve part time with the CMF in Victoria (1948 and 1955–61); he was later Colonel Commandant, Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Western Australia (1976–82).

On retiring from the Army, Frank was promoted to Director of Works for the Western Australian region in April 1965, and moved to Perth. His primary task was to oversee the planning and construction of HMAS Stirling, the naval base on Garden Island. He would be responsible for many other projects including the Commonwealth Centre Taxation Building and the Wellington Telephone Exchange, as well as works at the Royal Australian Air Force Base, Pearce, and at the Campbell and Irwin Army Barracks, Perth. The naval base, and the causeway connecting it to the mainland, remained a source of personal pride. For periods in 1974 and 1975 Frank was Acting Deputy Secretary of the Department and was called on to coordinate its relief efforts after Cyclone Tracy struck Darwin.

In February 1977 Hazel died of cancer. On 16 September, Frank married Vivian Bullwinkel. He encouraged her to recount her story as the sole survivor of the massacre of nurses by Japanese forces on Banka Island, Netherlands East Indies (Indonesia), in 1942. While accompanying Vivian to Canberra for the unveiling of the Australian Service Nurses National Memorial in October 1999, Frank became seriously ill, and was repatriated to Perth. Survived by his ailing wife (d. 2000), and the son and daughter of his first marriage, Frank died on 3 December 1999 at Bicton, Perth.

A life of service to be remembered. Lest we Forget.

Time for an introduction into some cutting-edge test equipment as reviewed in Edition 2 of *The RAEME Craftsman Magazine*, May 1979

AUTOMATIC TEST EQUIPMENT

Major H. N. Percival, MIE(Aust)



In industry there is a trend toward introducing Automatic Test Equipment for the purpose of detecting and isolating failures in, and the specification testing of, complex printed circuit boards, or cards, especially where substantial quantities of such items are prevalent in equipments.

As a consequence of this trend, Automatic Test Equipment (ATE) is being introduced into military service in many countries in support of weapon and communication systems such as Rapiere, Surface to Air Guided Weapons, the Clansman communication system and Electronic Warfare (EW) systems.

ATE is essentially a set of electronic test equipment, similar to that used by a technician in any electronic or telecommunication repair facility, rack mounted and arranged such that each piece of test equipment is connected, through sets of 'electronic switches', to a central console. Usually the console is centrally located on the ATE to provide a central facility into which the PEC under test can be fitted to facilitate testing.

Fault diagnosis with ATE saves time and manpower. It also offers, with the aid of appropriate software packages, a multi-system support facility thereby implying further time and manpower savings.

The implications of employing ATE in a military environment can be better realised by understanding the characteristics of the equipment. To achieve this it is necessary to first consider current forms of electronic test equipment, their purpose and the manner in which they are used.

All electronic test equipment can be divided into two broad categories.

In the first category there are test equipments which provide an input, or source, stimulus to, say, a Printed Electronic Circuit (PEC) under test. Such input sources include power supplies, squarewave generators, signal generators and the like. Their purpose is to stimulate an output or response from the PEC under test.

The second category encompasses those test equipments which monitor or measure the output response of the PEC once it has been stimulated. Power meters, voltmeters and ammeters are included in this category.

A technician engaged in a fault diagnosis follows a prescribed set of instructions, applies an appropriate input stimulus and looks for an output response that is within

pre-determined tolerances. If the response is within those tolerances the equipment is serviceable. If not, it is repaired, realigned and retested — or rejected altogether. In carrying out this procedure a technician will have used equipments from both test equipment categories. The same procedures and the same test equipments are used to diagnose faults in the same type of equipment throughout the Army by numerous technicians.

The automatic application of such test equipment in a fault diagnosis situation also follows a prescribed set of instructions, applies an appropriate input stimulus and 'looks' for the same indications of serviceability status as the technician. However, to do this, a pre-determined sequence of electronic switching is involved which, to ensure consistency, is pre-programmed.

Typically, pre-programming takes the form of a 'punched' paper, or magnetic, tape. The tape is prepared to provide a complete set of instructions to diagnose all possible faults that could reasonably be expected to occur on one particular PEC. Further tapes can also be prepared to cater for PECs in any electronic equipment and a library of such tapes established.

It is evident that weapon and communication systems introduced into the service could each have their own customised ATE complete with tape library and other software items such as patch and extender boards to cater for any size or shape differences in PECs; interconnecting cables to suit special PEC inputs or outputs; an instruction manual for the ATE operator; circuit and component location diagrams for each PEC in the related equipment, test specifications, parts lists of components, samples of correct ATE printouts and any other related data.

ATE facilities, by virtue of their pre-programming tapes are adaptable and could, therefore, be utilised for a wide range of electronic equipments and sited at field or base repair agencies, or, in some cases, both.

So far, ATE have been discussed in terms of time and manpower saving and their adaptability. There are, however, disadvantages.

They are, by nature, very expensive and could cause a tendency for repairs to be conducted at a centralised location. Also, as modifications to related equipments are incorporated, appropriate amendments will be required to the relevant 'software packages'. To achieve such amendments an additional requirement emerges to provide trained personnel to carry out this task.



The maintenance effort for the software package, to keep abreast of the modification state of its related equipment, will necessitate the acquisition of new skills in relation to updating and amending programmed instructions. It is envisaged that, once acquired by a core of engineers and technicians, such skills would facilitate the production of software packages suitable for interfacing PECs from a wide range of equipment to ATE already in existence.

The Rapier SAGW is supported by ATE. However, the quantity of Rapiers being purchased for the Australian Army suggest that the Rapier ATE will be under-utilised.

In UK, 35 Central Workshop, the base repair facility for Rapier, has a significantly greater equipment dependency than we have. There the ATE facility is operated for two eight-hour shifts on a five day a week basis; is utilised by the manufacturer, British Aircraft Corporation (UK) for the testing of future Test Package software and by the staff of the workshop who have developed a number of software packages for the fault diagnosing and specification testing of FACE. This may have application for Australian FACE support and we are taking advantage of this fact.

Further consideration could be also given to providing software packages for other equipment systems such as the PECs in, say, the Leopard Tank Fire Control system and other systems likely to be introduced into the service.

However, it would be quite wrong to continually load the Rapier ATE in support of an ever-increasing number of weapon and communication systems. Another solution, in time, is desirable.

The expense of purchasing ATE for the support of complex systems can be justified from many points of view.

If ATEs are available proposed electronic equipments of the future could be specified in such a manner that software packages could be developed and delivered with the new equipment. Rationalisation and standardisation of equipments with a view to full utilisation of ATEs could be extended to achieve improved tri-service economic goals, whilst still providing the user with the same desired availability of their equipment.

Needless to say, skills to ensure the efficient use of ATE would have to be developed and maintained; consideration given to the number of personnel to be taught

the skills and the system so designed that the skills could be mastered by "ordinary" technicians in as short a time as possible.

On the other hand, care would have to be taken to avoid any situation whereby the employment of ATE ultimately causes a loss of expertise throughout associated technical trades. Such a loss would, with the passage of time and the associated wastage rate, create a shortage of top rate senior NCOs and Artificers in those trades.

In summarising it can be said that the implications of employing Automatic Test Equipments in a military environment, in terms of time, manpower and economy, are many. Most would be of advantage to the service and, with rationalisation and standardisation of equipments throughout all three services, of even greater advantage.

It is hoped this article will have provided a basis from which a better understanding of Automotive Test Equipments can be gained, particularly for those of us who are not intimately involved with such systems.

In a nutshell, ATE is a set of test equipment, pre-programmed with appropriate instructions to initiate a sequence of events to diagnose and test a range of PECs.

Supplied with a suitable library of software packages to provide the interface between items under test and the ATE, it need not be purchased as a customised support system for a single equipment but more appropriately for a range of equipments.

From time to time you may be asked your opinion on the use of the Automatic Test Equipment. I hope this article helps you form one.

(Photographs in this article are reproduced by kind permission of the British Aircraft Corporation Ltd, Stevenage, England.)

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Reaching New Heights

One of our members, Channa Madugalle, recently visited Mount Kilimanjaro, a dormant volcano located in Kilimanjaro Region of Tanzania.

Naturally, Channa took the opportunity to fly the Corps Flag at the summit!

Well done, Channa!



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 artist statement. Each year, entries are judged by a panel of art experts and professionals, and a winning artwork is selected on merit. Entries using diverse artistic media and original concepts are encouraged.

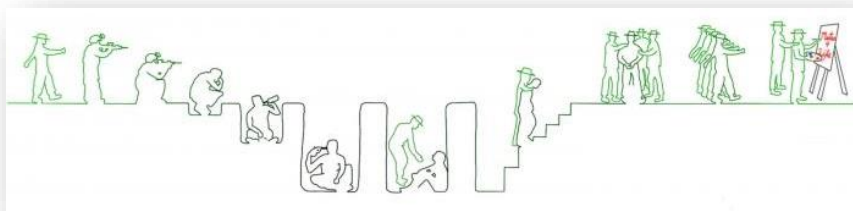
The winning work is accessioned into the Australian War Memorial collection, with the winning artist receiving a \$15,000 cash prize. Finalists' works are displayed on the Australian War Memorial's website for the general public to vote for the People's Choice award, the winner of which will receive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



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

The Memorial invites entries in all visual art mediums, including (but not limited to) painting, photography, printmaking, 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. They close on 17 December.

Veterans
from
across
the
country
invited
to apply.



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



Association Website Membership

Our Association website has recently been upgraded to include a Membership Module that members may access. Whilst we don't have fees or anything similar to worry about, use of this module will allow you to more easily access upcoming event information as well as presenting the opportunity for you to RSVP to some upcoming events and also ensure your contact details are current.

How to access the Membership features

1. Visit the Association website (<https://act.raeme.org.au>) and click on the "Sign In" option at the top right. This will open the logon screen.



2. All current members have had a login created for them. This is in almost every case, your firstname followed by your last, separated by a fullstop, eg "Harry.Horse". Enter this under "Username".
3. If you know password, enter that here before clicking on "Log In".
4. If you don't know your password, click on "Forgot your password".
 - a. You will then be asked to enter your email address so a verification link or code can be sent to you.

Please enter the email address for your account. A verification code will be sent to you. Once you have received the verification code, you will be able to choose a new password for your account.

Email Address *

- b. Enter your email address and click on the "Submit" button. Then check your email for a code, including in your Spam folder.

- c. If you don't receive an email, and if you have a second email address, eg a work or personal one, repeat this step with that.

- d. If that still doesn't work, click on the "Forgot your username" button and enter your email address. If your account is registered, you will receive an email with your Username.

- g. If for some reason this still doesn't work, please request advice on your log-in details by emailing Secretary@act.raeme.org.au

Sign In

Username *
Please fill in this field

Password *

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[Forgot your username?](#)
[Don't have an account?](#)

Membership Profile

To edit your profile, firstly login and then click on "Edit Profile".

Profile [Edit Profile](#)

Name: Harry Horse
Username: Harry.Horse
Registered Date: Monday, 21 November 2022
Last Visited Date: Friday, 15 September 2023

This will open a new screen from which you will be able to edit your name, password or email address.

Edit Your Profile

Name *

Username
Password Confirm Password
Email Address *

RAEME Port 2023

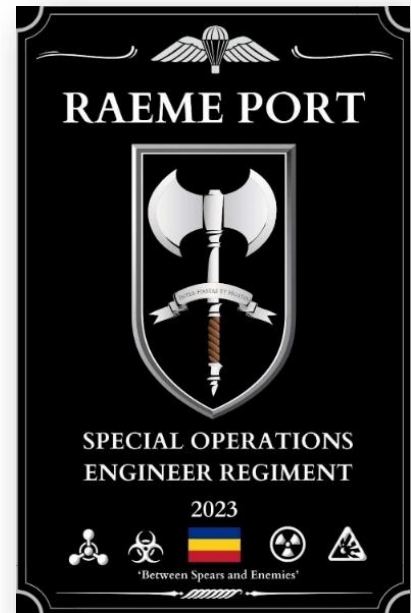
This year's RAEME Port will be delivered by Special Operations Engineer Regiment (SOER) Workshop, which is their first time in doing so.

The 2023 RAEME Port is an 8-year-old aged Tawny from the Ernest Hill Wines in the Hunter Valley, NSW.

SOER Workshop have aligned themselves with a charity organisation Kids West which provides vital life-saving equipment in support of paediatric and neonatal intensive care across Western Sydney. A percentage of profits from the port will go to the Kids West Charity.

SOER have advised that the bottling process will commence in early October so orders should be sent and received prior to RAEME Birthday.

Orders have closed but if you contact SOER ASAP, they may be able to help you out (not guaranteed). SOER may be contacted via email on soer.emeops@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!

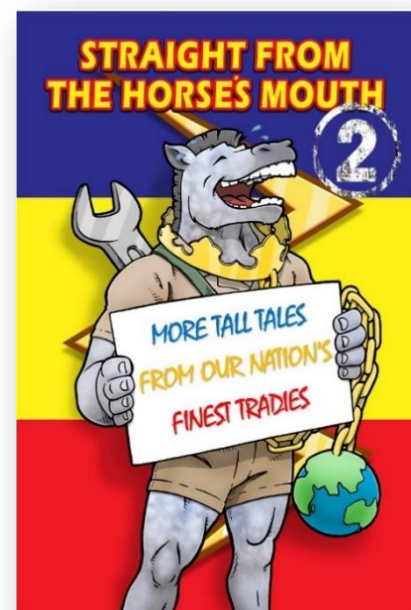
If you didn't get your order in before they shut off, you may still be in luck. Ian has a handful of spare copies that he will take to future Association events but once they are gone (at \$25 each), they are gone!

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!



Other News

Western Australia. Our WA-based brethren recently released the Winter edition of their newsletter, *Horse's Mouth*.

In this edition, they provide details regarding a Cocktail Party being planned for Corps Birthday as well as a great summary of some items on display in the REME Museum, Lyneham UK. One of the most interesting items there is REME's Birth Certificate from 1942!

You can check out this edition (and older ones too) online at <https://wa.raeme.org.au/>.

Other News continued

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

Queensland. The Qld Association is planning for their impending luncheon on 28 Sep. If history is anything to go on, this will be a great lunch and opportunity to catch up with fellow Spanners in a social environment, BRIG Gabby Follett will be the guest speaker for the luncheon so this will also be an opportunity to learn a little more about what is happening in the Corps from one of our finest current leaders.

Details regarding this lunch and how to book tickets are;

Who: All current or former RAEME members and guests
When: Saturday 30 September 2023, 1200 for 1230h
Where: Maroochy RSL, Room M4, Corner Memorial/First Aves, Maroochydore
Host: The Colonel Commandant, Queensland, COL Steve Evans ret'd
MC: BRIG Ross Grant ret'd
Dress: Neat casual.
Cost: \$28 per head for RAEME Qld members, \$48 per head for others.
POC: webmaster@qld.raeme.org.au
RSVP: No later than 20 Sep via: <https://www.qld.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/events/Register/559-raq-sunshine-coast-luncheon-2023>

In conjunction with the Army Museum South Queensland and the 'Women in Uniform' exhibition, the Queensland Association is also hosting a professional development and networking event called "Women in RAEME" which will be held at Victoria Barracks in Brisbane from 0900h until 1200h on Wed 11 Oct 2023. All serving members, veterans, guests, families, partners and others who are interested or associated with the Corps are welcome to attend this free event.



As this is being held on an operational Military Base, there are restrictions on entry and registration is compulsory by Wed 04 Oct 2023.

Key details are:

Date: Wednesday 11 October 2023
Time: 0900hr for 0930hr - 1200hrs
Catering: Tea/Coffee & Morning Tea
Dress: Dress of the Day/ Collared shirts /Business Casual
RSVP: No later than Wednesday 4 October 2023

Further details regarding this event are available on the Queensland Association website at: <https://qld.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/events/event/573-women-in-raeme>.

Reunions

The following reunions or gatherings are being planned:

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
When: 21 Sep 2023, 1130-1300h
Then on the third Thursday of every month
Cost: Seniors \$22-00, Other \$35-00
POC: Alan Rogers, alang.37@bigpond.com

102 Field Workshop

Who: All past and present members of 102 Fd Wksp
Where: Gannawarra
When: 29-30 Sep 2023
POC: Noel Lake, (03) 5456-9246, koonda@active8.net.au

Apprentice School 75th Anniversary

Who: All apprentices
Where: Albury/Wodonga
When: 20-22 Oct 2023

Apprentice School 75th Anniversary continued

Proposed program: Fri 20 Oct – 1400h - Registration and Meet and Greet
Sat – 21 Oct – AGM and Reunion Dinner
Sun 22 Oct – BBQ lunch, more details to follow.

POC: events@austarmyapprentice.org

More Info (in Oct): <https://austarmyapprentice.org/events-2/>

Victorian Association *Spanner Club*

Who: All serving and former members of RAEME
Where: Mail Exchange Hotel, Cnr Spender & Bourke Streets, Melbourne
When: 13 Oct 2023, and then on the second Friday of every month
POC: Rod Gillett, rod.gillett8@gmail.com

“Back to Bandi” reunion

Who: Former tradesmen who attended Adult Tradesman Courses in Bandiana
Where: Bandiana, Victoria
When: 20-22 Oct 2023
Details: Cost \$120 per head which will include a dinner and guided tour of ASEME
POC: Garry (Snow) Whykes at gwhykes@gmail.com

Reunions continued

Tasmanian Apprentices

Who: All ex-Army Apprentices – All intakes
Where: Central Highlands Lodge, Miena TAS
When: 28 Oct 2023, 1130 until late (Dinner optional)
POC: SteveB@bradbuild.com.au
RSVP: Before 20 Oct 2023

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

Veteran Support Centre, Belconnen

The Veteran Support Centre recently put out a call for volunteers to assist with the Food Van at the German Auto Show, Brad Hadden Oval, Campbell Street Queanbeyan 2620, on Sunday 24th September 2023. Roster hours available include: 8.30am – 11.00am, 11.00am – 2.00pm, and 2.00pm – 4.00pm.

If anyone is available and willing to assist, please contact the office to place your name on the roster by calling 02 6255 1599 or email office@vscact.org.au



What tool am I?

Last month's tool challenge was:

I am used almost entirely for setting on fire various flammable objects in your shop. I am also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you want to remove a bearing race.

That tool was: An Oxy-Acetylene Torch.

This month's tool identification challenge is:

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.

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

Arte et Marte,

Ian Cook
Secretary
ACT RAEME Association

