

RAEME in ACTION

The Newsletter of the RAEME Association of the
Australian Capital Territory (ACT)



Edition: 43

August 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings All,

I hope this finds you all coping with the Canberra winter. Along with a number of our Association members, I attended a Lanyard Presentation for eleven new RAEME officers at Olims on Tue 18 Aug 26. In the absence of the HOC (away on work duties), BRIG Brett Eaton presented the new officers with their lanyards and welcomed them into the Corps. It was pleasing to see the presentation well-attended, with the opportunity for the new graduates to be introduced to a representation of the RAEME family and get a sense of the passion associated with our Corps. For me, it was all the more sweet, having the night before shared a tipple of RAEME 'Plan Pelican' port with three other ex-RAEME officers (and a ring-in Navy WEO) that I had started my journey with 40 odd years ago (right).

Noting the many changes that are occurring within Army and the broader Defence Force, this year's Corps Conference (occurring in Sydney in Oct), will no doubt be attempting to tackle the evolving challenges of maintaining long range fires and watercraft, whilst not compromising the health of the current capabilities. We will keep you updated on the outcomes.

As is covered in the recent Maintenance Matters newsletter, this year marks five years since WO2 Ryan Leslie and CFN Brendon Payne lost their lives while on exercise near Townsville. It is a timely reminder of the commitment all of our RAEME brethren make on a daily basis regardless of their roles and postings. Our thoughts go to their families and friends.



IMPENDING ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES IN THE ACT

August

Tues 25 th	Mixed Drinks	Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club from 1930h
-----------------------	------------------------------	--------------------------------------

September

Fri 04 th	Mixed Lunch	Ainslie Football Club from 1230h
----------------------	-----------------------------	----------------------------------

Tues 29 th	Mixed Drinks	Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club from 1930h
-----------------------	------------------------------	--------------------------------------

October

Fri 02 nd	Spanner Club and Sausage Sizzle	From 1600h – Venue TBC being either the RMC Golf Club or Olim's Hotel. The Sausage sizzle will only occur if RMC Golf Club is selected
Tues 27 th	Mixed Drinks	Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club from 1930h

November

Fri 06 th	End-of-Year Dinner	Gyphonn's Bar and Caffe
----------------------	------------------------------------	-------------------------

Fri 27 th	RAEME Birthday Celebrations	TBC
----------------------	---	-----

December

Fri 04 th	Final Mixed Lunch for 2026	Ainslie Football Club from 1230h
----------------------	--	----------------------------------

WHAT ELSE IS ON IN THE REGION

August

Weds 19 th	Create and Caffeinate	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1200h
	Free Exercise Physiology Class	JB Rehab	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1200-1245h
Thurs 20 th	Zumba	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1100-1200h
Fri 21 st	Mind-Balance-Tai Chi	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 0930-1030h
Mon 24 th	Dr Renne Robarts Veteran Consultancy	RSL Lifecare	Experienced DVA GP providing independent medical assessments for veterans.
	Yoga	Invictus CBR	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1900-2200h
Tues 25 th	Veterans Guitar Group	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1200h
Tues 25 th	Free Exercise Physiology Class	JB Rehab	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1200-1245h
	Yoga	Invictus CBR	Burgmann Anglican School from 1800-1900h,
Weds 26 th	Free Exercise Physiology Class	JB Rehab	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1200-1245h
Thurs 27 th	Zumba	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1100-1200h
Fri 28 th	Mind-Balance-Tai Chi	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 0930-1030h
Sun 30 th	Bowling Family Fun Day	Veteran Support Centre	Who: Members, families and friends Where: 1 Emu Bank, Belconnen When: 1000-1500h Cost: Free entry RSVP: Phone (02) 6255 1599 NLT COB Friday, 21 August 2026

Mon 31 st	Malaya and Borneo Veterans' Day	Day of Reflection	The day we recognise and remember the Australian service and sacrifice of veterans who served in the Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation
----------------------	---	-------------------	---

Mon 31 st	Yoga	Invictus CBR	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1100h
----------------------	----------------------	--------------	--

September

Tues 01 st	Veterans Guitar Group	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1200h
	Free Exercise Physiology Class	JB Rehab	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1200-1245h
	Yoga	Invictus CBR	Burgmann Anglican School from 1800-1900h,
Weds 02 nd	Create and Caffeinate	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1200h
Thurs 03 rd	Zumba	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1100-1200h
Fri 04 th	Mind-Balance-Tai Chi	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 0930-1030h
Mon 07 th	Dr Renne Robarts Veteran Consultancy	RSL Lifecare	Experienced DVA GP providing independent medical assessments for veterans.

September continued

Mon 07 th	Yoga	Invictus CBR	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1200h
Tues 08 th	Veterans Guitar Group	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1200h
	Free Exercise Physiology Class	JB Rehab	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1200-1245h
	Yoga	Invictus CBR	Burgmann Anglican School from 1800-1900h,
Thurs 10 th	Zumba	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1100-1200h
Fri 11 th	Mind-Balance-Tai Chi	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 0930-1030h
Mon 14 th	Dr Renne Robarts Veteran Consultancy	RSL Lifecare	Experienced DVA GP providing independent medical assessments for veterans.
	Yoga	Invictus CBR	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1100h
Mon 14 th – Tues 15 th	ADF National Cycling Carnival	Invictus CBR	“Trails, Triumphs, and Team Spirit – Join the Ride!” at the ADF National Cycling Carnival. FREE coaching is provided on Monday prior to racing on Tuesday. Stromlo Forest Park Carpark, Stromlo, ACT
Tues 15 th	Veterans Guitar Group	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1200h
	Free Exercise Physiology Class	JB Rehab	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1200-1245h
	Yoga	Invictus CBR	Burgmann Anglican School from 1800-1900h,
Weds 16 th	Create and Caffeinate	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1200h
Thurs 17 th	Zumba	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1100-1200h
17-18 Sept	Imperialism and Resistance: Australia's First Wars	Australian War Memorial	<i>Imperialism and Resistance: Australia's First Wars</i> is a two-day conference that brings together authors, historians, and curators to reflect on the Australian Frontier Wars and Australia's earliest overseas military commitments to the British Empire.
Fri 18 th	Mind-Balance-Tai Chi	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 0930-1030h
Mon 21 st	Dr Renne Robarts Veteran Consultancy	RSL Lifecare	Experienced DVA GP providing independent medical assessments for veterans.
	Yoga	Invictus CBR	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1100h
Tues 22 nd	Veterans Guitar Group	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1000-1200h
	Free Exercise Physiology Class	JB Rehab	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1200-1245h
	Yoga	Invictus CBR	Burgmann Anglican School from 1800-1900h,
Thurs 24 th	Zumba	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 1100-1200h
Fri 25 th	Mind-Balance-Tai Chi	RSL Lifecare	Queanbeyan Veteran Hub from 0930-1030h

MAINTENANCE MATTERS

The latest *Maintenance Matters* includes a memorial to recovery mechanics, WO2 Ryan Leslie and CFN Brendon Payne who were lost in a vehicle accident 5 years ago this month.

Also included in this edition are details of RAEME happenings around the Nation and introduction of a new feature on families who have multiple members who have served in RAEME. This starts with the Riley Clan who have four generations who have served our nation, three of whom served or are still serving in RAEME.

You can get your copy of *Maintenance Matters* at either:

- PDF – <https://raeme.org.au/index.php/publications/newsletter>
- Flipbook – <https://heyzine.com/flip-book/81122ad3b7.html>

Request for Articles

The editorial team are also looking for stories about:

- **Multiple Generations in RAEME.** If you have family linkages to the Corps, ie more than one generation of the same family who have served in the Corps, or if you know of others with family linkages, please send the editors an email at Newsletter@raeme.org.au. They are very keen to hear from you.
- **Above and Beyond.** If you know of any former-serving Corps member who has worked to support their community, we want to be able to celebrate their service. You can find more details at: <https://raeme.org.au/index.php/publications/newsletter/article-submission>
- **You and Your Role.** The editorial team want to include stories about the impact serving RAEME members have on the Army. Noting that many serving people in Canberra work in roles that the bulk of the Corps may not even know exists, or they may not understand what you do, this is your chance to share what you do. From the same link above, you will find templates for submission.

CLOSING COMMENTS

That's about it for this edition. Future editions will follow a similar format with regular sharing of activities that may be of interest to both serving and retired members in the ACT region.

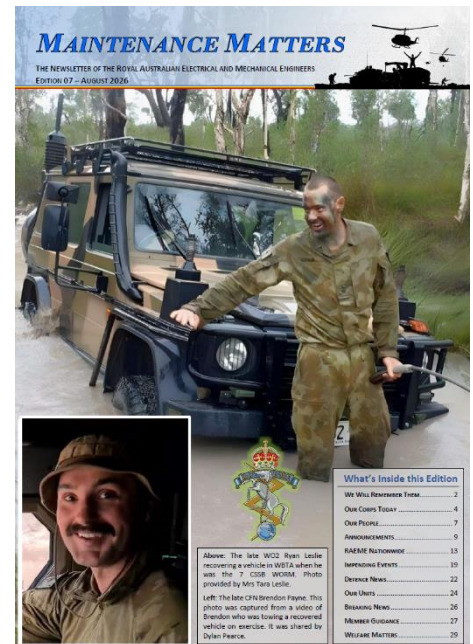
If you would like to submit something for future editions, or if you would like to see something in particular published that is relevant to the Corps, please email me at: Secretary@act.raeme.org.au.

You can also send your submissions for *Maintenance Matters* to me via Newsletter@raeme.org.au or preferably lodge them online on the [RNN website](#) where you will also find templates and further guidance. We would love to see some reports about the work done by RAEME members here in the ACT region, especially from those in roles that many in the Corps may never have heard of.

Remember too that the member submission chosen by the editors as the best will receive a \$50 gift voucher. The most recent winner was the Riley Clan for sharing their family's story about serving our Corps. You could be the next winner. Just start writing something. Truth is preferred but optional!

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
Website: <https://act.raeme.org.au>



Membership of the ACT RAEME Association is free to all serving or former members with a connection to RAEME who also live or work within the ACT region.

