

EDITION 2-20

SPANNER NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE RAEME ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC

JULY 2020

102 FIELD WORKSHOP



FIXING SINCE 1966



Edition 2-20

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Spanner News

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Spanner News

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the 2nd Edition of Spanner news 2020, a year that has been turned upside down and disrupted our lives significantly – your Association Executive hopes you are travelling well and we understand the RAQ has an important part to play in maintaining some normality in your lives despite the COVID-19 restrictions.

To that end, the RAQ Management Committee has continued to work on your behalf, through its regional committees and event convenors, to support the continuation of planned events and activities, where it is safe and practical to do so. We are mindful of the social distancing requirements issued by the Queensland State Government and are very pleased with the assistance we are receiving from the venues we use regularly. We are also mindful of the extra requirements issued by the CDF for serving members of the ADF.

To date NQ and Gold Coast functions have gone ahead without any issues and excellent attendance – seems we want to stay connected! By the time you read this edition of Spanner News, the Port Office 1st August "Post COVID" event will have been completed. Also, the Maroochy RSL has set stringent requirements for the Sunshine Coast lunch on 12 Sep 20 and we will adhere to them and make the day safe and successful.

Sadly, MAJ Angela Langdon resigned as RAQ Secretary due to work commitments. I would like to thank Angela for her excellent work and support to the RAQ. Despite having a demanding role as OC 106 Fd Wksp, Angela stepped in to help the association and filled a particularly important Executive Role on the committee, at a difficult time. Thank you, Angela, we appreciate your voluntary work on our behalf. Fortunately, I am able to announce Richard Gladdish has filled the Secretary vacancy – another big thank you, Richard.

The upcoming AGM will see all Committee positions declared vacant and biennial elections held. The RAQ Committee has also done a fabulous job reviewing the RAQ Constitution and guiding our association through another very busy year. We will table "proposed" amendment to the Constitution to be voted on by members at the AGM.

May I commend our Management Committee for their drive and enthusiasm – they certainly ensure we meet our goals of the RAQ Strategic Plan and maintain a firm grip on the important governance requirements of an incorporated body like the RAQ. However, there is always a need for new ideas and enthusiastic volunteers, so please consider taking on a role in the Management Committee.

Arte et Marte

Jeff Maurice
Chairman RAQ

chairman@qld.raeme.org.au



RAEME Association Queensland – What we are about?

The purpose of the RAEME Association Queensland is to promote and reinforce the spirit, reputation and image of the Corps through its past, present and future members.

The goals of the RAEME Association Queensland locally are to:

- promote the Corps' identity and reputation;
- recognise and celebrate achievements of members of the Corps; and
- provide a focal point for Corps activities.

To gain RAQ membership benefits, join for \$10/year, or upgrade to Life Subscription for \$100. All proceeds support and promote the goals of the Association.

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MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF CORPS – BRIG TODD ASHURST.



It is my distinct privilege and honour to have been selected by the Chief of Army to be the Head of Corps for the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, The Royal Corps. Having had the privilege of serving as your Deputy Head of Corps previously, I am very excited by this appointment, a pinnacle of my service. Having now been in the role for 8 months, it is heartening to see the current serving members of the Corps and our loyal members in the associations all coping so well with our current circumstances and challenges.

Firstly, I would like to thank the previous Head of Corps, now MAJGEN Andrew Freeman, for his hard work and leadership. His passion for the Corps was clearly evident as he worked tirelessly behind the scenes while also managing 17 Bde, Army 3rd Line Combat Service Support capability. I wish him all the best in his role in the United States and seeing him back in Australia in the coming years.

The first half of 2020 has seen the Corps deployed on operations across the globe, and just as importantly, here in Australia. For the first time, the Governor General activated the Reserves, and our RAEME part-time workforce were impressive in the support they provided throughout January and February, as they responded to the devastating Bushfire season.

Army is in the middle of its largest modernisation since WW2. The equipment we are increasingly being required to work on is very sophisticated, calibrated and technically complex. The method of repair is changing and the ability to integrate repair requirements across the Army workforce, Defence Logistics and industry requires re-definition. The simple systems of yester-year, Land Rover, Unimog, SLR, Leopard, 77 sets, etc, have been replaced by capabilities that demand the electronic and physical integration of many systems and sub-systems. Designing, developing, testing, evaluating, maintaining and repairing these systems-of-systems requires competent, qualified and technically minded “Crafties”, in uniform, but working

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closely with Industry partners. Our Corps is the means that enables the war fighter to succeed and win in these situations.

In my day-job as the Director General Logistics – Army, my team is leading many initiatives that will impact the Corps in the short and long-term. I want to take this opportunity to highlight some of the bodies of work happening that will shape the next decade. I anticipate that some of these will directly influence the Corps structure, manning, and training systems to achieve the increasingly demanding capability requirements. My team in Logistics Branch (including many Bluebells) has been working hard behind the scenes.

Engineering Workforce Review. The Engineer Workforce Review is reviewing the RAEME Ground Engineer officer workforce. Phase 1A of this review will examine the Engineer requirements within Army; while Phase 1B will examine the workforce within our Acquisition and Sustainment Group. Phase 2 will determine the skills requirements for the Ground engineering workforce, across all Service Categories (SERCATs), Australian Public Servants (APS) and contracted supporting agencies. The key outcome will be an Employment Specification and career model for RAEME Ground Engineers, which will articulate the requirements and roles for our people, by discipline, at each rank or skills level, using qualifications and credentialing as a baseline.

This important body of work being progressed by COL Damien McLachlan, the Director of Technical Regulation and Evaluation – Army (DTRE-A) and will establish the baseline for what RAEME engineering officers need to be ‘Ready Now’ and inform the Technical Workforce Review to determine how we become ‘Future Ready’.

Technical Workforce Review. The Technical Workforce Review commenced in late 2019, and takes a Corps-agnostic view of Army’s technical workforce (RAEME, RAE, RASIGS). The review has broken the Land Technical Workforce into seven technology sub-segments, allowing the team to analyse similar trades and officer specialisations to determine the benefits and risks of adopting contemporary workforce structures to assure operational effectiveness well in to the future.

At its heart, the review seeks to understand how technical roles and skills will likely evolve to support Army’s modernisation, and how we ensure members of the Corps remain current with rapidly evolving technologies. Part of the review is analysing different ways to develop specialist skills, and aligning this to the most suitable times in year and across an individual’s career to obtain required qualifications. Put simply, it seeks to define more effective ways to develop our people to meet the increasingly complex requirements of our profession. I wish to thank COL Colin Blyth, Director of Logistics Plans and LTCOL Troy Wilson for their continued great work on this

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project. I also congratulate Troy on his selection as Commanding Officer of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (ASEME) from 2021.

Training Transformation – Flexible Learning Model Program. Concurrent to these two important bodies of work, ASEME (under LTCOL Rebecca Gordon) are rapidly progressing a modernisation of our training system. Since early 2020, the Career and Advanced Training Wing (CATW) have developed the Flexible Learning Model (FLM). This has been a true collaboration between Army and our industry partners at Wodonga TAFE. This blended training model is outlined later in this edition of Spanner News by the OC CATW.

I wish to thank LTCOL Rebecca Gordon and MAJ Babu for their efforts on this important body of work.

Data Enable Asset Management. While the aforementioned reviews are focused on structuring and skilling the workforce, the identification and prioritisation of work across the increasing number of vehicles and weapons platforms is critical. The aim of this work being led by LTCOL Steve Mencshelyi, from the Directorate of Logistics–Army, is to minimise the burden of maintenance data collection, input, and management.

Readily available technology has the ability to simplify and automate a range of time consuming administrative and manual management functions. Similarly the same systems also have an ability to track real time platform use. Greater fidelity and confidence in data will allow our Corps members to be better informed when making maintenance and engineering decisions at all levels. Live data will also provide an ability to track, monitor and assure platforms are employed appropriately and legally.

Data, Health & Usage Monitoring Systems, Vehicle Information Management Systems, Business Intelligence and data fusion is progressively enabling Defence to understand its capability like never before. The work done on M113AS4 by our Crafties and industry partners has demonstrated an ability to automate maintenance administration using a variety of Sensor, software, and hardware data. Dashboards using extant data sources coupled with real and near real time data has improved Army's understanding of how fleets are being employed. This is the future of maintenance identification, analysis and prioritisation!

Leaning into Brigades. The final aspect I wish to touch on is a deliberate activity aimed at better enabling materiel availability and preparedness across the force. This is a collaboration between Joint Logistics Command (JLC) and Army to streamline maintenance management. This will be a standardised and formalised approach ensuring Army reaches across the Defence Logistic Enterprise, including our industry partners, Joint Logistic Units' contracted workforce and Army uniformed maintenance personnel to streamline processes and outcomes.

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We call this initiative “Leaning into Brigade’s” and it has three main objectives.

- Integrate maintenance effects and streamlines business process.
- Define and generate a deployable maintenance capability.
- Formalising configuration management, modification programs, rework programs and industry inputs.

This is an important body of work commenced by COL Colin Blyth, and being progressed by LTCOL Steve Mencshelyi, to support both the digital and physical integration of capability, and fuse industry, JLC and Army maintenance effects together in a more streamlined way.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the great work our two Deputy Heads of Corps have been doing. Both Lieutenant Colonels Rebecca Gordon and Miles Irving are working tirelessly for our Corps, while having demanding Commanding Officer appointments. They have both significantly contributed to the stewardship of RAEME and have ensured we remain contemporary, relevant and forward looking. On behalf of the Corps, I thank you for commitment as Deputy Heads of Corps.

Over the coming months and years, the Corps needs to support these bodies of work being driven out of Army Headquarters. While I have been planning a Corps Conference, it is unlikely to be held in 2020, due to the impacts of COVID-19. These are important issues. While some of us may feel uncomfortable with evolutionary outcomes of Army's deliberations; we must look forward to ensure RAEME continues to evolve in the ever-changing world of maintenance and support. I am proud of our Corp and humbled by the opportunity to lead it during this complicated time in our history.

Arte et Marte

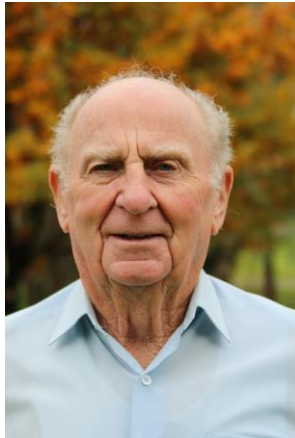
Brigadier
Director General Logistics – Army
HOC RAEME



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CONGRATULATIONS TO MEMBERS OF THE CORPS. QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

Award of the Medal (OAM) in the Military Division to:



- **Lieutenant Colonel James Glen HISLOP (Retd)**, who lives in Wodonga, VIC, for service to veterans and their families over many years.



- **Warrant Officer Class One David Graeme McBEAN**, meritorious service as the Artificer Sergeant Major of Forces Command and the 2nd Cavalry Regiment, and the Senior Technical Advisor Small Arms at the Land Engineering Agency.



- **Noel Geoffrey LAKE**, Gannawarra VIC 3568 For service to veterans and their families.

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UNIT ACTIVITIES IN QUEENSLAND

FEATURE ARTICLE ON 102 FIELD WORKSHOPS. We are featuring a proud unit this month, which was raised at the height of the Vietnam war, was disbanded immediately post-Vietnam and was re-raised as part of the ODF in 1981. The RAQ is pleased to be able to bring stories of innovation and adaptability from both eras. Here are everyday stories of 102 Fd Wksp written by serving and previous members of the unit in their own words.

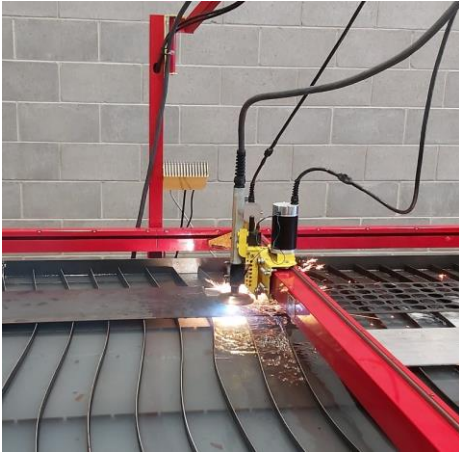
EIR – CPL Jade Numans. In late 2019, 3 CSR came to 102 Fd Wksp world-renowned Boffins, seeking a solution to issues with their 40M communications suite. CPL Jaspreet Shah stepped up to the plate, with his Bachelor of Electronic Engineering in hand, and provided the '40M Communications Solution' ECP. In early 2020, the ECP was signed off and almost immediately the solution was identified for broader implementation across Army.

In June, 3 CSSB held a Military Skills Competition with sections made up of each trade within the unit. Unsurprisingly, RAEME dominated the top spots with the VM and Tech Elec sections securing first and second place respectively. To the surprise of many, a section fielded by 7 CSSB BHQ staff, managed to tie in third place with a mixed trade RAEME section. Eyebrows were raised and questions were asked as to how BHQ secured such a prominent position. It was noted that the CO declined to reveal the scores of each section at the conclusion of the competition.

General Engineering – LT Jake Van Den Broek. Due to the limited field exercises available to 102 Fd Wksp during Australia's COVID-19 response, General Engineering Platoon has turned its attention to trade training. Funding opportunities made available to us have been used to purchase additional tooling and machinery, increasing our capability and productivity. First amongst these is the workshop's new industrial sewing machine. With the ability to sew canvas and tarps, the Fitters have been developing sleeves and covers to improve cam and concealment out field. Their skills have been further developed through training with members of 5 Aviation Regiment at RAAF Townsville. This also provided a great opportunity for some integration training with Chinook and MRH-90.

Another new capability afforded to the workshop is the new CNC plasma cutter, which arrived in July. Our Metalsmiths have already identified numerous past jobs where the ability to CNC cut steel would have saved hours of work. The machine also provides flexibility in design, preparing engineering change proposals and articles manufactured in the workshop.

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During 2020 GE Platoon has also focussed heavily on Army's fuel assets. During the dispersed battle prep generated by COVID-19 in March, our CPLs developed learning packages for diesel fitting, working towards packages for recognition of prior learning and a civilian qualification. Our Fitters are true subject matter experts and have been working with Transport and Ordnance personnel to ensure 3 CSSB's fuel assets are always ready.

With RAEME birthday a few short months away, the Fitters and Metalsmiths are keen to use their new skills and equipment, working to build a superb go-cart to embarrass the other units of 3 Brigade.

Recovery Mechanics – CPL Mitch Currey. Recovery Platoon in 2020 ... where to begin? The year started a lot less frantic compared to the 2019 support to Townsville's floods with 6 new OJT members marching in and sent straight on to a shakeout exercise at High Range Training Area. This exercise provided a great chance for them to see the equipment in the unit and understand how to deploy it effectively. This was particularly true for the new 45M Heavy Recovery Vehicle, which is slowly but surely, beginning to cement its capability with operators and commanders alike.

Not long after, COVID-19 put all training on hold and recovery jobs became hard to come by, but then the biggest job of all fell into our laps – so to speak!



A 30t crane fell over in the yard with the boom fully extended and resting on shipping containers, it took two

45M's, one M88, every member of Recovery Platoon, plus mechanics, fitters and a few dozen spectators to put the crane back on its wheels. So much care was taken that the crane was able to be started, packed its own boom away, before being driven out of the yard to be repaired.

By now COVID-19 restrictions have started to ease and OJTs are performing recovery jobs on a regular basis and preparing for EX BROLGA RUN in August. Recovery Platoon gained two extra members with the march-in of CFN Sharpe and birth of CPL Eichholzer's little girl; congrats Eccy!

Vehicle Mechanics – LT M Sayers. With a gradual reduction in COVID-19 restrictions, and a return to limited training, this last month saw the Vehicle Platoon heavily tasked, with major repairs on the M88 and Armoured Recovery Vehicle – Light, and preparations for EX BROLGA RUN.



As a part of EX BROLGA RUN, all the units within 3 Brigade have a part to play and will be involved in their own unique way whether that be combat, combat support or the ever-essential combat service support.

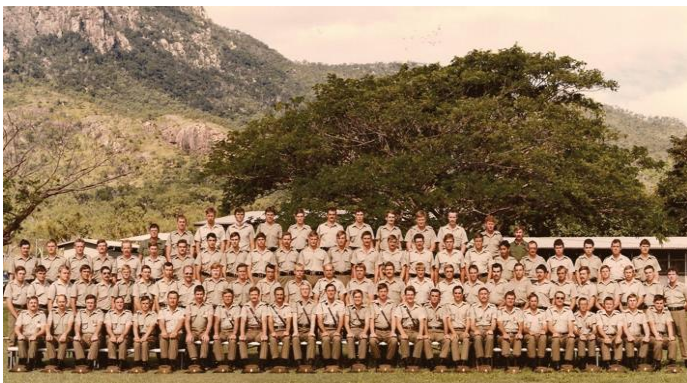


As a part of our preparation in the combat service support space, we have been assisting 4 Fd Regt with their preparation by completing repairs and servicing on the PMV Command variant, displayed above. CFN Snook and one of our OJTs, CFN Williams, have been busy getting the PMV ready for a short stint out bush enabling our beloved Gunners.

102 FD WKSP IN FORMER TIMES – RE-RAISED IN 1981. As mentioned, the original workshop was raised for service in SVN in 1966 and had a proud record of service and productivity at a time when equipment availability was sorely needed. After the war ended, in 1975, the unit was disbanded; but as the following excerpt from **Chapter 6 – “With Skill and Fighting - Craftsmen of the Australian Army 1942 – 2014”** illustrates, the unit’s story was far from finished.

“Of major international concern during the 1980s was Russian military action in Afghanistan. Russia had invaded Afghanistan during 1979 and for the next ten years fought a protracted counter-insurgency campaign against the Afghan Resistance, which was backed by numerous Muslim nations and the United States of America. Australia took no direct action in this conflict; however the situation was seen as a potential threat to Australian interests and was used by the Australian Government to revitalise the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

Great emphasis was given to the importance of the Operational Deployment Force (ODF) centred on 3 Brigade in Townsville, a new multi-role, combined arms Brigade. The ODF was tasked with providing a robust war fighting capability on the light scales but to be available for rapid deployment. Within the ODF, one famous RAEME unit returned to the order of battle. 102 Field Workshop (Light) which was disbanded at the end of the Vietnam War, and was reactivated and restructured specifically to meet ODF requirements, ensuring the Force was self-sufficient in second line repair and recovery capabilities.



102 Fd Wksp(Lt) officially re-raised on 30 Jun 81 at Lavarack Barracks - war establishment 120 personnel

One who succeeded in this ambition was John (Joe) Owens, who began a two-year posting at 102 Field Workshop (Light) during 1981 which he declares was the best two years of his career. “Joe”, or SGT John Owen, as he was at the time, relates the following tale. My first exercise with 102 Field Workshop was Exercise ‘Craftsman Walk’, which provided a solid workout for the whole Unit and gave me the opportunity to see the nature of the Unit I had joined. During the early part of the Exercise we were on ‘ration packs’ but after day three, the cooks were ready to go and we went on to fresh rations. I immediately noticed that the one kitchen catered for the whole unit and all ranks

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ate together in the same mess tent. Additionally, at every meal all the SNCOs and Officers moved to the back of the queue. I saw a Digger go to join in at the back of the queue, but he was immediately ushered to the front of the line, in front of the Senior NCOs and Officers. It was plain that the unit leadership policy put the interests of Diggers first. My positive impressions of the Unit were confirmed at the Exercise’s end. Before anyone knocked off for leave, all the vehicles, tentage, cam nets, CES and serviceability checks were completed, and then we stood down – 102 Fd Wksp (Lt) was indeed a good unit.”



A unit wrecker negotiating HRTA road – first deployment Exercise “Craftsman Walk” Feb 1981

We participated in battalion group exercises as part of the ODF and the Brigade’s major exercise, Kangaroo 1981 (K81). By the time we got to K81 in Oct 81, we were a well drilled Unit and productive. Such was 102’s reputation that the Unit was tasked to manage Subject B for Corporal for all Brigade RAEME units. At the completion of the Subject B for Corporal course, we did a night drive across High Range Training Area finishing at Mingela still 120 kilometres from Townsville at sun-up. We drove on to Townsville, did our normal post-Exercise clean up then stood down after an exhausting 39.5 hours. While I probably wouldn’t have taken some of the boys on a dress parade, so far as work was concerned, they could be relied on to carry out allotted tasks with enthusiasm.



The ASM in 1981, WO1 Alan (Fred) Read inspecting the troops’ feet at the end of another weekly 15-km route march as the unit prepared for its role

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COVID-19 TASK GROUP QLD – JTG629.3.

This opinion piece was written by CAPT Reid Ossington (RAEME) on his recent experiences while performing the role of J35B (planning staff officer). The views expressed are his own and do not reflect the position of Army.

Joint Task Group (JTG) 629.3 The Task Group was part of the Whole of Government response to the pandemic for QLD. Commanded by a Joint Task Force (JTF), the JTG has had over 900 soldiers and officers involved in the operation since it stood-up on 23 Mar 20. Many personnel were Reserve soldiers and officers who had just finished supporting OP Bushfire Support.

The JTG was made up of a JOR HQ operating out of Gallipoli Barracks and two task units. Task Unit (TU) 1 was led by the CO of 9 RQR for a southern TAOR, and TU2 was led by CO 51 FNQR, for the northern region, after being OPCON to the TG Commander.

The structure provided good command and control (C2), with 51 FNQR well positioned to protect northern first nation communities in its normal AO.

75% of the manning for the initial response came from Reserve units, but as the tempo increased, the situation became challenging with many Reservists needing to return to families and employment. To maintain capability, 6 RAR supplemented 9 RQR, but later being given their own TAOR. Concurrently C2 for TUI transitioned from 9 RQR to 25/49 RQR, and 51 FNQR was reinforced by 2 Cav out of 3 BDE in a western TAOR around Mt Isa and the border with NT.

Defence Aid to Civilian Community (DACC). The support to State government agencies was endorsed by JOC (Army) through an instrument called a 'Request for Assistance' (RFA) under the Defence Aid to Civil Communities. There were 4 main lines of effort or RFA:

- **Planning** – each TG imbedded individuals in District Disaster Management Groups (DDMG) to support planning. DDMGs broke the state into sectors loosely aligned to council wards. These agencies included Police, Fire, SES, Health and Hospitals, Trade or even Fisheries.
- **Quarantine Compliance** – concentrated at the Brisbane and Cairns International airports, the TUs provided soldiers and C2 support to assist Police and Border Force staff usher incoming passengers through the airport and on to mandatory 14-day quarantine in hotels. In addition, outer cordons were provided at the hotels to allow Police monitor compliance.
- **Police Check Points (PCPs) in Biosecurity Zones** – the breadth of policing across the state quickly culminated for police officers. The TG provided deployed sections across the state to bolster Police Check Posts (PCP). Under DACC, the ADF have no powers of enforcement, but ADF presence

allowed police to reduce numbers at each PCP, enabling them to maintain some normality with other police duties.

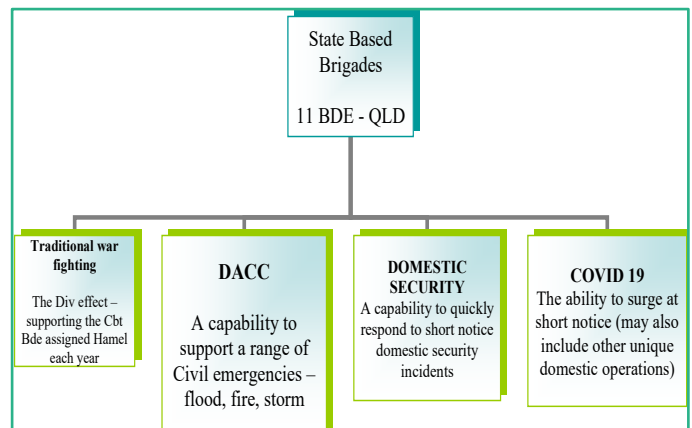
- **Hard Border Closure** – commonly depicted in the mainstream media, ADF force elements support PCPs on the borders, which again allowed Police to spread their presence along lengthy borders, specifically with NSW. Feedback on how our personnel performed from police was consistently positive.

Lessons Learnt. What did this COVID experience show about ADF Reserve service? Firstly, it demonstrated individual Reservist's commitment to their community, states and nation. With no formal readiness notice, or rehearsed notice to move, the ADF had a functioning and effective HQ and JOR operating within 72hrs.

Secondly, it showed the loyalty and commitment of the 2nd DIV and Reserve Brigade command elements. There was a call to Reservists through the chain of command, specifically to those who found themselves without employment due to COVID, advising there was a role for them to play. To the reservists, it provided a great learning environment and the ability to provide value to a unique operation.

The Future of 2nd DIV. Reservists from the 2nd DIV proved themselves to be a valuable asset in a range of tasks. Under recent Plan Beersheba initiatives, and later Plan Keogh, they have been supporting the Combat Brigades as the Reinforcing Battle Group (RBG) for several years. They have been able to respond quickly to domestic operations and continue to be the enabler of the Total Work Force Model as soldiers and officers' transition in and out of the full-time force.

The new norm – 2nd Division achieving an 'Army in Motion'. The Combat Brigades are often distracted from their traditional war fighting role by DACC during their RTS FGC. In my opinion, this is where Reservists can further reduce the burden on the Combat Brigades. The model below depicts the potential future breadth of Reserve tasks. This focus of this model is weighted towards domestic operations, with traditional war fighting still present but not the main effort.



What does this mean for RAEME in the 2nd DIV. RAEME Corps personnel need to be thinking about more than just their ECN or trade skills. The tasks and planning required under JTG629.3 proved to be very different. Army needs people who are nimble, critical thinkers and can adapt to fluids situations, where no SOPs exist. Regardless of rank, these personnel need to be able to influence senior members of other government, public or private agencies and organisations.

Specifically, the Reserve Forces need SNCOs and junior officers that have the courage to step out of their comfort zone and not “hide their light under a bushel”. The Defence Force more widely needs Reserve leaders who are willing to leverage skills from their civilian roles, careers, and education.

The lessons learned highlight the potential, agility and flexibility needed from our Reserve personnel, and the lived experience on the COVID-19 JTG, demonstrated an Army in Motion, with change being the only constant.

Reid Ossington

Captain

J35B | JTG629.3 | QLD

Jacka Coy | QUR | QLD



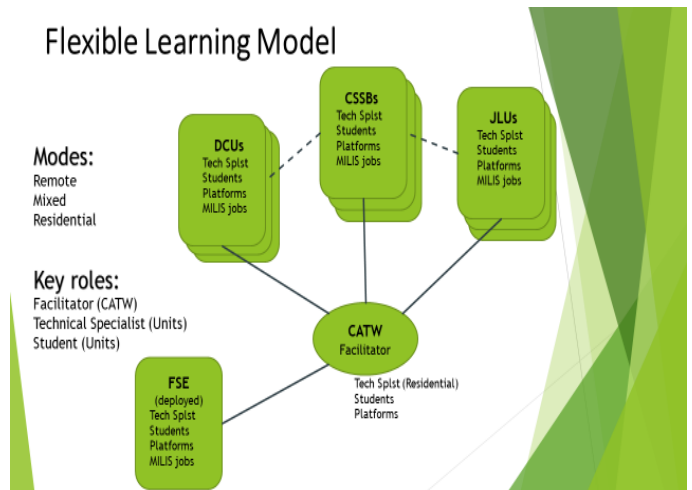
NEWS FROM THE ARMY SCHOOL OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING (ASEME)

Training Transformation – Flexible Learning Model Program (a systematic approach to flexible learning for Defence technicians). As per the Chief of Army’s guidance in “Army in Motion”, modernising our training system plays a vital role to be Future Ready. Therefore in February 2020, Career and Advanced Training Wing (CATW) developed the Flexible Learning Model (FLM) in partnership with Wodonga TAFE to optimise CATW’s courses. CATW as part of Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering delivers 30 different courses to the RAEME and other Defence technicians, including Basic Recovery courses, advanced recovery courses, specialist equipment maintenance, Subject 4 RAEME courses, RAEME Induction Training, etc.

The FLM. This model provides three options for student technicians to complete specialist equipment maintenance courses – traditionally run as residential courses at CATW – as follows:

- **Remote** – students complete the course in their unit locations, using locally available resources and online learning material developed and controlled by CATW.
- **Mixed** – students complete some aspects of the course remotely and the rest by attending a residential course at CATW.

- **Residential** – students complete the course residentially at CATW.



Key Roles. The specific roles of facilitators, technical specialists and students on these courses are critical to success as follows:

- **Facilitator** – CATW staff members facilitate the remote learning by liaising with the student and Technical Specialist in all units throughout the course.
- **Technical Specialist (TS)** – this is a qualified technician in each unit, with technical authority, to conduct maintenance on the specialist equipment. The TS will supervise students on maintenance tasks similar to on-the-job training.
- **Student** – ADF or Defence partners (Broadspectrum, Wodonga TAFE, NZDF, Fiji DF, etc.) requiring proficiency in the conduct of maintenance on specialist equipment.

Critically, this new model engages learners in online learning content and remote practical demonstrations of proficiency. It also involves a web-based learner management system (ADELE and Skills-Tracker) that ensures a rigorous process of evidence gathering by the students themselves, TS and Facilitators.

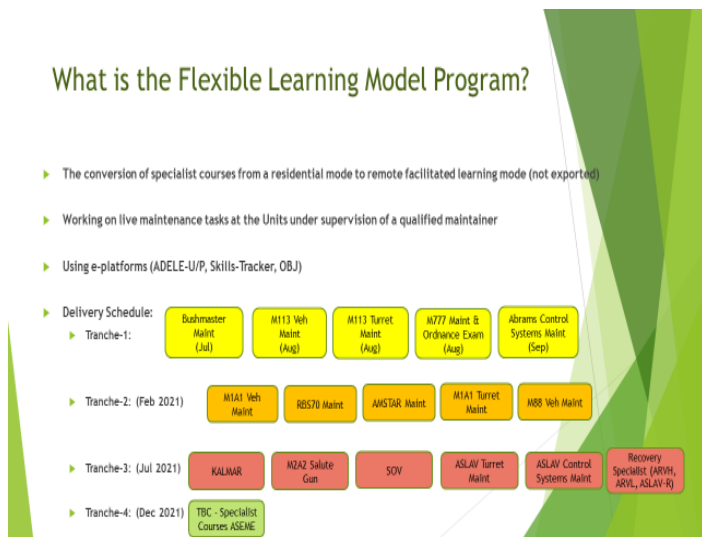
CATW Careers’ cell has also quickly switched programs and developed full-time and Reservist Subject 4 promotion courses on ADELE using the 10-12 weeks COVID-19 pause, without any prior online course development or delivery experience. Subject 4 RAEME promotion courses have now transitioned to the remote facilitated learning mode. The first course delivered using ADELE and GovTeams is the Subject 4 Corporal course, commenced on 25th May, followed by Subject 4 Warrant Officer on 29th June and Subject 4 Sergeant on 7th July.

Key benefits. The following benefits have been derived from this initiative:

- Students remain in their respective units to complete courses remotely while working on maintenance tasks available locally, or when deployed on EX or OPS.
- Course durations are flexible and can be completed remotely – sometime the courses are up to three times longer, although allowance exists to complete courses much quicker if necessary.
- Potentially increase DTR by removing constraints related to residential aspects.
- The CATW still controls the course via the Facilitator by providing quality assurance, assessments, online learning material and tracking tools – ADELE and Skills-tracker.
- Significant travel related cost savings for Defence e.g. \$175,000 per annum for 5x M113 residential courses and \$1.2 million per annum for the Subject four courses.

As a pilot project using FLM, the M113 AS4 vehicle maintenance course was trialled and delivered by July 2020. A program management approach was taken with projects earmarked for delivery after the trial mainly due to existing training delivery commitments. However the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 forced all ALTC residential non-essential training to be paused and provided the FLM program an opportunity to accelerate by trialling more courses. Funding was approved to trial six courses (projects) as Tranche-1 to be delivered between July and September 2020. Further two tranches are currently being scoped for delivery in 2021.

Vision: The FLM program aims to ultimately have all CATW courses delivered remotely as shown in the schematic below.



Abu-Shankar Babu (Babs)
MAJOR
OC CATW
ASEME



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OJT Cell, Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (Brisbane). Like everywhere, 2020 has been an interesting time for the Brisbane OJT Cell. We started our year with the usual round of compulsory training, PT, lectures and training updates. As the trainees started their yearly detachments, COVID-19 took hold and effectively changed everything.



CFN Robert-Spring ECN 418 being awarded “Trainee of the Year”

The decision was made to suspend civilian outplacements for a few months. This saw the trainees remaining in military units. While this was initially great for command and control, with no units going bush, nothing being broken and a lack of repair parts, live technical repairs across all of the ground trades were becoming harder to find. In addition, many units were working a reduced roster, which meant the trainees would “work” from home every other week – I can’t recall the name of the Netflix series on MILIS, welding or ASLAV repairs but the trainees certainly seemed busy on their “off” weeks!



Greasers just like it dirty!

Amongst all the border closures and shut-downs, the flow of trainees graduating in and out of OJT, did not slow

(albeit with a 14-compulsory isolation). Our trainees have continued to complete their technical training and be posted to reinforce the three Combat Brigades. With COVID restrictions in QLD now eased, the trainees are now back completing their civilian and military detachments.



WO2 Nicholas Shaw
TTMO

MEMBERSHIP OF THE RAEME ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND (RAQ).

I am pleased to report that membership of the RAQ has continued to grow sustainably in the past 12 months and this is a testament to loyalty of our Corps members and suggests they value the benefits of RAQ membership outlined below.

Membership is available in 2 categories:

- Life Membership is \$100.00 – a one-off payment on joining.
- Annual Membership is \$10.00 – paid on joining and then at 30 June each year.

Membership can be paid by either PayPal or EFT, when filling out the membership application form on the RAQ website. On becoming a member, new members receive a welcome letter and RAQ Badge. Other benefits include:

- Receipt of “Friday Files”, our weekly newsletter, detailing activities in RAEME units in QLD, as well as historical articles and reminders of upcoming events.
- Receipt of “Spanner News”, a tri-yearly newsletter covering the wider happenings in RAEME and other interesting stories.
- Member-only discounts on RAQ merchandise – all of which can be purchased on-line.
- Member-only discounts to ANZAC Day functions, Gold Coast Luncheon, Sunshine Coast Luncheon, RAEME Birthday Luncheon and approved functions in North Queensland.
- Complementary Life Membership to Mermaid Beach (AEME) Surf Lifesaving Club.

Members are also encouraged to attend RAQ monthly meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month (except January) at the Kedron Wavell RSL, commencing at 1730hrs. All attendees are invited to enjoy a meal and good fellowship.

With North Queensland association coming under the auspices of RAQ, those members who were previously Life Members of North Queensland are now deemed to be Life Members of RAQ and receive the benefits of such Membership.

Spanner News

This edition of “Spanner News” features 102 Fd Wksp. It is a timely reminder for serving and ex-serving members in north Queensland, to attend any “Spanner Club” gatherings in the Townsville. So if you know of any serving or ex-serving RAEME members who have not joined this great association please urge them to join.

In the meantime stay safe, practice social distancing and we will all come out of this together.



Kingsley Pocock
Membership Member
membership@qld.raeme.org.au

COMING EVENTS IN QUEENSLAND

The RAQ Events Team has published the following events chart, while acknowledging that many events are already cancelled, and others have been deferred or cancelled – keep abreast of our annual program on the RAQ Friday Files or this link: <http://www.qld.raeme.org.au>

EVENT	DATE
RAEME CMF/RESERVE REUNION - INDOOROOPILLY / SHERWOOD RSL SUB BRANCH	Deferred – see details below
SUNSHINE COAST LUNCH - MAROOCHY RSL	12 SEP 20
183 RECCE FLIGHT REUNION MOOLOOLABA SLSC	CANCELLED
ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOC REUNION – MAROOCHY RSL	CANCELLED
ALL RANKS LUNCHEON – BRISBANE, PORT OFFICE HOTEL	29 NOV 20

RAEME CMF/Reserve Reunion - Indooroopilly / Sherwood RSL Sub Branch. As Chairman of the Committee, I thought that I would advise fellow ex and serving RAEME Reservists, that once the current CORONA VIRUS situation eases, the Committee will discuss the possibility of having a Reunion later in the year.

We had cancelled it because of the restrictions, and the venue was also closed at that stage. I am hopeful that our Committee Meeting will occur in middle July, and we can make a decision on a new date for the event – we will let you know the outcome. Please look after yourselves.



Ian Leabeater
Chairman Reserve Committee
iwleabeater@bigpond.com

RAQ Sunshine Coast Annual Luncheon. Given the easing of COVID 19 Restrictions, the RAEME Association Queensland (RAQ), Sunshine Coast Annual Luncheon is proceeding and will be held at the Maroochy RSL on Saturday 12 SEP 20. The luncheon this year is of particular importance as it will provide most, if not all attendees, the opportunity after many months of being “confined to barracks”, to collectively celebrate surviving the pandemic and the reduction to social restrictions.

LTCOL Colin Lingo, CO 7CSSB, will be guest speaker this year. Colin commanded a composite Battle Group during OPERATION BUSHFIRE ASSIST, the ADF's contribution to relief efforts to civilian communities during and after the devastating fires in NSW and Vic in late 2019 and early 2020 and is now back supporting the Victorian government with its current crisis.

Lunch Details. Important details to remember include the following:

- **Venue** – Room M4 Maroochy RSL, corner Memorial and First Avenues, Maroochydore.
- **Timings** – 1200 for 1230 hours on Saturday 12 September 2020.
- **Dress** – Neat casual.
- **Menu** – The menu will be a little up-market to previous years. Meals will be served as ‘alternate drop’. Please advise when making reservations of any special dietary needs.
- **Drinks** – The bar opens at 1200 hours and drinks can be purchased at attendee's own expense.
- **Parking** - Free parking is available in the multi-floor car park directly opposite the RSL.
- **Reserve a Seat(s).** Function reservation details will be set up on the RAQ website and the booking and payment for tickets may be made through this medium. Please note that attendance is limited to only 78 guests, so get in early. The cost of the lunch is \$43.00 per head for RAQ members, including their partners, and \$48.00 per head for non-members. Procedures for both are detailed on the RAQ website. If there is any difficulty booking or paying on the website, please email the Webmaster at: webmaster@qld.raeme.org.au

If preference is not to use the website to book then please contact our Treasurer, Steve Howells, at treasurer@qld.raeme.org.au or call him on 0400 850 396.

All bookings need to be made and paid for by COB 3 Sep 20 as numbers need to be confirmed with the venue administration by that date.

Please note, due to COVID restrictions there will be a limit of six persons per table this year. Other

Government mandated COVID rules that will be applied by the RSL will be advised closer to the event.

Notwithstanding, attendees are encouraged to make up a table of friends and enjoy the day within the ‘social distancing’ rules. If you do wish to request specific seating, or arrange that table of friends, please email us at: commschair@qld.raeme.org.au.

Arte et Marte

Ross Grant & Mike Prain
RAQ Sunshine Coast Chap



Army Apprentices Association 2020 Reunion – Maroochydore RSL 23-25 Oct 20. Ladies and gents, it is with much regret that I have to inform you that the reunion at Maroochydore has been cancelled. This is due to the uncertain times with the Coronavirus causing problems with the venue, air lines and land travel. If you were an attendee, a full refund is available and will be made to a bank account of your choice. Please reply with that account details and please indicate if you wish to donate any monies to the memorial.

R. Pike
AAA Inc
Treasurer
M 0413 155 106

treasurer@austarmyapprentice.org



RAEME Association Queensland – Darling Downs (RAQ-DD) FUNCTION. Members may remember an inaugural RAQ-DD function, planned for 21 Mar 20, had to be postponed due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. I would like to advise members that it is still my intention to run the function as soon as COVID-19 restrictions permit, but this is unlikely to be before early 2021.

In the meantime, anyone (serving or ex-serving) wishing to discuss RAEME-related matters situated in the Darling Downs region, or obtain RAEME memorabilia please contact me, as follows:

Pete Pile MAJ
OPSO RAMS & RRR
RAMS
peter.pile@defence.gov.au



Postponement of 183 Recce Flt Reunion Mooloolaba 20-21 OCT 20. A decision has been reached by our Reunion committee to postpone the October event due to the uncertain times with the spread of Kovid-19. Our members in Victoria and some areas of

NSW are already affected with restrictions that add to the uncertainty.

We realize the inconvenience of our decision but the call had to be made sooner than later. We are well aware many people have made arrangements such as travel and accommodation but some have indicated that regardless they will take the opportunity to enjoy their planned visit to the Sunshine Coast. My wife and I have also made the decision to have a week at Mooloolaba.

As far as the 183 Reunion goes, your committee is already making plans for 2021. At this point, we are not sure of dates, but too much work has been already done towards having a Reunion before age takes control. At present the October Reunion is only a postponement.

Dave Williams
Organiser

EVENT REPORTS

NQ Function - Tiny Mountain Brewery. Around 40 members and guests attended the first post-COVID Lock-down Function on Saturday 11 Jul 20. Tiny Mountain Brewery Townsville is very well situated in the heart of town and having exclusive access added to the success of the day. With plenty of beer on tap, everyone was able to mingle "socially distancing" of course!



Members and Guests enjoying the function at Tiny Mountain Brewery



Members and Guests enjoying the function at Tiny Mountain Brewery

This is the first of what will be hopefully more functions this year. We look forward to catching up with you at an event soon, so please consider supporting the Association and also the venues involved. A big thank you to our Committee in Townsville Doug, Mick, Tank and Brian for organising the function, and of course Tiny Mountain Brewery for hosting the afternoon for the NQ members.



Members and Guests enjoying the function at Tiny Mountain Brewery

If you have any questions at all about the RAQ in North Qld, please drop us an email at:

north@qld.raeme.org.au

RAQ Gold Coast Lunch 13th July 2020. The Gold Coast lunch was held at the Mermaid Beach AEME Surf Life Saving Club [MB AEME SLSC] on 13th July with 64 guests doing their very best Arte et Marte impressions. It is not generally known these Latin words broadly translate into 64 people skilfully fighting the COVID 19 enemy so they could sit on a sunny veranda of the Surf Club in the middle of a Queensland winter and have a beer, good club tucker and generally re-engage with friends and colleagues.



Lunch attendees included locals and regulars along for the day, but we also had about half a dozen new faces. In addition, we had people from the Sunshine Coast, a couple from Toowoomba, a couple from Ipswich and a few down from Brisbane – so word is getting out that the place to be in mid-July each year for lunch is MBSLSC.

Most of us are aware the club was started by AEME Diggers from Brisbane in 1945, and while RAEME celebrated its 75th year three years ago, it is now the turn of the Surf Club to celebrate this milestone. There have been ongoing discussions with the RAQ and the event organiser from the club, so the RAQ is aware of what's happening, but the COVID pandemic has thrown a spanner in the works [a pretty apt AEME / RAEME metaphor I would think] in that the club's plans for 2020 celebrations have been put on hold.

Clive Burrows, the Surf Club representative guiding the 75-year plans, has been encouraged to keep us all regularly informed via the Friday Files of progress in relation to a very important part of RAEME history generally, and Queensland history, in particular.

This summary would not be complete if it was not mentioned that at the lunch we had Bert Barker, our 98-year-old WW2 original founding member of AEME, and a past COL COMDT RAEME in Queensland, showing us all up with his good health - an amazing bloke.

So, in summary we had a good roll up, a very pleasant afternoon, with great weather, and for a time CV19 seemed to be an airline flight number, or something else. See you all next year.

Eddie “Beans” Bevans
Barry “Bazza” Skinner
Gold Coast Convenors



OPERATION SPANNER PACK. In recent months, we have received two letters of thanks from our friends and colleagues in the Afghanistan – the first from BRIG Ed Smeaton and his team in Kabul; the second from FLT SGT Ah Chow, a “RAAF Guy” working with some of our RAEME colleagues in the ME. All were appreciative of the RNA for its latest distribution of Spanner Packs.

Sadly, the Spanner Packs' team, who were preparing to despatch another 75 Spanner Packs, had to curtail its activities, owing indirectly to the current pandemic, but specifically, because the normal source of items for the packs, wasn't able to provide most of our needs. Therefore the RAQ will not be sending any more packs until the supply chain can provide the necessary “goodies” which are popular with our troops on operations.

Spanner News

We will rectify the situation as soon as we can and apologise for the current situation. For readers, who may wish to assist, please note we do need your help, so if you can donate items, or money, please visit the Online Shop on the RAEME Association Queensland (RAQ) Website at www.qld.raeme.org.au where you will find a “make a donation” tag.

Arte et Marte

Raymond Norman
RNN Spanner Pack Co Coordinator
RNN@qld.raeme.org.au



NEWS FROM AFGHANISTAN



Pictured at the Hamid Karzai International Airport (HKIA), RAEME personnel currently serving in Kabul – L to R MAJ Ben Cody, COL Steve Cleggett, BRIG Ed Smeaton, CPL David Seymour, MAJ Jason Squires

First Letter from BRIG Smeaton. Serving in a variety of roles, MAJ Ben Cody will shortly conclude his tour as the J1/4 advisor on the Kabul Garrison Command-Advisor Team 6, COL Steve Cleggett has recently arrived as the Commander what is now the Kabul Joint Command-Advisor Team 7, responsible for advising an Afghan Operational level HQ providing security within Kabul; BRIG Ed Smeaton is the Deputy Branch Head Operational Sustainment in the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan (CSTC-A) and also the Commander of Australian Forces in Afghanistan; CPL David Seymour is the VM attached to the Australian Task Group HQ and is responsible for keeping the fleet of PMVs and Up-armoured SUVs at HKIA on the road ; MAJ Jason Squires works in CSTC-A and provides oversight of a maintenance contract supporting over 100,000 vehicles of the Afghan National Defense and Security Force and for building self-reliance within their integral capability.

Second Letter from FLT SGT Ah Chow – the RAAF Guy follows.

RAEME Association Queensland Inc

“Greetings Sir,

I want to pass on my personal thanks to you for my Spanner Pack care package just provided to me in theatre. It is such a kind gesture to see peers from home from our trade background banding together to support each other.

I must declare it was even more comforting to see that RAEME peers consider me part of their team. I am a “RAAF Guy”; however, I have been a mechanic for over 27 years and will clock up 20 years in the Air Force this coming August, whilst on deployment.

I have always enjoyed the banter between the services and revelled in the camaraderie, irrelevant of the colour of uniform. This for me was even more relevant with your generous care package.

I hope this email finds you well and I trust you can enjoy a beer on my behalf. Take care and kind regards,

Chow

Tony Ah Chow
Flight Sergeant (E8)
SNCOIC MEOMS
Expeditionary Airbase Operations Unit (TG 633.17)

VALE

It is with deep regret that we advise of the following:

- **Fraser**, Angus (Gus) Robert passed away 7 Apr 20. He served in the LAD 1st Fd Regt in Vietnam from Apr 66 until Apr 67.
- **Larard**, Peter “Mo” (18th VM) passed away 8 Apr 20 after a long illness. Peter served in the Army aviation capability starting at RAAF Base Amberley QLD, followed by service in Malaya with 182 Recce Flight and then PNG with 183 Recce Flight.
- **Forster**, Kevin Francis (28th VM) passed away peacefully in Brisbane on 16 Apr 20, after a long battle with cancer.
- **Windsor**, Brian Richard LTCOL (Retd) (9th VM) passed away at John Flynn Hospital, Tugun, Qld 27 Apr 20. Brian was the Apprentice RSM of the Army Apprentices School. Later, he was OC of 28 Inf Bn Wksp in Malaysia 1965, OC of Det 1st Div S & T Wksp Vietnam 1968, CO 2 Base Wksp Bn 1975 and CDEME HQ 2 Div EME 1989.
- **Simmons**, WO1 Maxwell Raymond (Retd) (19th VM), passed peacefully although suddenly in his sleep at home 3 May 20. Max served as a Corporal VM with 1st ATF HQ LAD 23 Sep 70 - 09 Feb 71.
- **Irwin**, LTCOL Ronald Frank (Retd) (10th VM) and OCS Class Jun 63, passed away in Launceston, TAS on 6 May 20, aged 82 years. Ron served in South

Vietnam as OC 5 Coy RAASC Wksp 30 Jul 70 – 29 Jul 71.

- **Hazell**, Stephen (Stretch) Ellis, passed away on 21 Mar 20, after a good fight with a fatal blood disease. Stretch served in SVN with 1st Fwd Del Tp from 21 Jan 69–13 Aug 70.
- **McAndrews**, “Bluey”, passed away at age 91, on 8 Jun 20. He was an original AEME tradesman who was part of the unit that took over from the US Army at Bulimba Barracks in 1945.
- **Morse**, Ernest Frederick “Jim”, late of Capalaba, passed away, 18 Jul 20, aged 83 years. Jim served in both CMF and Regular Army.

WELFARE

RAQ has been advised of the following:

- **Stevenson**, Derek, had a total knee replacement operation on 4 Jun 20. All seems to have gone well.
- **Benfield**, Frank (18th VM), ex-161 Recce Flt SVN, ex-183 Recce Flt PNG, diagnosed with a brain tumour, completed chemo and radiation early June, but has been re-admitted several times for additional treatment. Now receiving extra care at home.
- **Reus**, Pieter, “Fred” WO1 (19th F&T) ex-161 Recce Flt SVN, ex-183 Recce Flt PNG, diagnosed with bladder cancer in Mar 20 has undergone surgery and is recovering at home and improving each day.
- **Hoare**, Rocky MAJ (Retd) (18th F&T) has recently had an aortic valve replacement. He is now tracking really well and looking forward to getting back to work as soon as this COVID allows.
- **Pooley**, Harry has been unwell and is currently in Wesley Hospital in Brisbane after being diagnosed with lymphoma.
- **Homer**, Eddie, MAJ (Retd) (15th Plumber) has been battling cancer and was being treated at the Wesley, Brisbane, Now recovering at home at Agnes Waters with immune therapy treatment. Half way through his time in hospital, the neurologist diagnosed Parkinson's Disease. To date Ed has not experienced too many adverse effects.

Please advise me of any brethren and sisters in distress accurately and in a timely way. Please email me at the following address with detail of welfare matters in Queensland.

Barry Shipway
Welfare Officer

welfare@qld.raeme.org.au



DFWA AND DVA MATTERS

COVID Impacts on Discharges Process. COVID has restricted some activities concerning current and former ADF members. For example, all ADF Transition Seminars for 2020 have been cancelled, thereby reducing some key information support to personnel leaving the ADF. The ADF is trying to arrange “virtual seminars” to replace these seminars and are encouraging those voluntarily discharging to postpone discharge. The availability of jobs now and post COVID is likely to be a real issue. DFWA has asked ADF whether they are also allowing a bit more flexibility with compulsory medical discharges in this period where the most vulnerable are being discharged without the normal Transition support readily available. No response as yet.

Taxation of Invalidity Benefits. The three veterans who challenged the taxation of Class A and Class B Invalidity Benefits paid by DFRDB and MSBS superannuation schemes had a win at the Administrative Appeal Tribunal in March. Justice Logan voiced a stinging rebuke of the tax regime, and the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation of the treatment of the veterans during the hearings. The ATO has now appealed the AAT decision to a full bench of the Federal Court, likely to be heard later this year. DFWA thinks this will go to an eventual High Court appeal whichever side wins in the Federal Court. DFWA advises all veterans receiving or who have received a Class A and Class B to register objections to previous tax assessments and seek professional financial advice. See the DFWA website for full details.

ADF Remuneration. A new Workplace Remuneration Arrangement setting the pay for ADF members (and those veterans receiving DVA Incapacity payments under MRCA) is due this year. In view of the COVID situation this process has been postponed 6 months. 2% a year for the next 3 years is proposed. DFWA as an Authorized Intervener at the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal, is seeking opinion from serving members. We are also monitoring the planned review of charges, e.g. MQ rentals, to ensure that restraint in the pay area by members is mirrored in the “charges” area by Defence.

Healthy Heart Program. This important communication may benefit you. You may or may not have heard of the DVA funded 12-month general health and fitness program called the “Heart Health Program”. The program has been assisting returned veterans and peacekeepers and peacemakers with operational service to improve or maintain their general health, fitness and wellbeing for close to 20 years.

Run on behalf of the DVA by Corporate Health Management, the program aims to help participants

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increase their physical health and wellbeing through practical exercise support and advice. The program provides an exercise resource that will assist participants to exercise as one prefers each week and then provide 12 months of health coaching on healthy lifestyle choices provided by one of our team of highly qualified allied. To check your eligibility visit: <http://www.veteranshearthealth.com.au/eligibility/>

If you would like further information, or want to discuss the program, please call 1300 246 262, or email hearthealth@chm.com.au

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

In recent weeks, the RAQ organisations in a number of places have taken their first steps into the new world of functions and events in the post-COVID world in Queensland. The NQ association led the way with their visit to the Tiny Mountain Brewery. They were followed by the Gold Coast chapter with their annual lunch at the Mermaid Beach (AEME) Surf Life Saving Club, which had a record attendance of 65 people at their 10 Jul 20 event; and on 1 Aug 20 the RAQ in Brisbane will hold its “Post COVID Lunch at our traditional water-hole, the Port Office Hotel, with the HOC, BRIG Ashurst in attendance.

Finally, the Sunshine Coast annual lunch is to be held on 12 Sep 20 at the Maroochy RSL, where the management have been prescriptive, but very helpful, in ensuring we can accommodate the requirements of COVID restrictions, but allowing our members to enjoy these events with good mates, friends and families.

This is now the reality for managing our events and it behoves all of us to accept our responsibilities for complying with the now normal social distancing requirements, while helping venue staff as much as possible. I have attended two of these functions and there was a pleasing social vibe to be experienced, while trying to do the right thing. I think we can take some comfort in Queensland that most of us have been doing the right thing, but acknowledging the State has been very lucky as well, to date.

As this bumper edition goes to print, I am humbled by the support I receive from all contributors, especially the feature article on 102 Fd Wksp – thank you all. If you have ideas for another feature article – please get in touch. And I will organise the theme and content.

Ross Grant
Chairman Comms Committee

commschair@qld.raeme.org.au



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Information as to the origins of the RAEME Billy Cart races held during RAEME Birthday celebrations and other events.

- When did the idea come from?
- Where were they first held - what unit?
- There are a variety of races – does anyone have any good pictures (old and new) or video clips?

I need this info for our next exhibition at the Army Museum Brisbane entitled "Sport in the Army". Please contact me at the email below:

Kingsley Pocock
Membership Member



membership@qld.raeme.org.au



Can anyone identify the people in this photo and where it was taken?

STOP PRESS!



Eddie Bevans is presented with a Chairman's Award in July 2020 at the MCSLC for outstanding service and contribution to the success of the RAQ Gold Coast Chapter & promoting the Esprit de Corps as co-convenor of the Annual Gold Coast Luncheon.

\$25 OFF*

RACQ batteries

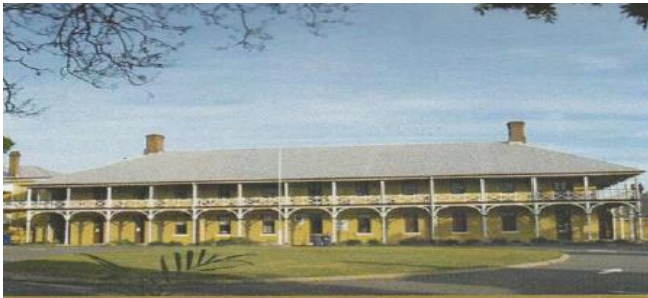
*\$25 rebate on the purchase of any RACQ battery. Rebate is valid for QLD RAEME ASSC members only. Rebate is for the battery only. Redemption is to RACQ Batteries PO Box 4 Springwood QLD 4127. Member must post this voucher and a copy of the tax invoice from either the RACQ or the RACQ battery stockist clearly indicating the name of the supplier, battery part number, your name, address and ASSC member number only. A cheque will be posted to the address supplied. Voucher is valid for batteries purchased 1 May 2020 - 30 April 2021 and must be used by 30 June 2021.

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“WITH SKILL AND FIGHTING: CRAFTSMEN OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY 1942-2014”.

For those yet to buy the Corps memoir, here is detail on how to obtain a copy. It may also be a great Christmas gift for someone who has served in the Corps. The Corps RSM, WO1 Richard Colefax, and the acting SO2 Corps Heritage, WO1 Reinhold Dekrell, are managing sales, so the best way to secure a copy is to go to:

<http://www.raeme.org.au> , click on “Shop” and then click on the photo of the book’s cover.

‘To purchase a book, you will need to make a deposit of \$40.00 by electronic transfer to the following account:

RAEME Corps Fund

BSB – 833205

Acct – 20509705

Once payment is made, please send an email to:

RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au and add the CC address of WO1 Dekrell, reinhold.dekrell1@defence.gov.au , together with proof of payment (a scanned receipt of deposit), point of contact details and an up to date delivery address. The HOC Cell will distribute the book upon confirmation of payment.’

Note: In the electronic transfer and proof of payment reference field, please include your surname and phone number. Please retain a copy of the deposit transaction, or ask your bank for a receipt, and then send a scanned copy to: RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au .

In the email, please ensure you include your name, delivery address and contact phone number. Should you have any queries, please contact the HOC Cell directly on **(02) 6055 2274**, prior to ordering. Books should be despatched within 28 days of ordering and every effort will be made to

ANNOUNCING A NEW RAQ PRODUCT – RAEME BADGE CLOTH PATCHES



These new cloth patches have our Corps Badge embroidered onto a Navy-Blue Background.

Dimensions are 90mm High x 70 mm Wide

Pricing as follows:

\$9 each OR

\$8 each - for RAQ Financial Members

Click on the image above to view the details.

The items are listed for sale on the online shop with shipping options from \$3.25 available

For RAQ Members don't forget to login to get you reduced pricing.