

Edition 7 – July 2004

Of, By and For RAEME People in Queensland"

## SPANNER NEWS

### FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE RAEME ASSOCIATION - QLD

It goes without saying that the organisers of the RAEME Gathering and Association ANZAC Day did a tremendous job as evidenced by the turn up by RAEME members past and present, including many partners from all over Australia and some from overseas. Congratulations to the organisers but most accolades must go to you all that came along to celebrate and remember their mates, the Association wishes to thank you all for the tremendous efforts made by many to be at the various activities and make them all a roaring success. More to follow on this subject later in this newsletter.

I wish to thank all of the current committee for their efforts and support throughout the year in keeping the Association on track for another successful and productive membership year. Most of the committee are working folk and without the volunteer work by them, the Association would find it difficult to operate as efficiently as it does. As always many hands make light work, so if you can help the Association in any way, please let it be known, as you would be most welcome on our great team.

Some Committee are stepping down this year for a variety of reasons. They are Leo Galligan from Chair of the Communications Committee, but staying on the committee to continue the excellent job as Webmaster. Ross Grant as Editor, Ross and Leonie are off to the UK later in the year (August), we will all miss his stewardship, guidance, leadership, professionalism and mateship to all that know him. Ross and Leonie have a great stay in the UK and thank you both from all within the Association and the wider RAEME community. Phil Bond resigns as Chair of the Promotion Committee; he started our Association Corps Shop with the introduction of the very popular RAEME Cap the first item to be stocked by the Association. As most will know, Phil was the driving force behind the RAEME gathering, thanks for your efforts Phil. Rob Sawford as Secretary, although reluctant to step aside from this important position Rob has always given the Association his best efforts when time permitted. Rob will remain on the committee in a less time demanding position. Rob is very busy with his day job and the Army Reserve and felt he should step aside at this time to spend more time with family and in the best interests of the Association, thank you Rob.

The Association RAEME Officers Inaugural Dinner was very successfully held at the United Service Club Brisbane on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2004. The Head of Corps Brig David McGahey was the special guest speaker. Thanks must go to Capt Tony Scott for organising this inaugural dinner. Once again many friends had an opportunity to catch up and socialise. This dinner will become an annual event around this time of the year.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> August 2004 the Warrant Officers and Senior Non Commissioned Officers (WO's/SNCO's) Dinner will be held at

Enoggera 1<sup>st</sup> Division Sergeants Mess. All present and past WO's/SNCO's are encouraged to attend. Contact Greg Riley for further details 32818188.

- Chairman and Membership Committee – Ray Norman on H 07 5476 6254, or email at [norford.1@bigpond.com](mailto:norford.1@bigpond.com)
- Deputy Chairman – LTCOL Anthony McWatters [Anthony.McWatters@defence.gov.au](mailto:Anthony.McWatters@defence.gov.au)
- Secretary – Gary Sargent on 07 33414378 or email at [sargent1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sargent1@optusnet.com.au)
- Deputy Secretary – Greg Riley on 07 3281 8188 or email [gkr49@iprimus.com.au](mailto:gkr49@iprimus.com.au)
- Treasurer – Andrew Nicolson on 07 3233 4333 or email at [Andrew.Nicolson@defence.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Nicolson@defence.gov.au)
- Deputy Treasurer – Tony Hickey on 07 3851 4794 or email at [AOhickey@bigpond.com](mailto:AOhickey@bigpond.com)

**Raymond G. Norman OAM**  
Chairman RAEME Association – Queensland

**RAEME Craftsman Articles** – Always welcome and needed. Please forward your stories to MAJOR Rod Bolt, SO2 Corps Heritage, Bandiana, ASAP. His contact details are on the top of page 4.

### From the Membership Desk

I am very pleased to report that membership has continued to grow at a steady pace and the Association enjoys a lot of support from both past and current serving members of the Corps. It is particularly pleasing to hear on various grapevines that the membership is pleased with their involvement and association with the Queensland Corps Association.

A reminder to all Annual fee paying members that fees are now due for the 04/05 membership year and should be paid to the Treasurer, PO Box 11 Cannon Hill, 4170, QLD by the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2004.

If you wish to become a member you can contact the Membership Chairman on 54766254 or [norford.1@bigpond.com](mailto:norford.1@bigpond.com) or membership form available at [www.raemeqld.org](http://www.raemeqld.org) at any time and he will be only too pleased to help you out.

I would ask that all current members encourage a mate to join; this would greatly assist in the development of the Association and would be one way of doing your bit to assist the Corps and Association.

**Raymond G. Norman OAM**  
Chairman Membership Committee

## **“WADAWEEKEND RAEME”**

The ANZAC Day weekend 2004 in Brisbane was truly a memorable and historic RAEME occasion. Over the three days, and at various venues, over five hundred and fifty members of the Corps celebrated the Fifty Fifth Anniversary of the granting of the title “ROYAL”, to the then AEME Corps, which subsequently became the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, RAEME.

There was much back slapping and hugs as old mates reunited and lots of lies told as usual. The atmosphere between young and old, serving and retired and old friends and acquaintances was something special to experience and remember. As the organizers observed, “Everyone got on like a house on fire”. This was a “true blue” feeling between mates of like minds, with many experiences to recall about their time in the Corps.

The activity, “The Gathering of RAEME”, the brain child of a couple of guys know to many as Phil “Budda” Bond and Frank Maloney, started with the registration of hundreds of members of the Corps, who came together on Friday the 23 Apr 04, at the Kedron Wavell Services Club. They came from all points of the compass around Australia and some from overseas. The following day many attended a BBQ lunch at Enoggera, before attending a dinner dance that evening, back at the Services Club, for about three hundred and seventy RAEME personnel and their partners.

The next day, ANZAC Day, saw many attend Dawn Services around Brisbane. The climax came later in the morning as the visitors assembled for the RAEME Association ANZAC Day March through the streets of Brisbane. The RAEME contingent consisted of a Guard of one hundred and twenty uniformed soldiers from RAEME Units from Oakey and Enoggera, guarding the Corps Royal Banner. The Corps Royal Banner Escort included the Corps Regimental Sergeant Major, Warrant Officer Class One Tibor Fekete. Six uniformed soldiers from ASGW Oakey escorted the RAEME Association Banner.

This contingent was followed by the Army Band Queensland, ensuring the three hundred and sixty, mostly retired RAEME members following the Corps and Association Banners, not only kept in step but swung down Adelaide Street, with pride and strength. This group was commanded by the Representative Colonel Commandant RAEME, Brig Ross Grant AM, and Colonel Commandant Queensland Region, COL B. Titcume. The contingent consisted of all ranks, young and old; ex-regulars, ex-Reservists and ex-national servicemen, ex-apprentices and adult-tradesmen and family members. The total contingent marching exceeded five hundred and thirty, probably a record number of RAEME personnel on parade, as a formed body, since the presentation of the Corps Banner.

At the conclusion of the march, most marchers continued the celebrations with a long lunch at the Port Office Hotel, which is becoming a favourite watering-hole for RAEME ANZAC Day Marchers on ANZAC day.

Congratulations on the success of the day must go to the organizers, who laboured long and hard, but also to those who participated in the activities from all over Australia. As the Representative Colonel Commandant said in a speech to the dinner/dance guests on the night before the ANZAC Day March: “My job is to unite the members of the Corps, past and present, and look for ways to celebrate the Corps’ achievements, whether

they be the achievements of previous generations, or recent successes and traditions, stemming from the current generation. Events and activities, like the RAEME Gathering, make my job easy and continue to fill me with pride at what we as a Corps can do.”

## **CFN JOHNSTONE - Winner of Work Skills National Competition**

You may have already seen on the front page of Army CFN Tim Johnstone VM from 26 Tpt Sqn has won the National World skills competition in the heavy vehicle mechanic category. The Corps sponsored CFN Johnstone (accommodation and meals) for his participation in Brisbane. CFN Johnstone had previously won the NSW regional competition to gain selection to compete at the national level. He has now been selected to compete in the international world skills competition in Helsinki. The CA has congratulated CFN Johnstone on his win.

## **Queen’s Birthday Honours List Member (AM) in the Military Division**

### **For exceptional service - Australian Army**

Brigadier George YACOUB CSC, ACT. Project management and systems management of explosive ordnance.

Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Peter McMARTIN, WA. Operational logistics in contract assessment; development of Joint Operational Logistics Tool suite for Deployable Joint Force HQ.

### **Medal (OAM) in the Military Division**

#### **For meritorious service - Australian Army**

Warrant Officer Class One Geoffrey William ABBOTT, Qld. Career Manager, Royal Aust Electrical & Mechanical Engineers at Soldier Career Management Agency.

### **Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC)**

#### **For outstanding achievement - Australian Army**

Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Russell MULLINS, NSW. Commanding Officer of 8th Combat Services Support Battalion; development of Army Reserve Technical & Trade Scheme.

Major Leonard James DARRAGH, ACT. Second-in-Command of 1st Combat Service Support Battalion; Officer Commanding 5th/7th Comb at Service Support Team.

### **Conspicuous Service Medal (CSM)**

#### **For outstanding service - Australian Army**

Major Piers Fairfax CAMBRIDGE, Qld. Doctrine development, Army Logistic Training Centre.

## **News Items Please!!**

No doubt a plea you have heard previously. This is your newsletter so please send to the editor Ewan McLeod on [ewan@exair.com.au](mailto:ewan@exair.com.au) details of future events and reports on past events accompanied with some applicable photos. Remember that some may receive the newsletter in black and white so please consider that when submitting pictures.

---

**The RAEME Association needs support. Can you give a small amount of time to help?**

---

**Committee Structure And Membership**

**Representative Colonel Commandant:**

BRIG Ross Grant AM

**Col Comdt Queensland Region And Patron:**

LTCOL Bryce Titcume

**Serving Member Representative:**

Major Christopher Willmann

**Chairman:** Raymond Norman OAM

**Deputy Chairman:** LTCOL Anthony McWatters

Treasurer: Andrew Nicolson

**Deputy Treasurer:** Tony Hickey

**Secretary:** Gary Sargent

**Deputy Secretary:** Greg Riley

**Communications Committee:**

**Committee Chairman:** TBA

**Welfare/Communications Member:** Gary Sargent

**Members:**

John Parfitt- Reserve Advisor

Greg Riley

Leo Galligan- Web Master

Mick Foster- Data Base Design

John Power MBE – DVA Advisor

Ron McElwaine – RSL Advisor

**Membership Committee:**

**Chairperson:** Raymond Norman OAM

**Members:**

Brian Daley

Bruce Hermann

Unit or Sub-branch representatives

**Activity Organising Committee:**

**ANZAC DAY Organizer:** Greg Riley

**Officers' Functions:** Rob Sawford

**WOs and SNCOs Functions:**

Greg Riley

Tony Hickey OAM

**ORs Functions:** WO1 Mark Williams

**Ex-apprentice Functions:** Brian Daley

**Gold Coast Activities:** David Grant

**Sunshine Coast Activities:** Raymond Norman OAM

**Army Reserve Functions:**

Ian Leabetter

John Parfitt

**Unit Functions:**

**17 Construction Sqn Wksp:** Stuart Meiklejohn

**1<sup>st</sup> Independent Armd Regt Wksp:** Des Kearton

**161 Recce FLT Workshops:** Len Avery

**183 Recce FLT Workshop:** Dave Melandri

**102 Fd Wksp Assoc:** Roy Dotter

**106 Fd Wksp Assoc:** Frank Maloney

**Promotion and Sales Committee:**

**Chairman:** TBA

**Members:**

Leo Galligan

Valda Small

Jim Vorrias

Others TBA

**RAEME Awards Selection Committee:**

**Chairman:** Colonel Commandant RAEME QLD

**Members:**

Bulimba Rep - TBA

Townsville Rep –MAJ Nick Faughey, 3 CSSB

Oakey Rep – Senior RAEME Rep

Enoggera Rep – MAJ Chris Willmann, 7 CSSB

Reserve member – Capt Rob Sawford, QUR

Others TBA

**RAEME Assoc – North Queensland Sub-branch**

**Chairman:** Brian Tohey

**Secretary:** Rob Greenfield

**Treasurer:** Vince Serventy

**Social Member:** Julie Fedoriak

**ARes Member:** Dave Sterritt

**Website Manager:** Vince Serventy

**Address:**

The secretary

North Queensland Branch

Queensland RAEME Association

C/- 17 Elton Drive

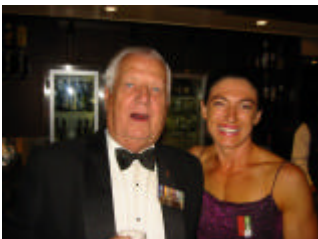
Kelso QLD 4815.

**RAEME Association Queensland Annual  
General Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> June 2004  
Bulimba Barracks**

The AGM this year was preceded by the Association Monthly meeting where most of the current business to hand was dealt with prior to the opening of the AGM.

**RAEME Officers Dinner – 5th June,  
3004 – United Service Club, Brisbane**

A well attended and very enjoyable evening which is to become an annual event.



Where are the pictures of **YOUR** activity??

---

**For current information log-on to [www.raemeqld.org](http://www.raemeqld.org).**

## Birthdays Dinner

### Aviation Support Group Workshop (32<sup>nd</sup>) and Rotary Wing Aircraft Maintenance School (15<sup>th</sup>)

For officers, warrant officers, senior non-commissioned officers and their guests at the Army Aviation Sergeants Mess Oakey - 30 July 2004.

**Attendance:** Past and present unit members and their guests (5<sup>th</sup> Base Workshop Battalion, Oakey Workshop Battalion, Oakey Logistic Battalion and Training Company)

**Dress:** Offrs - Mess Dress (optional Winter or White Jacket)

WO and SNCO – Mess Dress (White Jacket)

Civilian and retired members – Dinner Suit (with miniature medals)

**Timings:** Please be assembled in the Mess by 1855 hrs

**Cost:** Dinner only - \$35.00

Dinner and Commemorative Birthday Port Crock - \$ 60.00

**RSVP:** Returns to CSM ASGW (WO2 Rod Doherty) Army Airfield OAKEY QLD 4401

Tel (07) 46 917623 Fax (07) 46 917610

**Call the CSM for a nomination form if you wish to attend.**

**Payment (to WO2 Doherty) by 16 Jul 04:** Cheque (to "ASGW/RAMS Birthday Dinner Army Aviation Sergeants Mess") or Cash.



## RAEME WO'S & SNCO'S ASSOCIATION QLD

### Annual Dinner

All retired and serving RAEME WOs

& SNCOs and their partners are invited to attend.

Officers and their partners are also welcomed

**Date:** Friday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2004 (1900 for 1930 hrs )

**Venue:** 1 Div Sgts Mess Enoggera

**Meal:** Formal Buffet

**Dress:** Gentlemen coat and tie (medals optional)

**Cost:** \$35.00 pp

**RSVP:** 30<sup>th</sup> July 2004

### Cheque payable to:

RAEME WO'S / SNCO's Association

C/- Greg Riley

13 Goodwin St

Ipswich Qld 4305

Ph: (07) 32818188

A minimum of 60 are required for the function to proceed, your earliest response would be greatly appreciated

If you have not received an invitation please contact Greg Riley for the nomination form.

## RAEME Association Calendar 2004/05

### July 04

6<sup>th</sup> RAEME Association Monthly Meeting  
30<sup>th</sup> ASGW/RAMS OFFICERS/WO/SNCO Birthday Dinner, Oakey

### August 04

3<sup>rd</sup> RAEME Association Monthly Meeting  
6<sup>th</sup> WO's/SNCO's Dinner  
8<sup>th</sup> Reserve/CMF Reunion, Bulimba

### September 04

7<sup>th</sup> RAEME Association Monthly Meeting  
TBA RAEME Association Sports (Golf/Bowls etc) day (all invited)

### October 04

5<sup>th</sup> RAEME Association Monthly Meeting  
13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> RAEME Corps Seminar, Corps Committee Meeting, Bandiana  
13<sup>th</sup> OR's all ranks function Bandiana  
14<sup>th</sup> Officers Mess Dinner Bandiana  
15<sup>th</sup> WO & SNCO Dinner Bandiana

### November 04

2<sup>nd</sup> RAEME Association Monthly Meeting  
9<sup>th</sup> Melbourne Cup  
11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day  
TBA RAEME Birthday Brisbane Area  
TBA RAEME Birthday Darling Downs

### December 04

1<sup>st</sup> Birthday of RAEME  
7<sup>th</sup> RAEME Association Monthly Meeting

### February 05

1<sup>st</sup> RAEME Association Monthly Meeting

### March 05

1<sup>st</sup> Army Birthday

### April 05

25<sup>th</sup> Association ANZAC Day March, Brisbane

## Keep watching for updates!

## RAEME Association Liaison

No reports have been received so we trust all is well with everyone. Please notify Gary Sargent on 07 33414378 or email at [sargent1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sargent1@optusnet.com.au) of welfare issues.



IMV approaching.

Who will keep it moving?

**RAEME**