



Edition 17 – October 2007

Of, By and For RAEME People in Queensland"

SPANNER NEWS

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE RAEME ASSOCIATION - QLD

How the year is flying by. It seems only yesterday that I was here sending a message to all our Spanner friends for our last issue of Spanner News.

Since ANZAC Day the Association has been very busy. We have conducted our Annual General Meeting at Bulimba. Our Part Time Mates have organised and have conducted a successful reunion, and the Spanner Club at Enoggera had a very important and well run function at 1 Sig Regt Jimmy's Club in September. The WO,s and SNCO's buffet was also held at Enoggera. A good function but need more numbers to attend in the future. All in all, a busy time for all concerned.

Our monthly meeting have been well attended and it's great to see many new faces appearing around the table. One notable is Col Peter Snowdon who is actively pursuing the ARMY Combat Badge (ACB) application for many members of 4th Fd Regt LAD. Welcome to all the new faces and it is my hope that this trend continues. All folk that receive this newsletter are welcome to attend. Meetings are held first Tuesday of each month at 1700 hrs. Vic Barracks Offr's/Sgt's Mess except November, which is the second Tuesday.

As some will know Col Terry Beaton has resigned as Col Comdt Vic/Tas Region. He will be sadly missed as he was one of the very active Col Comdt's and had an impact on getting things up and running in his region. Terry all the best for the future from your all ranks, Queensland Spanners. Whilst on this subject, welcome home to Col Bryce Titcume Col Comdt Qld Region from a six month tour of the Middle East. Great to have you back on deck and home safe and sound with family.

One of our Committee Bruce Hermann, our new Promotions Chairman has clocked up a significant milestone of forty years service to RAEME. Well done Bruce. A good article on Bruce is also in the latest issue of the Craftsman Magazine. If you are not receiving your copy of the Crafty, you can, by simple writing to Major Graham Anderson RAEME HOC Cell

Latchford Barracks Bonegilla 3694 or email Graham.Anderson@defence.gov.au

RAEME Birthday this year is at Enoggera 30 November 2007 commencing 1230hrs.

Please call Capt Keirin Joyce 07 33324103 or email Keirin.Joyce@defence.gov.au if you wish to attend so he can organise the security arrangements at the front gate, All are welcome, the more the merrier. BAR B Q, Tug of War, Billy Cart races, Presentations and more. Come along and enjoy the day with our serving mates.

I invite you all to contact the Association by any means and give us your constructive thoughts and ideas on how we can improve our service to you, our general management in the future, of the CORPS Association here in Queensland.

If you not receiving a copy of the Crafty Magazine, you can, free, by writing/emailing Graham.Anderson@defence.gov.au Major Grahame Anderson HOC Cell Bonegilla 3694 Vic.

The Committee is looking at some changes to the way we manage our membership, specifically, reciprocal rights for members and Affiliation of other RAEME Units, Associations and Groups. Both of these items will require some National agreements with other State CORPS Associations. More to follow on this soon. I welcome any thoughts on these subjects.

In closing I would ask that you visit our website www.raemeqld.org, have a look at its content and send any suggestions and comments to our Web Master. You will also find our membership application here and the email contact details for several of the Committee positions.

Raymond G. Norman OAM
Chairman

RAEME Birthday Luncheon 2nd December 2007.

See details and flyer of this luncheon later in this Spanner News. This will prove to be a great event in RAEME Calendar in the South East Corner of QLD each year. It is for all ranks from all arms of our CORPS. All are welcome including your partner and friends. Do not miss this one, RSVP with dollars are necessary to secure your place. The RSVP date is the 30th October however if you receive this mail late by snail mail, don't worry, ring me 54766254 or send our Treasurer your dollars as per the flyer instructions. Please ensure we have your contact details when replying to this invitation.



LT COL Frank PARKER. John Curtis, the Secretary of the WA Association reports it is his sad duty to inform all of the passing of LT COL Frank PARKER. Frank had been ill for quite some time and passed away on 14th October 2007. His funeral was held at Karrakatta Cemetery at 1500 hours on Friday the 19th of October. Frank joined the Australian Army on 31st of August 1939 as Apprentice Number 1 in Western Australia. He went through the ranks to retire as a LT COL, a very proud achievement.



Recovering

Dave 'Speedy' Manfield has requested his and Natalie's thanks be extended to all the possums, apprentice mafia, Army Aviation and the AAAA for their nice thoughts and well wishes after Natalie advised Big Bird he had been admitted to Greenslopes Hospital.

Dave advises he back home and on the road to recovery after a sojourn in Greenslopes where he had an unexpected quadruple by-pass. The good news is that the Surgeon advised him that there was no damage to Dave's heart and in his words; "The engine is great but the plumbing was shot to bits".

The only warning Dave had of the seven minor attacks were neck and shoulder aches which he thought were due to golf strain. Confident that he had strained his shoulder and neck muscles he decided to drive into Greenslopes to sort the pain out and parked directly

outside emergency believing he would be driving back home later that evening. Not so!

Lucky Lad, Dave, and a timely warning not to ignore signs and 'tough it out'. Others may not be so lucky. Go gently on the golf swing.....

Another Piece of RAEME History Gone

Ross Grant reports from Melbourne several weeks ago. I have noticed over the last week that a demolition team is reducing the old Melbourne Workshop Company building in South Melbourne near the Westgate Freeway off ramp to Kingsway is being reduced to a pile of bricks and metal. I thought that your readership, particularly the elder statesmen, may be interested.

RAEME Association Meeting

Just a reminder that the next meeting of the RAEME Association is the 13th November 2007, not the traditional first Tuesday of the month because of Melbourne cup day being the first. All welcome, Vic Barracks Officers /Sergeants Mess commencing 1700hrs.

Raymond Norman
07 54766254

Corps Historian Resigns

COL Terry Beaton has with the deepest regret tendered his resignation as both the Colonel Commandant (RAEME) -Victoria and Tasmanian Region and as Corps Historian to BRIG David Welch on Saturday, 1 Sep 07, effective from 30 Sep 07, due to health and welfare demands of aging parents. Terry concluded his letter 'I wish everybody good health, happiness and safety, and truly thank all those who have diligently supported me throughout my thoroughly enjoyable and very rewarding time as Colonel Commandant.' We wish him well and extend our thanks for his dedication to the Corps.

ARMY COMBAT BADGE (Repeat)

Defence Instruction PERS 119-1 Amend No1

www.army.gov.au/PUBS/pubs.htm

Recently the Association received a copy of the Defence Instruction (ARMY), Pers 8/2006 dated 05 October 2006 relating to the issue of the Army Combat Badge (ACB).

The ACB is awarded to any member of the Australian Regular Army (ARA) or Army Reserve (all elements) on Continuous Full-time Service or other Reserve member in exceptional circumstances, for service in warlike operations or situations. This award does not replace the Infantry Combat Badge.

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

The purpose of the ACB is to recognise any member of the Army who was force assigned to an infantry, armour, artillery, aviation or combat engineer based combat team/battle group, or similar unit/sub-unit, and who has served for a specified period of time on warlike operations.

The badge, finished in burnished bronze, is in the form of two crossed swords surrounded by a laurel wreath. It is approximately 30 mm wide and fixed to the uniform by means of pins and clutch grips. A miniature of the badge is worn on mess dress.

Any member of and Corps who were force assigned to an infantry, armour, artillery, aviation or combat engineer based combat team/battle group **or similar unit/sub-unit**, and has given either continuous or an aggregate of 90 days satisfactory service on warlike operations for a single deployment or operation is eligible to wear the ACB.

The award of the ACB is retrospective to Malaya 1948 and in accordance with the Defence Instruction all members with Warlike Service for a minimum of 90 days are entitled to apply for the ACB and if awarded, to wear the ACB.

The ACB is a dress embellishment not an award and therefore falls outside the honours and awards system. Internal Army resources are insufficient to ensure distribution to all past members through formal Army channels.

The Defence Instruction provides guidelines as to how personnel are to apply for the ACB. For those ex serving members who qualify for the ACB prior to 1989, which includes many members of RAEME Association Queensland may apply. The CORPS Associations are to provide the Head of Corps (HOC) with a list of eligible persons for endorsement, noting the requirement for the list to contain members of all corps who served with the appropriate unit. Members are requested to provide details of qualifying service. (see below for detail required)

Respective HOC are to endorse the list and forward to DGPERS-A, who approves the list and dispatches the requisite number of ACB's to the Corps association. Corps associations are responsible for distributing the ACB to eligible members. In the case of RAEME Association Queensland members, Postage and Handling will be the member's responsibility.

Details required:

Army Number

Full Name
Qualifying service dates
Unit
Operational area
Plus, Record of Service (Certified True Copy)
Members are requested to forward their details to:
RAEME Association Queensland
PO Box 11
Cannon Hill 4170
QLD

When appropriate the Association will complete the necessary documentation and submit to Head of CORPS for action

If you have any questions regarding the ACB please contact Raymond Norman 07 54766254.

For other awards etc, see the link below, a very informative site.

< http://www.itsanhonour.gov.au/fs_site.html >.

For membership see www.raemeqld.org

RAEME ASSOCIATION CALENDAR 2007/2008

NOVEMBER 2007

13th RAEME Association Monthly Meeting
TBA Spanner Club
30th RAEME Birthday Enoggera
TBA WO's / SGT's & Officer's Dinner Darling Downs

DECEMBER 2007

1st CORPS Birthday
[1st RAEME Birthday – Brisbane/Enoggera Barracks](#)
[2nd RAEME Birthday All Ranks Luncheon](#)
4th RAEME Association Christmas Meeting

JANUARY 2008

Recess

FEBRUARY 2008

5th RAEME Association Monthly Meeting

Notes:

1. Some other items to be included; Spanner Club Functions, Smokos, RAEME Unit Reunions, OR's Function
2. Other considerations; locations of activities, invitation lists i.e. member's partners, serving and non serving, dress, timings, transport.

Forever to Remember

(by MAJ Geoff Coulter)



LTCOL Tony Borg, the last CO

MAJ Andrew Kelly, the last 2IC

WO1 Brian Roche, the last ASM

WO1 Michael Adams, the last CSM

On the closing down of a military unit there is a time for reflection. Together with reflection comes a feeling of remembrance. The closure of the Aviation Support Group Workshop (ASGW) in Oakey is significant as it is special. Removal from the Army ORBAT signifies the closure of the last independent RAEME workshop.

The history of ASGW is steeped in all the traditions of the Army. These traditions were founded with the inception of the AAAvn Corps and the 5th Base Workshop Battalion, having been raised at Amberley on 01 Aug 72. The workshop was later relocated to its permanent facilities in Oakey on 05 Nov 73. The workshop has over time undergone several name changes; Oakey Workshop Battalion on 14 Nov 89, then Oakey Logistic Battalion on 01 Dec 93 to its current name which it received in Dec 95. While the names have changed, over the years the traditions have continued and over time become part of Army/RAEME history.

When ASGW was operating at its highest level, it was not merely a maintenance facility. Providing one of the largest sources of soldier manpower within in Oakey ASGW was continually called upon to provide members for ceremonial duties; including Aviator Wings Parades. In it's hey-day the capabilities that the 'Workshop' extended to both aviation and ground equipment including a vehicle recovery capability (as part of the national recovery program) extending North to

Rockhampton, West as far as Birdsville and South to Wallangarra; ensuring vehicle recovery and general engineering support to South West Queensland. During these times the Workshop's mission included providing 'type' and equipment courses to trainees and aircrew via one of it's sub-units, Training Company (later to become RAMS).

Closure does not necessarily mean all is forgotten, it can be a last event; yet it is closure which brings history to the fore. With history in mind, the memorabilia of past and present needs to find a new home. These new homes are places which enable the past members to feel secure in the knowledge that the memories are looked after in the best possible way; ensuring that they will be visible for future generations to reflect on the achievements of those who went before as they themselves move on to become the new breed.

It is with this in mind that when ASGW is disbanded on 31 Jul 07, unit memorabilia will be displayed in the Museum of Australian Army Flying (MAAF), the museum at Army Logistics Training Centre (ALTC) and the home of RAEME Aviation, the RAMS.



The Last Members of ASGW

The Rally Point. A potent sign of most military establishments is their flag pole, this being the case the flag pole is currently a symbol of the shifting state of ASGW. In 1973 when ASGW was being formed and 1 Avn Regt Wksp was moving equipment from Amberley to Oakey the flagpole was manufactured by the Aviation Crafties. For 37 years it has been the Craftsman's job to raise and lower the National and RAEME flags. Now the last Craftsman remaining in ASGW, CFN A. Soukup,

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has the job of transferring these symbols of pride to their new home.



CFN Soukup - the Last RAEME CFN at ASGW

Currently an Aircraft Structural Fitter, previously a Metal Smith, CFN A. (Tony) Soukup prepared and manufactured the new flag pole base. This new receptacle will house the flagpole and enable future craftsmen to carry on the traditions, conducted over the years with pride; taking centre stage at the entrance to RAMS. Upon completion of this last duty, CFN Tony Soukup with the assistance of SSGT T. Flynn will re-position the flagpole; displaying the combined efforts, teamwork, of both RAEME and RAAOC in the operation of maintenance.

Previously being a part of ASGW and now having formed a close relationship over the years, RAMS was a logical choice for the relocation of this centrepiece. This new rally point will serve to continue the traditions of past and present RAEME soldiers. The unit awaits with anticipation the final ceremony due to take place at the end of Jul 07.

The Last Aircraft Maintenance task as a RAEME Workshop. On 31 May 07 Black Hawks A25-224 and A25-225 completed a maintenance test flight and training sorties respectively. At the conclusion of these sorties military aircraft maintainers of ASGW towed both aircraft into the hanger of building C1 and proceeded to conduct and complete the after flights, thus finalising another successful day of flying operations at Oakey. All aviation maintainers can agree that these tasks are a routine practice however for ASGW it signified the final aviation maintenance task in support of the School of Army Aviation (SAA) at the AAvnTC Oakey.

RAEME aviation and contractor support to the SAA has occurred over many years. This has been demonstrated by the professional manner through the years of all personnel serving within ASGW. Proudly the tradition continued to the very end with both aircraft being signed at the completion of the after flight (AF) servicing as SERVICEABLE.

The last maintenance task conducted by the RAEME soldiers under the auspices of ASGW were by WO2 S. Gates, CPL D. Walsh (attached from 20 Surveillance and Targeting Acquisition Regiment), LCPL J. Stripsky, CFN W. Clucas, CFN R. Johnson, CFN G Rostislav and CFN D. Toal.

The end of May 07 and the final maintenance support task to the SAA coincided with the closure of the contract with Helitech and the beginning of a new era in the provision of aviation maintenance support in Oakey. On the 01 Jun 07, Boeing Australia assumed the roles in which ASGW had previously supported the SAA, initiating unit disbandment activities.

Remembrance. Whilst functioning as a Base Workshop, ASGW produced many memorable events, though not always happy. One of the saddest events in the unit's history was the loss of CPL Peter McCarthy; who lost his life whilst on duty as an 'all-trades' aboard an Army Nomad which crashed in 1991. His memorial plaque is currently placed within the Oakey Memorial Gardens; and another memorial plaque is located at the School of Army Aviation (SAA) along with the names of his comrades tragically killed in the accident. The CPL Peter McCarthy award was subsequently donated in Peter's memory by his family and awarded to the most outstanding tradesman at ASGW. This was to be a perpetual award, awarded annually; the last being presented at the RAEME Birthday celebrations held at ASGW on 01 Dec 06. The award is now in the process of being transferred to RAMS to await new awarding instructions from Peter's family. RAMS is a fitting place for the award to be made with recipients having the opportunity to remember that one of our former members paid the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our nation.

Memorabilia. ASGW during this year has had some of its members involved with manufacturing replica honours boards, namely that of the Commanding Officers and the Artificer Sergeant Majors. The original boards will be located within RAMS, a natural link to the past. Reproduction Honour Boards will be presented to the museum at

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ALTC, during the RAEME conference to be held in October this year; also presented to the MAAF are another set of replica boards. These are significant historical records depicting both the officer and enlisted higher level commanders over the years that have served with distinction at ASGW; dating back through to the origins of the 5th Base Workshop Battalion.

As time progresses within the lifetimes of many, memories are reflections of past gone eras. All can

rest assured that the past and present members of ASGW in all it's different forms served the Army Aviation capability, the Army and the Australian Defence Force well.

Arte et Marte



RAEME ASSOCIATION – QUEENSLAND REGION - COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP

COL COMDT QUEENSLAND REGION and Patron:	LTCOL Bryce Titcume
SERVING MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Major Martin Mous
Artificer Sergeant Major Representative	WO1 Harold (Huck) Berry
❖ Chairman:	Raymond Norman OAM
❖ Deputy Chairman:	LTCOL Tony Borg
❖ Treasurer:	Andrew Nicolson
❖ Deputy Treasurer:	Jim Vorrias
❖ Secretary(s):	Gary Sargent
❖ Deputy Secretary:	Joan Campbell
<u>Communications Committee:</u>	
❖ Committee Chairman	Ewan McLeod
❖ Editor	Ewan McLeod
❖ Welfare/Communications Member	Gary Sargent

Members:

For current information log-on to www.raemeqld.org.

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

- ❖ Reserve Advisor
- ❖ Web Master
- ❖ IT Advisor
- ❖ Data Base
- ❖ DVA Advisor
- ❖ RSL Advisor

John Parfitt
Leo Galligan
Charles Stoodley
Mick Foster
TBA
Ron McElwaine

Membership Committee:

- ❖ Chairperson:
- ❖ Members:

Ian (Ernie) Hartshorn
TBA

Unit or Sub-branch representatives

Activity Organising Committee:

- ❖ ANZAC DAY Organizer
- ❖ Assistant ANZAC Day
- ❖ Officers' Functions
- ❖ WO and SNCO Functions
- ❖ All Ranks Functions
- ❖ Ex-apprentice Functions
- ❖ Gold Coast Activities
- ❖ Sunshine Coast Activities
- ❖ Army Reserve Functions
- ❖ Unit Functions/ Activities:
 - ❖ 17 Construction Sqn Wksp
 - ❖ 1st Independent Armd Regt Wksp
 - ❖ 161 Recce FLT Workshops
 - ❖ 183 Recce FLT Workshop
 - ❖ 101Fd Wksp
 - ❖ 102 Fd Wksp Assoc
 - ❖ 104 Fd Wksp
 - ❖ 106 Fd Wksp Assoc

Ian (Ernie) Hartshorn
TBA
TBA and Ron McElwaine
Greg Riley & Tony Hickey OAM
Raymond Norman OAM
Brian Daley
TBA
Raymond Norman OAM
John Parfitt OAM

Stuart Meiklejohn
Des Kearton
Len Avery
Dave Melandri
Gary Hodges
Roy Dotter
TBA
Frank Maloney

Promotion and Sales Committee:

- ❖ Chairman:
- ❖ Members:

Bruce Herman
Leo Galligan
Valda Small
Jim Vorrias
Gary Watson
Derek Stevenson
Oakey Rep
Enoggera Rep
Townsville Rep
Darwin Rep

RAEME Awards Selection Committee:

- ❖ Chairman:
- ❖ Members:

Colonel Commandant RAEME QLD
Bulimba Rep - TBA
Townsville Rep –senior RAEME Rep
Oakey Rep – Senior RAEME Rep
Enoggera Rep – MAJ Martin Mous, 7 CSSB
Reserve member – MAJ Rob Sawford, QUR
Other – To be advised

RAEME Assoc – North Queensland Sub-branch

Chairman:

Max Holt

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

Secretary: TBA
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 Assoc-Darling Downs Sub Branch

Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Social Member
Ares Member

Contact details for above go to [Web site www.raemeqld.org](http://www.raemeqld.org) or call 07 54766254

RAEME BIRTHDAY 30th November 2007 Enoggera.

All welcome, come along and enjoy an afternnon with our serving soldiers. Ring Capt Keirin Joyce 0733324103 or Keirin.Joyce@defence.gov.au for more details including security entrance pass details.

Basic Details:

Where; Enoggera Barracks oval just inside front gate
When; 30th November 2007
Timings; 1230 hrs to finish
Activities Bar B Q, drinks, sports (billy cart races, tug of war), presentation of awards.

RAEME Birthday Luncheon 2nd December 2007 see below Flyer.
You, your partner and friends are very welcome to this great CORPS luncheon.



RAEME ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND

RAEME BIRTHDAY ALL RANKS LUNCHEON **Sunday 2nd DECEMBER 2007**

Venue: **FIX Restaurant**, Port Office Hotel Brisbane CBD
Corner Edward and Margaret Streets (**private function**)
Guests Welcome.

Timings: **1230hrs for 1300hrs** pre luncheon drinks- **end 1500hrs**

Cost: \$50 per person, **four** courses, **table** service at least three
Selections on last three courses. **Great food**

Payment: To the Treasurer RAEME Association Queensland

Dress: Neat Casual

RSVP: **30 October 2007** limited numbers for venue size, be quick

Come along and enjoy our Birthday with your mates. Make up a table of friends.

Payment Details:

Post: Cheque/Money order to
The Treasurer, RAEME Association QLD,
PO Box 11 CANNON HILL, QLD, 4170 or

EFT: BSB 803-205
Account Number 82731

Add your surname and initials to the reference box.

If you use the direct deposit method please email the Treasurer treasurer@raemeqld.org to advise that you have deposited the money. Or post the tear off below to the above address with your payment and contact details.

Enquiries to Raymond Norman 07 54766254 or norford.2@bigpond.com



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I..... Address.....

Will be attending the All Ranks RAEME Birthday Luncheon 2nd December 2007

No of Guests..... Payment method..... Total Amount: \$.....

Contact phone: Email:

Signature: