

October 2007
NEWSLETTER



AEME/RAEME ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS EDITION

New COLCOMDT Central Region	Page 2
Diary Dates	Page 3
Death Notices	Page 3
National GRes Craftsman of the Year	Page 5
AGM	Page 6
RAEME Birthday Celebrations	Page 6
Reserve Forces Day	Page 7
Simpson Trophy win	Page 9

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

With Christmas and the New Year fast approaching I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and fine spirits. 2007 has been another very busy year, with many changes and milestones not only for the Association but for the wider ADF and especially the Army Reserve.

For the retired Reserve members, the Army Reserve in the Second Division has changed significantly with the Brigading of all Logistics in the Reserve Brigades. That is to say all unit workshops have been closed and all members posted to 107 Wksp Coy, 9 CSSB. The significance and success of the changes are yet to be realised but in true Corps spirit members are getting on with the job.

It was with pleasure that LTCOL Greg Rosser RFD (Retd) and Editor of our fine newsletter was appointed Honorary COLCOMDT RAEME Central Region for the period 1 Aug 2007 to 1 Aug 2009. COL Rosser's Instrument of Appointment was signed by BRIG Symon AO, Director General Personnel – Army on the 19 July 2007 and confirmed by LT GEN Leahy AC, Chief of the Army on the 25 July 2007.

The Editor of our newsletter takes on a whole new meaning now and I congratulate COL Rosser on such a prestigious appointment. Central Region has waited far too long for a home grown local COLCOMDT who is able to assist, advise and be a conduit for the serving and retired members of our fine Corps and the Association when dealing with the HOC and the wider ADF.

I wish to also sincerely thank COL Graham Smith, outgoing REP COLCOMDT for the tremendous support he has given to us as a whole in Central Region during his period of appointment.

The Officers, WO's and SNCO's Dinner held at 16 AD REGT Officers Mess on the 13 July 07 was again a great success and I thank MAJ Murray and his staff for a great night and there were no serious injuries during the car race.

Although poorly attended, members and partners (23 in total), enjoyed a very pleasant evening at the All Ranks Dinner held at the Warradale Hotel on the 13 Oct 07. The meals were superb and the dinner gave us the opportunity to present COL Rosser with a Certificate of Recognition and celebrate his appointment as HON COLCOMDT.

COL Rosser, LT Radisic, WO1 Birch, CFN Fenton and I attended the Corps Conference held at Bandiana on the 18-19 Oct 07. There was much discussion about many subjects including changes to pay, qualifications and manning in an environment where the ADF is providing support in many areas of the world whilst introducing many and more complex platforms. It was also the opportunity to recognise and present awards including the GRES National Craftsman of the Year Award to CFN Michael Fenton a member of 107 Wksp Coy, 9 CSSB. Well done Mick.

Members are reminded that the 2007 AGM will be held on the 2 Dec 07 at Warradale Barracks. I am looking forward to seeing you there as this meeting is significant due to the retirement of our long serving Secretary, David Turner. Following the AGM will be the Corps Birthday Celebrations held at the Warradale Area Other Ranks Canteen. More detail will be contained in other submissions in the newsletter.

Arte et Marte
Grant Kuchel

Reprint from RAEME Craftsman Magazine



INTRODUCING the NEW COLONEL COMMANDANT CENTRAL REGION

LTCOL Greg Rosser

It is with great pleasure that we introduce LTCOL Greg Rosser as the newly appointed Honorary Colonel Commandant for Central Region. LTCOL Rosser resides in Adelaide, South Australia. In 1968 he commenced two years National Service and was commissioned as an officer in RAEME. On completion of his National Service Greg transferred to the Army Reserve.

Some of the highlights during his GRes service include:

- Command of the RAAC and RAA LAD's
- Command of 4 EME Services Workshops (for 4 years)
- SO1 Pers
- SI Military Management and CI Other Ranks Training Wing (4th Training Group)
- Before retiring he was the Deputy Commander of the 4th Training Group.

Greg has spent many years working for the South Australian Water Corporation where he had a variety of general engineering roles and served in a range of management and representative appointments.

LTCOL Rosser has maintained a close relationship with and is currently a member of the AEME/RAEME Association (SA) and the Naval, Military and Air Force Club.

THANK YOU

The Association Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank COL Graham Smith, our COLCOMDT for the past 4 years, for his continued support of the association and his regular visits to Central Region to attend Corps Activities

COL Smith had the additional role of being the Representative – COLCOMDT RAEME, which meant he was the senior COLCOMDT and amongst other things, was required to organize Corps Committee meetings and provide advice to the HOC (as required).

DIARY DATES 2007

Activity/Function

- Annual General Meeting
- RAEME Birthday Family Function

Date

Sunday 2nd December
Sunday 2nd December



Ian Allison

Sgt Vehicle Mechanic - 16 AD
President of Goodna (QLD) RSL
21 September 2007

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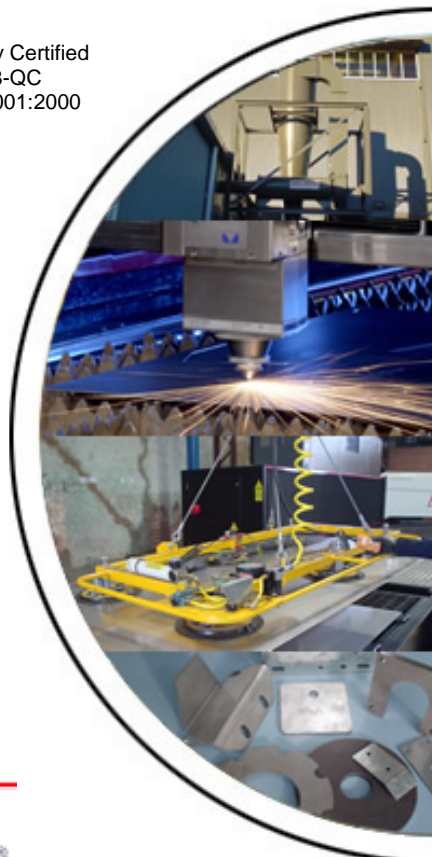
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"Living Will"

Last night, my wife and I were sitting in the living room talking about many things.

The idea of a living will came up and I said to her, "I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle.

If I ever come to that just pull the plug."

She got up, unplugged the TV and then threw my beer out on the front lawn..

Bitch....

Mid-life crisis

When I was married 25 years, I took a look at my wife one day and said, "Honey, 25 years ago we had a cheap apartment, a cheap car, slept on a sofa bed and watched a 10-inch black and white TV, but I got to sleep every night with a hot 25 year old freaky brunette. Now, we have a \$500,000.00 home, a \$45,000.00 car, a nice big bed and a plasma screen TV, but I'm sleeping with a 50 year old woman. It seems to me that you are not holding up your side of things."

My wife is a very reasonable woman. She told me to go out and find a hot 25 year old freaky brunette, and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap apartment, driving a cheap car, sleeping on a sofa bed and watching a 10-inch black and white TV.

Aren't older women great? They really know how to solve your mid-life crisis!

Two guys are drinking in a bar.

One says, "Did you know that lions have sex 10 to 15 times a night?"

"BUGGA !" says his friend. "I just joined Rotary."

DON'T FORGET

If you hear of one of our fellow members being sick let one of the committee know ASAP so they can organise someone to contact them. All of us need to participate.



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WELL DONE!

National GRes Craftsman of the Year

Craftsman Michael Fenton an Armament Fitter with the 107 Wksp Coy, 9 CSSB was selected by members of the Corps Committee as the National "Craftsman of the Year" for 2007.



The committee were impressed by the performance of all craftsmen nominated this year and after a great deal of deliberation selected CFN Fenton as the winner.

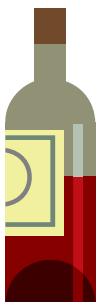
CFN Fenton was presented with his award during the Corps Conference held at Army Logistics Training Centre (Bandiana).

CFN Fenton has elected to join the Regular Army and hopes to be posted to 2nd Armoured Regiment in Darwin.

CRAFTSMAN PORT

A small supply of 2006 RAEME Craftsman Port is still available at \$20 per bottle (2007 will be available shortly)

Contact WO2 Grant Kuchel if you are interested in purchasing a bottle or 2.



ALL RANKS DINNER

The Mixed All Ranks Dinner was held on 13th October at the Warradale Hotel.

The attendance was a little disappointing with about 23 people attending. The food was outstanding and proved to be excellent value for money.

During the evening COL Rosser was presented with a certificate from the association on his appointment as COLCOMDT – Central Region.



As mentioned in the last newsletter this function was in preparation for a larger function next year to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the creation of 107 Fd Wksps. All past and current members of the unit will be invited so lookout for more details next year.

We would all like to thank WO2 Grant Kuchel for organising the dinner and his wife Christine for making gift boxes and RAEME bookmarks for all those who attended

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FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

I will be stepping off the Committee of the Association for the time being, and I would like to thank all those Members who supported me in any way over the last 14 years. I will make myself available for election to the Committee again when I retire from work in approximately 5 years time.

The new Secretary is LT Penny Stone, and I hope that you will give her plenty of support as she settles into the job. I would also like to sincerely thank COL Greg Rosser (Retd), our new Honorary COLCOMDT, who took on the job of Editor of the Newsletter. He is doing a tremendous job, and I know that this will be a big help to Penny in not having to worry about the Newsletter.

I know that both the President, Grant Kuchel, and the Treasurer, Bob Killoran, have been on the Committee for a long time now (11 years for Grant, 12 years for Bob) and both would like someone else to take over. So, **please give serious consideration to giving some of your time to the Committee of Management of the Association in 2008.**

2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2007 Annual General Meeting will be on the morning of **Sunday 2nd December** in the **Workshop at Warradale Barracks** at **10:00am sharp!** The meeting will finish in time for the Birthday Function BBQ Lunch (details of the AGM will be confirmed in the Notice of AGM to be posted out shortly).

In addition to new committee members we also need someone to take over RAEME Merchandise sales (SGT Steve Maher has been posted) and someone to look after the Association Historical collection.

Meetings are held bi-monthly, currently on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30pm (although the date/time is subject to the agreement of the Committee members who are elected). We meet in the Conference Room at 107 Wksp Coy, 9 CSSB at Warradale Barracks. The meetings are of a relaxed, informal nature.

2007 RAEME BIRTHDAY FAMILY FUNCTION

MAJ David Rogers, OC, 107 Wksp Coy, 9CSSB, is organising a **mixed all ranks family function** to celebrate the RAEME Corps Birthday (we will be 65 years young). It will be held in the **Warradale Area Other Ranks' Canteen** at **Warradale Barracks** on the afternoon of **Sunday 2nd December**. Entry to Warradale Barracks is via the Main Gate on Oaklands Road.

The function will commence after the AGM and a BBQ Lunch will be available from 12:30pm. Cost will be \$7:50 per head for adults (children 12 years and under FREE). Refreshments will be available from the Bar. The 2007 Central Region "RAEME Soldier of the Year" Awards (sponsored by our Association) will be presented at this function. It is intended that the function will conclude at 3:00pm.

The function is for serving and ex-serving RAEME members, their family and friends. It will also be an opportunity to renew old acquaintances and reminisce.

An Invitation is attached to this Newsletter. Please return the "tear off" slip to David Turner, or ring him, after hours, on phone 08 8381 3644, before Sunday 18 November at the latest so we know how many to cater for.

2007 RAEME "SOLDIER OF THE YEAR" CENTRAL REGION

The 2007 Awards to the best ARA and GRes "Soldier of the Year" in Central Region will be presented at the **2007 RAEME Corps Birthday Family Function** on **Sunday 2nd December**.

MAJ Pat Murray, RAEME Regional Representative Central Region and Battery Commander of Combat Service Support Battery (the Workshop) at 16AD Regiment, Woodside Barracks, will select the winning ARA candidate. MAJ David Rogers, OC, 107 Wksp Coy, 9CSSB, will select the winning GRes candidate. All RAEME personnel in Central Region up to and including the rank of Corporal are eligible. They will be assessed on both trade skills and soldier skills. Each winner will receive a personalised Trophy, and his or her name will be inscribed on the "Perpetual Plaque" for each category, which is hung in the Orderly Room at the winner's place of work.

Platoon Commanders are urged to submit nominations, with supporting evidence, by **Monday 5 November** (good luck to all serving RAEME Soldiers - Ed).

Reserve Forces Day 2007

The South Australia, Reserve Forces Day was held on Sunday 12th August. The day was cool and overcast which made it ideal for the march.

Unfortunately, because only 5 Association members advised us they were marching it was decided not to carry the Association Banner, but to march with one of the other groups.

As 2007 is the 90th Anniversary of the Battle of Beersheba, the theme for the day was the Commemoration of the Charge and members of the South Australian Mounted Rifles were selected to lead the march. Because most of the association members marching had served with 3/9 SAMR at some stage of their military service our members marched with this Group.

Support was also provided by several re-enactment groups including, the Barossa Light Horse, the Military Vehicle Collectors Society, Noarlunga Rifles and the Fort Glanville Troop. Some 200 individuals marched with 33 historical vehicles leading the way and the Adelaide Highland Pipe Band providing the musical support. The display after the march was viewed by around 500 spectators.

On completion of the march, participants formed up on the parade ground for the Governor-General to take the salute and review the parade. One of our members commented, "it was just like being on a recruit march-out parade". It certainly brought back memories of our days in uniform for all of us.

After the parade, Major General Jeffery and his wife spent time meeting past and present reservists, their families, friends and employers.

Compiled from a report by J Howard and details in RSL magazine.



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SIMPSON TROPHY COMPETITION

9CSSB has claimed the Simpson Trophy Competition for the third year running.

The team from 9CSSB scored 887 points in the rifle shooting event, with 3 Eng Sqn second on 818 points and Army Personnel Agency-Adelaide third on 816 points.

All ADF units in South Australia are eligible to enter the competition, which originated in 1890 as an annual rifle shooting match under service rifle shooting competition conditions.

The 2007 event marked the 117th year of competition for the Simpson Trophy, which Alfred Mueller Simpson first presented in 1890. Mr Simpson joined the First Volunteer Corps in 1861 and later transferred to the Adelaide Rifles.

This year, the trophy was presented by his great grandson, Richard Simpson.



Top shots: The winning team with Richard Simpson: (clockwise from left) Capt Michael Tamassy, Sgt Ian Starick (team captain), Cpl David Cawthorne and Cpl Andrew Heard.

Article from Army News, Photo by COL Steve Larkins

Editors Comment

RAEME soldiers have a proud tradition of winning the Simpson Trophy going back to 1976. In that year workshops won it for the first time. The winning team was Sgt Javor, Cpl Birch, and Cfn Shelly. Many other RAEME soldiers have won individual highest scores over the years with WO1 Birch, Sgt Starick, Cpl Heard and Capt Tamassy accumulating trophies.

1 ARMOURED SQN WORKSHOP 40th RE-UNION CANBERRA - October 2007

A plaque is being placed and dedicated in the grounds of the Australian War Memorial in Canberra at 10:00am on Monday 29 October 2007 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the formation of the Workshop.

The wording on the plaque is as follows:

1 ARMOURED SQUADRON WORKSHOP RAEME
1 ARMOURED SQUADRON WORKSHOP STORES
SECTION RAAOC

VIETNAM 1967 - 1968

This unit workshop was raised in Victoria in October 1967 to service the Centurion tanks of 1st ARMD REGT, RAAC sent to Vietnam in 1968. This was the first overseas deployment of Centurions. based at Nui Dat, unit members undertook repair and recovery support for all the tank operational deployments until the unit was disbanded in a restructure of RAEME units in Vietnam in October 1968.

IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO SERVED

Dedicated on 29 October 2007 by surviving unit
members

LEST WE FORGET

The plaque has a side view of a Centurion Tank above the wording with the RAEME Insignia on the left and the RAAOC Insignia on the right.

Editor RAEME soldiers visiting the War Memorial may wish to have a look at the plaque.

SUNDAY MORNING SEX

Upon hearing that her elderly grandfather had just passed away, Katie went straight to her grandparent's house to visit her 95-year- old grandmother and comfort her.

When she asked how her grandfather had died, her grandmother replied, "He had a heart attack while we were making love on Sunday morning." Horrified, Katie told her grandmother that 2 people nearly 100 years old having sex would surely be asking for trouble "Oh no, my dear," replied granny. "Many years ago, realizing our advanced age, we figured out the best time to do it was when the church bells would start to ring. It was just the right rhythm. Nice and slow and even.

Nothing too strenuous, simply in on the Ding and out on the Dong."

She paused to wipe away a tear, and continued, "He'd still be alive if the ice cream truck hadn't come along."

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Fort Largs Guns Restoration Project

R.Maslen & John Fuller (Army Museum Keswick Bks) and I attended the Work Party on 7 July. After rain stopped both Guns were fitted with new brackets made by R.Maslen and the large brass covers were finally fitted. We replaced the cartridge cradles on both Guns however there were a few problems. These were eventually solved by making adjustments to the cartridge cradle and straightening the breech block handle using a 10 tonne jack supplied by R.Maslen (both guns had bent breech block handles).

On 4 August K.Tainsh, R.Maslen, John Fuller and I attended the Work Party. Most work was done on the southern gun. We used a small grinder and needle files supplied by R.Maslen to reshape the bottom of the main hinge pin and clean up the thread on the shaft. We were then able to fit the main socket block and nut back on the main hinge pin. Cartridge cradles on both Guns were then straightened. The result of this work is that both breech block mechanisms work quite well.

The work on the Guns is now completed & there will be no more Work Parties. We will tidy up the storage unit at Fort Largs, which is used to house the lubricants and various tools, and do a final check to make sure everything has been refitted to the Guns. Then we will then hand back the keys to the SA Police. I would like to thank the Work Party members for their assistance over the last year, especially R.Maslen for his tools and expertise and for his work making various parts we needed.

J.Howard

Editorial Note

At the last committee meeting WO2 G.Kuchel asked that a vote of thanks be recorded in the Minutes to the persons involved in the Work Parties over the years. He wondered whether an official ceremony should be organised to hand back the keys.

R.Maslen advised that K.Tainsh is still working on an article for the RAEME CRAFTSMAN magazine on the history & restoration of the Guns.

Officers, WOs and SNCOs Formal Dinner

On Friday 13 July, 57 serving and ex-serving Officers, WOs and SNCOs (including a number of members from our Association) sat down to a traditional "Formal Dinner" in the Officer's Mess at Woodside Barracks. This very enjoyable and successful occasion was organised by Support Battery (the Workshop) at 16th Air Defence Regiment, who did an excellent job.

Unfortunately the Head of Corps, BRIG David Welsh could not make the dinner as he had another last minute commitment. It was announced at the dinner that our Colonel Commandant, COL Graham Smith, had completed his tenure as COLCOMDT and that LTCOL Greg Rosser was to be appointed as the next COLCOMDT for Central Region.

The organisers decided as part of the dinner activities they would challenge those attending to a model car sprint. Sounds easy, but the real obstacle was that the cars had to be assembled (by teams) without instructions and by candlelight before the cars could participate in the race. The activity was thoroughly enjoyed by all, although there is still some debate over the "real" winner.

On behalf of those Association members present, I wish to sincerely thank MAJ Murray for inviting us to take part in the Dinner. We also thank him for organising the bus transport from Keswick Barracks.

Ever Wondered why

Why the sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin?

Why don't you ever see the headline "Psychic Wins Lottery"?

Why is "abbreviated" such a long word?

Why is it that doctors call what they do "practice"?

Disclaimer

The thoughts and opinions expressed in the articles in this Newsletter are those held by the individual writers and contributors, and are not necessarily those of the President, the committee, the Association members, or the Editor. The spelling of names, groups and places are as given to the editor and the editor apologizes if they are in any way incorrect.

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

On behalf of the Association, I would like to welcome the following new Members:

Bruce Dittmar, Roy Dotter, Ken Treloar,

Subs are due at 1 July in the year your membership is "current to" ie if the date on your Membership Card is 2007, your Subs are now due. I would like to sincerely thank all members who have responded to my green "reminder slip" in the July Newsletter. Subs are still \$5 for one year or any multiple thereof eg \$20 for four years. You will need to be financial to vote at the AGM, which will be held in December.

According to the records, the following persons are financial members of the Association. The number in brackets is the year your membership is "current to", as shown on your Membership Card.

Honorary Life Members

Mike Culley, Dutchy Holland, Eddy Kaminski, George Robinson, David Turner

Ordinary Members

Walter Ade (2010), Milton Ahrens (2009), Frank Aldous, (2008), Jeff Allen (2008), Heath Arblaster (2009), Ernest Atkinson (2011), Peter Badcock (2007), Joe Barton (2007), Richard Beare (2009), Gavin Bellis (2010), Marco Benazic (2007), Paul Berk (2008), Wayne Birch (2009), John Black (2010), Helmut Bohn (2008), David Brand (2011), Dennis Brown (2009), Fred Brown (2008), Shane Buckley (2008), Roger Burzacott (2009), Nicholas Cashman (2008), Dave Cawthorne (2007), Craig Chatterton (2008), John Clark (2008), Trevor Clerke (2015), Geoff Coat (2007), Brian Cogan (2010), Don Collins (2008), George Cooke (2011), John Corkran (2007), Ian Coulter (2008), Peter Cox (2007), Ron Coxon OAM (2011), George Craig (2009), Bob Davis (2011), Gavin D'Cruz (2008), Graham de la Rue (2009), Bruce Dittmar (2016), Roy Dotter (2012), Chris Duffield (2011), Nick Ebbs (2010), Len Edwards (2008), Mick Ellis (2009), Bluey Etheridge (2011), Kym Everett (2013), Andrew Ferguson (2011), Ken Field (2010), Jim Fisher (2009), Brian Flavel (2010), Jan Gancarz (2009), Charlie Gauci (2010), Bob Gell (2008), Nick Gogilis (2009), Steve Gough (2010), Steve Gould (2011), Bob Gourley (2008), Tony Gow (2008), Steven Grigg (2008), Robert Hansford (2012), Bill Harding (2007), Jock Hart (2008), Don Harvy (2010), Arthur Hasse (2009), Tracy Hatch (2007), Greg Hay (2010), Norm Hay (2008), Colin Haynes (2010), Jim Hendrickx (2008), Tony Hinton (2011), Brian Holmes (2010), Darryl Horner (2010), Col Howard (2007), John Howard (2011), Gary Howell (2008), Rod Hussey (2009), Tony Ivens (2007), Graham Janz (2007), Juris Jaudzems (2010), Jeff Johns (2011), Lindsay Johnson (2007), Ben

Jones (2008), Eric Kelly (2008), Bob Killoran (2011), Bob King (2010), Geoff Kohler (2011), Les Kovacs (2007), Grant Kuchel (2009), Hans Larsen (2008), Alf Lee (2010), Lou Leeuwrik (2011), Ken Lorraine (2009), Greg Lowe (2013), Chris Macintosh (2010), Steve Maher (2008), Alan Marks (2011), Trevor Martin (2011), Robin Maslen OAM (2009), Bob Matthew (2007), Bob Matthews (2011), Alan McGregor (2008), Fred McInerney (2010), Philip McKelliff (2008), Pete McKenzie (2007), Buzz Meakes (2010), Terry Monten (2011), Ian Moody (2010), Ron Moran (2011), Don Morgan OAM (2010), Richard Moyses (2010), Bob Murch (2007), Barry Naulty (2009), Ian Nicholls (2010), Gary Nicolescu (2009), Sam Nowak (2007), Jim Nurse (2010), Troy Oakes (2009), Dave O'Brien (2009), Alex Oschmanns (2013), Frank Owen OAM (2008), John Owen (2008), Dick Pailthorpe (2007), Doug Pammenter (2009), Nick Papanikolaou (2020), Geoff Parker (2011), Trevor Parrott (2012), Roger Parsons (2010), Lionel Penley (2011), Rex Perry (2007), John Raftery (2008), Chris Rajasingham (2009), Hank Ramm (2008), Mick Reeve (2007), Peter Reynolds (2007), Greg Robinson (2008), Bill Roch (2007), Greg Rosser (2011), Dennis Rowlands (2008), Ray Ryan (2017), Perry Sangster (2010), Brian Sayers (2009), Barra Schmidtke (2013), Glendon Shaw (2007), Dave Shelly (2009), Harold Shipp (2009), Robert Silcock (2011), Chris Smith (2010), Craig Smith (2008), Victor Sobotnik (2011), Walter Soroka (2010), Max Sparrow (2008), Deborah Spicer (2009), Ian Starick (2010), Murray Stock (2008), Penny Stone (2009), Donald Sutherland (2013), James Szpunar (2008), Ian Taylor (2007), Paul Teague (2010), Howard Terry (2008), Jim Thomas (2010), Noel Thomas (2009), Dick Tischer (2011), Ken Treloar (2010), Donald Tremethick (2009), Joe Tuckwell (2007), Keith Tyler (2012), Damien van de Velde (2011), Mark Van Oostveen (2008), Eugene Wasilenia (2010), Bruce Watson (2007), Alan Webb (2010), Paul Weir (2008), Graham West OAM (2010), Brett Wilkeson (2008), Craig Williams (2008), Warren Williams (2012), Alan Wilson (2008), John Wilson (2011), Betty Winstanley (2008), Curly Woolcock (2007), Pat Wright (2008), Brian Yelds (2011), John Zander (2008), Pete Zander (2012).

Associate Members

Edna Brown (2007), Marg Culley (2010), Anne-Michelle Howell (2010), Christine Kuchel (2009), Joan Lorraine (2010), Judy Turner (2008).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please inform the Secretary, David Turner, or a member of the Committee of Management, of any change of postal address or e-mail address. This will ensure that you receive the latest copy of the Newsletter.