JUNE 2008

NEWSLETTER



AEME/RAEME ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS EDITION

Message from the President	Page 1
COL COMDT Report	Page 2
Diary Dates	Page 3
Death Notices	Page 3
* Annual RAEME Offr, WO & SNCO Dinner	Page 5
* CFN Borlace Anniversary Celebrations	Page 5
107 Fd Wksp 60 th Anniversary Dinner	Page 7
Operation Spanner Pack	Page 9
Army Apprentice Re-union	Page 10
* For urgent attention	

Presidents Message

A very successful ANZAC Re-union was held on the 18 April at the Warradale Area Other Ranks Canteen. Everyone who attended had an enjoyable time and the opportunity to recognise the sacrifices that our predecessors have made in all conflicts past. I would like to thank all who assisted in the conduct of the evening, especially CPL Woods, PMC of the Canteen committee for the use of the facility and for his personal support manning the bar for the evening. Thanks also to WO2 Al Kidney from AAB-A who officiated as bugler for the formal proceedings of the evening.

Eligible members are reminded that the Annual Central Region RAEME OFFR/WO/SNCO Dinner is on the 18 Jul at 16 AD SGT's Mess. A flyer is attached with RSVP b y 4 July. Hope to see you there.

All members are also reminded, that on Sat 19 Jul at 1400h there will be a 40th Anniversary Memorial Service conducted at the Stirling Cemetery for CFN Douglas Borlace, KIA in SVN on the 15 Jul 1968. This is an important tribute to a fallen comrade so give due consideration to attending. REME members will also be attending with their Standard to commemorate the occasion with us.

Information relating to the distribution of Spanner Packs to RAEME members serving overseas is contained in detail in the Newsletter. However, Committee decided that the most tangible way in which our Association could readily assist this venture now was to allocate \$300.00 towards the project. If anyone would like to make further donations or have corporate contacts that may be able to assist with products for the packs, it would be greatly appreciated.

Arte et Marte

Grant Kuchel

COLONEL COMMANDANT'S REPORT

Hello Everyone

On Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th May, I consider myself fortunate to have been invited to visit the workshop during their camp at Cultana. The first week of the camp was a courses week where the unit conducted an Initial Employment Training Course for 8 new recruits and the second week was spent as part of a 9 CSSB exercise supporting an Artillery live firing practice and a combined Infantry / Armoured exercise within the training area.

9 CSSB set up a combat support area about ½ km from 9 Brigade Headquarters. It was a full defensive operation with checkpoints, camouflage nets, patrols and pickets and 107 Wksp Coy conducted a traditional workshop deployment. It was good to see that a lot of the skills and training have not been lost.

In addition to the deployment and defensive requirements their was a requirement to support the other units in all the usual ways, forward repair teams, recovery operations, general engineering, vehicle repairs plus the usual generator and refrigeration maintenance and repair.

I must say that it was great to see the Cultana scrub again and to be up and close to the howitzers firing. RAEME as always was a key part of the process, checking the guns before firing and keeping them going during the live firing practice. I realised while I was there that it is over 20 years since I commanded 4 EME Services (107 Field Workshops) and set up an operational workshop in the field.

This may be the last time that the 105mm M2A2 guns are fired in a Field Battery because it is proposed to re-equip the Field Batteries with 81 mm Mortars

My thanks to the Acting OC Capt Tamassy and the ASM WO1 Wayne Birch for organising it all for me, Sgt Marks for driving me up to the camp and all those in the camp who made my time there so enjoyable. It certainly brought back lots of memories and I certainly hope I can do it again.

COL Greg Rosser



One of the wreckers "in camouflage"

DIARY DATES 2008

Activity/Function

- Committee of Management Meeting * 2008 Officer, WOs & SNCOs Formal Dinner

* Commemorative Service for CFN Borlace

- Committee of Management Meeting

* RAEME Luncheon

- Committee of Management Meeting

- RAEME Corps Seminar

* 107 Fd Wksp 60th Anniversary Dinner

- Annual General Meeting (tentative)

- RAEME Birthday Family Function (tentative)

Denotes coming events detailed in this edition

Date

Thursday 19th June

Friday 18th July Saturday 19th July

Thursday 21st August

Tuesday 9th September Thursday 16th October

22nd to 24th October

Friday 21st November

Sunday 7th December

Sunday 7th December





WO1 Derek Peachy (Retd)

Passed away 08 May 08 in Canberra Transferred from REME to RAEME during the 70's

CFN Shannon Nicholas

Succumbed to cancer on 9 May 08 (aged 26) Avionics Technician

Mal Shaddick

Died suddenly at work - 20 May 2008 28th Intake Army Apprentice (VM)

Glen Duus

Passed away 10th June 2008 at home 161 (Indep) Recce Flt

VALE – Lest We Forget

Sick Parade



SGT Geoff Parker is home convalescing after a knee replacement

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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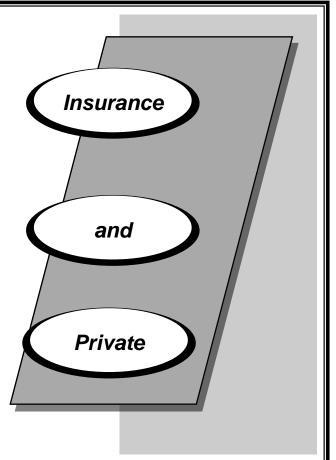
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2008 ANNUAL CENTRAL REGION RAEME OFFICERS, WOS & SNCOs FORMAL DINNER

Support Battery (the Workshop) at 16th Air Defence Regiment (16AD) Woodside Barracks, is organising the annual Formal Dinner for all serving and ex-serving RAEME ARA and GRes Officers, WOs and SNCOs.

The Dinner will be held on Friday 18th July in the 16 AD Regiment Sergeants' Mess at Woodside Barracks. Bus transport will be provided from Keswick Barracks Sergeants' Mess for those living in Adelaide.

A copy of the Invitation form is attached to this newsletter, and all those eligible to attend are encouraged to respond. RSVP is required by 4th July so don't delay. The invitation is being widely circulated to serving and ex-serving RAEME Officers, WOs and SNCOs. If you know of anyone who has not received an invitation please let them know of the activity as it promises to be a great night.

You are invited to attend the 40th Anniversary Commemorative Service for CRAFTSMAN DOUGLAS BORLACE KIA - SVN - 15 July 1968





Date - Saturday 19th July

Time - 1400 hrs

Location - Stirling Cemetery

(Cnr Strathalbyn Rd & Oxford Rd Aldgate)

Followed by afternoon tea at Aldgate RSL

Cfn Douglas Borlace was posted to South Vietman as part of the Light Aid

Detatchment (LAD) of A Sqn, 3 Cav Regiment.

On 15 July 1968 he was travelling in an armoured personnel fitters carrier on

Operation "ALBANY", when it struck a mine, killing him and wounding two others.

Cfn Borlace is one of the few RAEME soldiers to be killed on active service in SVN and the work he was doing is similar to that now being done by a number of RAEME soldiers in a variety of units.



All Association Members and particularly Vietnam Veterans are urged to attend.

RSVP or Queries to Bob Killoran on (08) 8270 2222

The next Luncheon get-together for all exserving AEME or RAEME personnel will be held on Tuesday 9th September at the Cremorne Hotel, 207 Unley Road, Unley, at 12:00pm. This Luncheon is being organised by Bob Davis. If anyone would like to attend, please contact Bob Davis on phone 08 8382 4275 before Friday 5th Sep so they can let the Pub know how many to cater for. If you know of others who spent time with AEME or RAEME, please let them know or bring them along.

A lady inserted an ad in the classifieds: "Husband Wanted".

Next day she received a hundred letters.

They all said the same thing: "You can have mine."



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ANZAC DAY 2008 MARCH REPORT

The march went smoothly again this year, numbers were down slightly but the weather was kind to us with no rain during the march. A few of the older members who were unable to march took advantage of the Land Rover personnel carriers provided by 16AD Workshop and we can't thank them enough for continuing to provide this greatly appreciated assistance.

Our President WO2 Grant Kuchel led the march this year and did a wonderful job. The revamped Association Banner was carried this year by Dutchy Holland and John Howard.

After the march a number of members accepted the invitation from the Keswick Barracks Sergeant's Mess and joined other marchers for a light luncheon and "refreshments". We thank the mess for the invitation and hope we continue to be invited in coming years.

I know that not everyone is able to march every year, but I am sure that there are a lot more members who could, and should, come and join us.





60TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER 107 FD WKSPS

The 107 Wksp Coy and COL COMDT will be holding an Mixed All Ranks Dinner a to celebrate the .60th Anniversary of the creation of 107 Fd

Wksps in 1958.

Details are as follows:

Location: Warradale Hotel
Date: 21st November 2007
Time: 1830 for 1900 hrs
Cost: \$35 per head
Dress: Neat casual

Drinks: Buy your own
Guests: Spouses /partners

welcome

Numbers will be limited to 80.

Booking slip will be distributed with the September Newsletter. For more information contact WO1 Wayne Birch or the COL COMDT 0423 715 464.

This promises to be a great night so put it in your diary now and book ASAP.

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A little girl asked her father, 'How did the human race appear?'

The father answered, 'God made Adam and Eve and they had children and so was all mankind made.'

Two days later the girl asked her mother the same question.

The mother answered, 'Many years ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved.'

The confused girl returned to her father and said, 'Dad how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Mom said they developed from monkeys?'

The father answered, 'Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your mother told you about hers.'



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Operation Spanner Pack

In the opinion of your committee, Operation Spanner Pack is one of the most significant projects ever undertaken by the RAEME

Association(s).



The aim of the operation is to provide RAEME soldiers serving overseas with a pack(s) of goodies which make their time overseas a little more comfortable.

While there are other groups eg RSL and Salvation Army who also send comfort packs to all soldiers their packs focus on general needs while the spanner packs have a focus on Corps needs.

The concept was started by the NSW branch of the Association in 2006/07 and they despatched a total of 126 packs to Iraq, Afghanistan and Solomon Islands

In 2007 the Queensland branch took over responsibility for the packs and introduced the name "Operation Spanner Pack". The focus is on supplying items not normally supplied by Defence and will assist our soldiers to live more comfortable and enjoy some of those favourite things they miss from home.

They have surveyed many of our recently returned soldiers and have put together a lists of favourite items most preferred by the soldiers. Some of these favourite items are, food (vegemite biscuits, lollies), magazines (including Spanner News and The Craftsman Magazine), packs of cards, hygiene items, games etc.

The project is not state, trade or Unit specific and it is hoped that every RAEME soldier will receive at least one pack on each rotational deployment or posting overseas.

The ultimate aim is to find a group of national major sponsors who are prepared to commit to providing suitable products which can be included in the packs to reduce the expense to the Associations.

To date, 399 spanner packs have been sent to our various overseas detachments. The following email

is one of many received regarding the receipt of spanner packs:

Hullo Ray

Today all of our packs arrived with magazines and stubbie coolers. I would like to pass on my very heart felt appreciation for what the Association has done for our deployed spanners. It was very well received by the boys, and all wish to pass on their gratitude for the efforts of the Association.

Kind Regards Doc Murdock ASM RTF3

A major donation has been made out of the Corps Fund (these dollars come from CORPS Subscriptions allotted by all ranks) plus a number of donations have been received from Associations, Units and individuals.

The AEME/RAEME Association of SA committee is looking at ways in which we can support the initiative.

Personal donations are also welcome and they can be sent as follows:

Post: Cheque/Money order to The Treasurer, (please mark "OPERATION SPANNER PACK" on the reverse side) to

RAEME Association QLD, PO Box 11 CANNON HILL, QLD, 4170

Or EFT to DEFCREDIT: 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 for "Operation Spanner Pack", or call 07 33323704.

For further details contact: Raymond G. Norman OAM Chairman RAEME Association of Queensland 07 54766254 norford.2@raemeqld.org www.raemeqld.org.



PS. Your Association committee has just voted to donate \$300 to the Spanner Pack Fund..





Australian Army Apprentices Association (Inc) 60th Anniversary Reunion and Memorial Dedication Albury / Bandiana 24 Oct 08 to 26 Oct 08

The newly formed Apprentices Association intends to construct a Memorial to be located in the grounds of the Australian Army Memorial Park, at Gaza Ridge Barracks, Bandiana South. The Park is directly opposite the Army Museum, an excellent location, which already contains several Memorials honouring various elements of Australian Army Military History.

The necessary approvals have been obtained by the Association, and it is the intention to have the construction of the Memorial completed by Oct 08.

We have decided to further mark this occasion to celebrate the establishment of the Army Apprentices School, 60 years ago at Balcombe, Victoria. We are hopeful of a very positive response from the "old boys" and partners to attend, and we anticipate our numbers to be around 1500.

Programme of Events:

The activities will cover the week end of 24 to 26 Oct 08, and will be in the Albury City and Bandiana Barracks locations.

Friday 24 Oct 08:

The Army Museum has agreed to host our Meet & Greet function at their premises to be held under covered accommodation in their adjacent compound. This is to commence at 2.00pm with a BBQ dinner served from 5.00 pm. 9.00 pm will see the event draw to a close. Seating, tables and rest rooms will be more than adequate. Because of our anticipated numbers and the need to have wet and cold weather protection, our choices in the area were very limited and were about twice the price. Never the less at that time of year Bandiana can be somewhat chilly so be prepared.

Saturday 25 Oct 08, morning:

Albury City is sponsoring our march through the CBD commencing at 10.00am. This is not a long march and will conclude with a Civic Reception by the Lord Mayor in the City square.

The march will include the AAS Banner on parade for the first time for many years, and we will be led by the band from the Royal Military College. Sounds heavy?? Not really. The Association Secretary Stephen Hladio (28th MSN) is the protocol officer at Duntroon and will also be our parade marshal on the day. You will all need to be" booted & spurred" with shiny medals, hats etc. We believe that the whole activity will be over by 11.30am, and then you are on local leave until the evening.

Our Association Patron, Gen Ken Gillespie, Chief of the Army, (23rd AAS) will be the parade host and we are seeking VIPs` from the highest level to review us "*passing by*". More details when confirmed.

Saturday 25 Oct 08, evening:

Commencing at 6.00pm the Reunion Dinner will get underway. This will include a 3 course sit down meal probably a beef / chicken alternative, but special dietary requirements will be available, just let us know when you register. Again we will be inviting dignitaries' to share this evening as our guests. That will lead to the inevitable speeches, but I promise they will be few and brief. Music of the times will come from the DJ, but I'm confident that a few of those band boys, given half a chance under the baton of Stephen Hladio, will do us a treat as well. The setting for the Dinner is the Albury Civic Centre, Swift St. This is where we formed up for the parade earlier in the day and, which whilst being the biggest venue in Albury, can only accommodate 750 bodies. Tables will be set for 10 people and Groups / Intakes will be able to reserve a table provided that:

- full payment for the table has been made, ie, \$450.00,
- · occupants are listed by name, and
- a nominated contact name (table captain) with mobile number is submitted.

This evening should be concluded no later than 11.30pm. To ensure your place at this "night of nights", we can only suggest that you plan your numbers, and book early.

Sunday 26 Oct 08, morning:

The Memorial Dedication Ceremony is to commence at 10.00am at the Army Museum Memorial Park, Gaza Ridge Barracks, Bandiana South. Again the band from Duntroon will be in attendance and the ceremony is to be managed by our Secretary Stephen Hladio, who as you can readily see will be a busy boy over this weekend. We would like to see the same dress turnout as we had for the Albury Parade.

Sunday 26 Oct 08, 12.30pm

A BBQ luncheon with refreshments will be available back at our Friday night venue and this will continue until 4.00pm when our festivities come to an end. This is another opportunity for intake members to get together.

2007 RAEME MIXED ANZAC FUNCTION

The 2007 RAEME Mixed ANZAC Function was again held in the combined Warradale Area Other Ranks Canteen (southern side of the oval) on Friday 18th April. Numbers were down a little on last year even with our friendly contingent of members from the REME Association SA.

A "Remembrance Ceremony" was held at 9:00pm with a bugler from Australian Army Band - Adelaide playing the "Rouse" and "Last Post". The function concluded at approx 11:30pm.

Our thanks go to the following people who made the evening such a success:

- 107 Field Workshop for providing the necessary stores
- Sophie Killoran for collecting money at the door.
- Cpl Wood PMC of the WAORC for organising the bar.
- WO2 Grant Kuchel and his wife, Christine for organising the food, condiments, plates, cutlery etc.
- Trevor Clerke and Michael Stone for the use of their BBQ trailers and help (with John Howard) in cooking the meal.
- Major Richard Moyses for organising the raffle prizes and selling the tickets. The raffle made over \$300 profit for the Association (a great effort).

Our Treasurer, Bob Killoran, reports that the association made over \$500 profit from the evening.

Thanks go to all those who assisted in any way during the evening and with refurbishing the Mess on Friday night. I apologise if I have forgotten anyone.

A man left from work one Friday afternoon. But, instead of going home, he stayed out the entire week-end hunting with the boys and spending his entire paycheck. When he finally appeared at home, Sunday night, he was confronted by his very angry wife and was barraged for nearly two hours with a tirade of his actions.

Finally his wife stopped the nagging and simply said to him. "How would you like it if you didn't see me for two or three days?"

To which he replied: "Are you kiddin me, "That would be Great."

Monday went by and he didn't see his wife. Tuesday and Wednesday came and went with the same results. Finally on Thursday, the swelling went down just enough where he could see her a little out of the corner of his left eye.

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REMINDERS

If you have a computer and are connected to the internet you can receive your newsletter by email.

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email or try it and see how it works send an email to *gregrosser@adam.com.au* and say if it is a trial or you would like to receive it by email permanently.

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MEMBERSHIP

On behalf of the Association, We would like to welcome the following new and previous members: Mr Geoff Coat and Jake Meaney

Subs are due on 1 July in the year your membership is current to . If the date on your membership card (and the list below) shows 2008, then you subs are now due and a green reminder slip is included with this newsletter. Subs are still \$5 for one year or any multiple thereof eg \$20 for four years.

All subs are to be forwarded to the Secretary so that records can be updated accordingly. Please remember not to send cash through the post as we have cases of this going missing with Australia Post.

According to the records, the following persons are financial members of the Association:

Honorary Life Members

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

Current Members

Current Members

Wally Ade (2010), Milton Ahrens (2009), Frank Aldous (2008), Jeff Allen (2008), Heath Arblaster (2009), Peter Badcock (2010), Joe Barton (2009), Richard Beare (2009), Gavin Bellis (2010), Paul Berk (2008), Wayne Birch (2009), John Black (2010), Helmut Bohn (2008), David Brand (2011), Fred Brown (2008), Shane Buckley (2008), Roger Burzacott (2009), Nicholas Cashman (2008), Dave Cawthorne (2009), Craig Chatterton (2008), John Clark (2008), Trevor Clerke (2015), Geoff Coat (2018,) Brian Cogan (2010), Don Collins (2008), George Cooke (2011), Ian Coulter (2008), Peter Cox (2011), 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), Andew 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), Jock Hart (2008), Don Harvy (2010), Arthur Hasse (2009), Norm Hay (2008), Greg Hay (2010), Colin Haynes (2010), Jim Hendrickx (2008), Tony Hinton (2011), Brian Holmes (2010), Darryl Horner (2010), John Howard (2011), Gary Howell (2008), Rodney Hussey (2009), Graham Janz (2011), Juris Jaudzems (2010), Jeff Johns (2011), Lindsay Johnson (2009), Ben Jones (2008), Eric Kelly (2008), Bob King (2010), Geoff Kohler (2011), Grant Kuchel (2009), Hans Larsen (2008), Alf Lee (2010), Lou Leeuwrik (2011), Ken Lorraine (2009), Greg Lowe (2013), Chris Macintosh (2010), Steve Maher (2008),

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Associate Members

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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