

March 2024 NEWSLETTER



RAEME ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (RAEME-SA)

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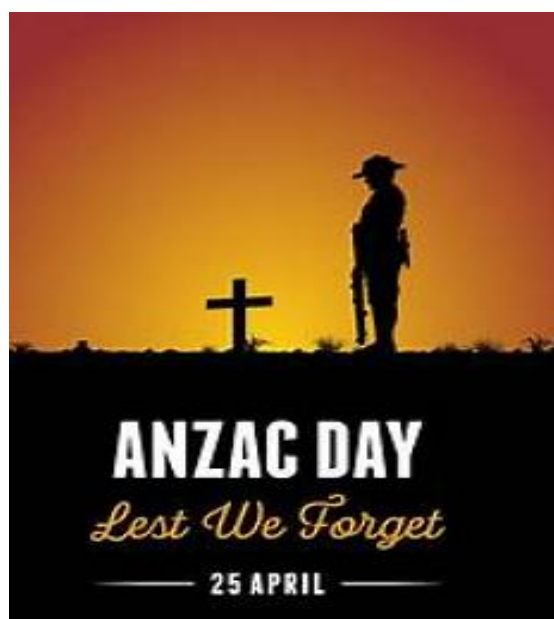
Honorary COLCOMDT - Central Region:-
COL Andrew Herbert

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Photos in this edition are courtesy of John Prince and several other contributors. Thanks to all.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Members

Welcome to our latest newsletter. It is with great pride and pleasure that I greet you as the newly elected president of the RAEME Association of South Australia (RAEME-SA). The full list of committee members is on page 1 of this newsletter. Thank you to all committee members and support staff both past and present. With Richard Moyses taking up a Fulltime Army Service position in the Northern Territory, I was happy to step up from Vice President to submit my name as an available candidate for the position and I was humbled when elected by the membership. Thank you for your vote of confidence and I hope to fulfil the role to your satisfaction. I would also like to extend the thanks of the RAEME National Network for Richard's many years of dedicated service to the Corps and the SA membership during his time as president. We can all be confident that even though he might be far away he will still lend his support to the SA association in his new remote role as Vice President along with the valued support from his wife Judy who keeps the home fires burning as assistant to the association secretary.

For those who may be unaware of my history, I have been a proud RAEME member since Corps enlisting as an Adult Electronics Tradesman at the tender age of 20 in 1984 and the Corps colours are always close to my heart. After completing my twenty seventh year of service in the fulltime Army on the 4th of Dec 2011, I transitioned directly to the active Army Reserve based at Warradale Barracks on the 5th of Dec and into civilian employment in the Australian Defence Public Service at the Joint Logistic Unit (South) (JLU-S) at RAAF Base Edinburgh. I am happy to say that I'm still actively involved in both forms of Defence service and I intend to continue with the full support of my devoted family. They have travelled across Australia with me during the various postings of my military career and our three children are now leading their own lives in three different states, while my wife Ellen and I have decided to settle in Adelaide. We will celebrate our 30th wedding anniversary in May of this year. Ellen and I regularly attend RAEME association gatherings and she proudly wears her RAEME brooches and the RAEME colours when the occasion permits.

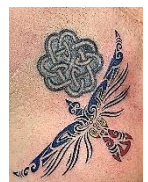
I have been happy to represent our association on various occasions over recent years and I was very happy to have been asked to present the RAEME-SA

ARA Soldier of the Year award, last year, during Corps celebrations at RAAF Base Edinburgh. Of note also, was the graveside vigil and recognition of CFN Douglas Borlace, who died during the Vietnam Conflict. The remembrance vigil was attended by many of the local members in August of last year. I am sure that we are all very eager to participate in this year's Corps celebrations as it will be close to the departure dates of a large contingent of dedicated RAEME brethren following the outcomes of the Defence Strategic Review and restructuring of many military units who have established a valued presence in our region.

Corps business will carry on with complete transparency as always and the committee of management welcomes your attendance at all meetings and functions. Contributions from members are always valued and given unbiased consideration. If you have suggestions that you feel will benefit and enhance the role and impact of the RAEME Association of SA and the greater RAEME National Network, please submit your ideas through any of the committee members and rest assured they will be heard. Please encourage your RAEME mates to join RAEME-SA and support the continuation of Esprit de Corps in the SA region. Any members, who would like to join us in implementing change to make the association more relevant for the new and emerging RAEME soldiers and build on a contemporary focus, are welcome to make suggestions for us all to act on. ***Be prepared to actively be part of those changes.***

I hope you are all in good health and well prepared for the year ahead. Keep your eyes on the upcoming RAEME activities planned for this year and we hope to observe maximum participation at every level. Again, we hope to involve representatives from the REME Association and the numerous veteran support groups, clubs and affiliated families around SA. I have had recent phone conversations and contributed to email correspondence to discuss the National Corps growth and ways for the state-based Associations to embrace the enhancement of the Brotherhood and sustainment of our Specialised Technical Prowess. We have a proud heritage and a strong future.

Arte et Marte
John Prince
President





Congratulations



2023 “Soldiers of the Year” Award (Association Awards)

ARA – CFN Blake Magatelli, Tech Elec, 16 Regt RAA



Our new President WO2 John Prince presenting the ARA SofY award to CFN Magatelli at the Corps Birthday Activity- Edinburgh Dec 2023

GRES – CFN Charles O’Grady, Recovery Mechanic, 107 Fd Wksp Coy, 9 CSSB

Committee Member Doug Pammenter presented the Association ARes SofY award to CFN O’Grady at the 107 Fd Wksp Coy 2023 Corps Birthday Activity.

Unfortunately, while photos were taken of the presentation no one seems to be able to provide a copy for inclusion in our Newsletter.

We will certainly include a copy in a future edition if one is provided. Ed

2023 CADET AWARD - Best overall Cadet at 43ACU

The winner of the Best Overall Cadet at 43 ACU is CDTSGT Reed

On 25 November 2023, CDTSGT Reed was awarded a Global Citizenship Award for United Nations Youth at Flinders University.

CDTSGT Reed is an inspiration not only participating in the UN citizenship program, but that she ran the unit exceptionally well, from a cadet perspective. CDTSGT Reed has completed her year 12 studies to get into law requiring a very high grade and study to see her achieve the best she can.

The OC 43 ACU believes that CDTSGT Reed is the worthiest recipient for the 2023 RAEME-SA award.

Congratulations to All. Ed.

RAEME Association of SA **DIARY DATES 2024**

Activity/Function

Date

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| - Committee of Management Meeting | Wednesday 20 th March |
| - 2024 ANZAC Lunch (WAFC - see page 6) | Saturday 20 th April |
| - 2024 ANZAC Day March (Details to be confirmed) | Thursday 25 th April |
| - Committee of Management Meeting | Wednesday 19 th June |
| - "Harry the Horse" RAEME Luncheon (location WAFC) | Tuesday 3 rd September |
| - Committee of Management Meeting | Wednesday 18 th September |
| - 2024 Annual General Meeting (WAFC) | Saturday 30 th November |
| - 2024 Corps Birthday Family Function (WAFC) | Saturday 30 th November |

Allied Military Association Functions

- | | |
|---|--|
| - REME Activities for 2024 (Various) | Details will be circulated as provided |
| - Keswick Museum History Week Lunch (See Page 7)
(see also www.amosa.org.au) | Wednesday 22 nd May |

VALE – Lest We Forget

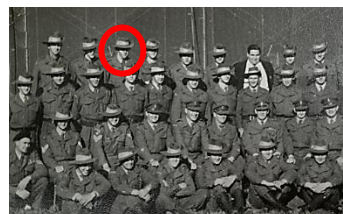


CFN Albert Wright

Passed away 27 February 2024

Craftsman with 107 Inf Wkps

Aged 85 years



CAPT Trevor Parrott

Passed away 19 March 2024

Radio Mech - 14th Intake

Vietnam Veteran

Subsequently served in ARes with 107 Fd Wksp



Online lists of recent RAEME members Deaths and Illnesses are always available at:

- <http://www.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/vale-alt>
- <http://www.sa.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/vale-report>

ANZAC MARCH 2024

The 2024 ANZAC Commemorative March Thursday 25th April - Commencing at 9:30am.



(Last year's March)

This year's march will be similar to last year. We want to see as many RAEME personnel as possible join us for this year's March. Feel free to march with the appropriate RAEME Section by going to their respective Forming Up Point (FUP). See more details below.

FULL DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE APRIL (ANZAC MARCH) EDITION.



More details available **SOON** at

<https://www.rlsa.org.au/anzac-day/>

It is understood that the Order of March has not changed from last year. This means our Vietnam Workshops veterans are still in Group 5 and their FUP is on the northern side of North Terrace. The RAEME Association of SA members are in Group 12 with their FUP still on the northern side of Grenfell St fronting on to Pulteney Street.

Assembly Areas

- RAEME Vietnam Veterans – northern side of North Terrace roughly opposite Pulteney Street.
- RAEME Association Group – northern side of Grenfell Street adjacent to the RAA Building.

The Association ANZAC Day March co-ordinator will again be John Howard, look out for him and/or the Association Banner.

We are assuming there will be enough Vietnam veteran members to march under their own banner again this year. If there are not enough to make it an acceptable sized group, we suggest those members attending join with the Association in Group 12 (with your Banner).

The route is the same as last year and salutes will occur at the National War Memorial, the South African War Memorial and the Vice-Regal Saluting Point on the eastern side of King William Road near the Parade Ground at Torrens Training Depot.

After the March:

We usually all meet at Torrens Parade Grounds for something to eat and drink. The editor has not been advised of any planned RAEME lunch activities on the day.

DON'T miss this ANZAC activity



RAEME ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA



2024 ANZAC Function

To be held at the West Adelaide Football Club

57 Milner Road Richmond

Plenty of onsite parking available

Saturday 20th April 2024

From 1130hrs through until 1600hrs

Neat casual attire

Meals from extensive menu, (including seniors)

Drinks available from the bar

Members, guests, friends, and family are all welcome

Vast array of raffle prizes to be won on the day

Important

For catering purposes please confirm your attendance to

raeme.sa.association@gmail.com

or phone 0412 021 411 by Monday 15 April





Army Museum of South Australia

History Lunch

22 May 2024 from 12—2pm

Join us for lunch and a talk about

“Keswick Barracks..... Past and Present”

A two course meal with drinks available for purchase from the bar. Three exciting speakers for the talk after lunch.



The buildings, the site develop and use, and the people are an integral part of our military history.

Our speakers include: Helen Meyer, Annette Summers AO RFD, John Spencer OAM RFD and John Claxton to talk about their experiences and research into the history of Keswick Barracks.

For a booking and a seat at a table with your friends please send to:
<http://e.mybookingmanager.com/E11562613180558>

Cost for the lunch and talk is \$30 and a concession of \$25 for volunteers at the Museum.

Please book early to avoid disappointment—this year will be seating for 100 people.



There will be a RAEME table so if you want to make your own group or be part of the RAEME table contact Greg Rosser on 0423 715 464 or email gregrosser@adam.com.au

2023 AGM - RAEME Association of SA

VENUE; West Adelaide Football Club, 57 Milner Road, Richmond. S.A. 5013.

The following are details of the highlights and outcomes of the AGM. The President was in Darwin so the meeting was run by the Secretary Don Harvy.

President's Report

- President advised he will be working in Darwin in 2024 and will not be standing for President. He requested our current Vice President, John Prince nominate for the President's role.
- Pleased with our activities and hope members see benefits and continue supporting the association.
- Thanks to Bob *Klackers* Killoran for organising the bi-annual lunches and the merchandising.
- Unfortunately, the combined logistics function was cancelled due to slow ticket sales.
- Commend Bob Killoran for organising the Vietnam Veterans Vigil for CFN Doug Borlace.
- Continue to be proud of our relationship with the REME Assoc, SA Chapter.
- RAEME National Network continues to play its role in conjunction with the state associations. BRIG (Rtd) Ross Grant will be standing down as President in 2024.
- Our COL COMDT, Colonel Andrew Herbert, sends his regards and best wishes for today



Secretary's Report

- Membership applications via the RAEME Website forwarded to the membership member.
- Regularly get requests from former RAEME members attempting to contact previous friends.
- The OC of 43 Army Cadet Unit at Warradale Barracks is CAPT(AAC) Adam Doe. The unit is keen to maintain the sponsorship of the RAEME Association. A representative of the RAEME Association is invited to the 43 ACU EOYP to present our trophy.
- Corps Birthday and other function invitations received.
- Secretary reported on "Back to Bandiana" activity. See article page 9

Treasurer's Report

Total Income	\$3,883.40	
Total Expenditure	\$ 2,620.31	
2023 Operating Costs	Surplus	\$1,263.09

TOTAL Net Position **\$15,211.49** (Incl. Term Deposit and Merchandise on-hand)

Treasurer advised we need to transfer Term Deposit monies from Defence Bank due to the closure of the Keswick Branch and difficulties in accessing the Edinburgh Branch. **It was approved** that the Association Investment account be closed, and the money deposited into a more accessible bank. For resolution by the Committee in 2024.

Election of Office Bearers

No new nominations, but the President MAJ Moyses and Vice President WO2 John Prince have swapped positions. Current Committee members and positions are as shown on the front page of this Newsletter.

New Association Banner.

There has been ongoing correspondence between the Secretary and RAQ. The cost of having the banner made here in Australia can be up to \$6000, however there are cheaper options for about \$2000. Both options include poles/pikes/baldrics etc.

The recommended option is to seek overseas manufacture. Example, the purchase of the RAEME-SA Association Flag.

Support to 43 Army Cadet Unit

The Secretary reported that 43 Army Cadet Unit are very grateful for the ongoing sponsorship to the unit and would appreciate the commitment to continue for 2024. Secretary explained the monies assist with Cadets from lower socio-economic situations attend training weekends and bivouacs.

Lou Leeuwrik proposed that a sponsorship of \$300 be given to 43 Army Cadet Unit for 2024 as the previous sponsorship amount was not adequate.

Activities and Functions for 2024

The Committee is planning to run the usual range of activities in 2024 (ANZAC Function, ANZAC March, Bi-annual Luncheons, Corps Birthday etc).

Back to Bandiana Reunion

A back to Bandiana reunion was held over the weekend of 20/21/22 October 2023. The event included the following:

The event was attended by approx one hundred people including some partners of members.

Association members that attended the reunion were:

Don Harvy, Chris Duffield, Lou Leeuwrik, Wally Ade, Tim Newall, Ray Ryan, Dean Lewis with Grant Kuchel being unable to attend due to illness in the family. There was a large contingent of other South Australian ex RAEME members that attended the reunion, including WO1 (Rtd) Rod 'Zac'. Zecchini

Friday 20th October

- Meet and greet with bar snacks at the Edwards Tavern Wodonga.

Saturday 21st October.

- Bus and ground tour of the old RAEME Training Centre, (now ALTC), including Elec and Veh Wing. The Armt Wing no longer exists.
- Lunch at the Blazing Stump Hotel.
- Visit to ARMY Museum Bandiana.
- Dinner at the Edwards Tavern.

Sunday 22nd October.

- Bus and ground tour of ASEME, Bonegilla.
- Formal Dinner at the Edwards Tavern.



Thanks to Don Harvy for the article

2023 RAEME-SA CORPS BIRTHDAY

The 2023 RAEME Corps Birthday function was held at the West Adelaide Football Club, on Saturday 2nd December 2023

This was a popular venue for our 2022 AGM and Corps Birthday activities, and we elected to hold it there again in 2023. It is popular as we have our own separate room, but can still order food from the club's standard menu (including their senior's menu) and order our drinks at the bar. Thanks to the West Adelaide Football Club for their support. The onsite parking was a bonus.



Our Birthday Cake



Brian Touhy and wife Brenda



Left Members enjoying their meals

As usual the raffle was a monstrous event and most people ended up winning a prize.

A great afternoon was enjoyed by all.



*Left:
Another lucky Raffle Prize winner*

“Harry The Horse” Luncheon

Held Tuesday 5th March 2024 at the West Adelaide Football Club

Unfortunately, the latest Harry the Horse Luncheon, held on 5th March had several regulars who were unable to attend so numbers were severely depleted. Those who attended included: (Clockwise) Troy Oakes, Don and Raelene Harvy, Bob Matthew, Bob Killoran and Dean Lewis.

We are looking to increase attendance at this activity, so if you are free on Tuesdays and would like to enjoy a nice meal in great company put the next Luncheon date in your diary now.

Tuesday 3rd September 2024



REME 81st CORPUS Birthday



With the ongoing reciprocal invitations between our two associations, we again received an invitation to attend the REME Corps Birthday Lunch. It was held at the Coopers Ale House, Gepps Cross on Sunday 24th September and was another well attended affair.



Our members, (L-R) Don Harvy (plus family) and Lou Leeuwrik



RAEME member's only raffle prize, a lovely handbag

2023 ARA Corps Birthday Activity Hosted by 7RAR - Edinburgh

(Sorry no names were provided so enjoy looking for your picture)

Text based on article by WO2 Maitland and photos courtesy of John Prince. Many thanks to them both.

7 RAR hosted the 81st RAEME Birthday celebrations for South Australia at RAAF Base Edinburgh last year. It was a sunny day and fun was had by all. The day included the usual RAEME Birthday activities and inter unit banter.

As for all birthdays the highlight is the cutting and eating of the Birthday Cake. Our birthday was no exception.



There was also a good trade stall turnout with teams from Milwaukee, Total tools, ARB, Blackwoods and many more.



In honour of the hosting unit, lunch was a pig roasted on a spit that started cooking at 0430hrs. By lunchtime the meat was falling off the bone. This and the food provided by the food vans was quickly devoured by the hungry participants.



There were many styles and methods, but the spanner throw was taken with ease by 16 REGT.



The real upset was 9 CSSB beating 7 RAR in the tug of war and ultimately cleaning up and taking away Champion Unit at the 2023 SA RAEME Birthday.



As only three of the local units decided to build carts and enter the comp, the race was over quite quickly. All-in-all the carts were quite well matched with half a second between 9 CSSB and 7 RAR. Almost a minute and a half later 1 ARMD crossed the line taking 3rd place



9 CSSB walked away with wins in volleyball, Tug of war, and the go-karting

AND THERE WAS MORE



Once all the activities had wound up, this year's award recipients were announced.

- CFN Blake Magatelli – 16 Regt, RAA, was awarded the RAEME Association SA Soldier of the Year award.
- LCPL Connor Bilby – 1st Armoured Regiment, was awarded the National Craftsman of the Year – SA.
- CPL Jordan Van Den Berg – Joint Electronic Warfare Operational Support Unit, was awarded the Brigadier H.L.C Martins OBE Memorial Encouragement Award for 2023.



A fun time was had by all

Membership Renewal

Is your Membership up for Renewal??????

Subs are due on 1st July in the year your membership expires. Reminders have been sent out so if you have forgotten to pay **NOW IS THE TIME TO DO IT.**

Subs are \$10 per year with a maximum forward payment of 5 years eg \$50 for five years.

If in doubt please contact our Treasurer/Membership Member

CPL Bob Matthew (mobile) **0409 962 208**

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) facilities are available.

BSB **065-127**

Account No. **00900324**

Account Name **RAEME ASSOCIATION of SA INC**

Please send an email to our Membership Member advising him of the payment.
robert.m1@bigpond.com

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED JOINING OUR ASSOCIATION?

You can join by applying on the website <https://sa.raeme.org.au/>

or contacting our Membership Member - Bob Matthew

Email: robert.m1@bigpond.com Mobile: 0409 962 208

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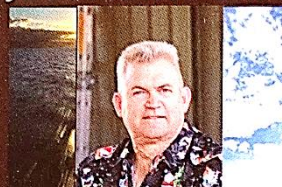
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John Prince - Photographics



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**If we're not
meant to
have
midnight
snacks, why
is there a
light in the
fridge?**