



AEME/RAEME ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

52 Pimpala Road
MORPHETT VALE SA 5162
Phone: (08) 8381 3644

OCTOBER 2006 NEWSLETTER

Honorary COLCOMDT Central Region: COL Graham Smith (Rtd) Representative COLCOMDT

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Executive Officers

- President - WO2 Grant Kuchel Ph: 0402 208 260
- Vice President - Vacant
- Secretary - David Turner Ph: (08) 8381 3644 (after hours)
- Treasurer - Bob Killoran Ph: (08) 8270 2222 (after hours)

Ordinary Officers

- Mike Culley Ph: (08) 8294 3820
- John Howard Ph: (08) 8447 7681
- Bob Matthews Ph: (08) 8346 4188
- Frank Owen Ph: (08) 8384 7291
- Brian Holmes Ph: (08) 8362 3216
- Juris Jaudzems Ph: (08) 8277 1057
- MAJ Richard Moyses Ph: 0427 716 728

Property Member

SGT Steve Maher Ph: (08) 8207 7026 (work)

Auditors

- Robin Maslen OAM Ph: (08) 8296 2768
- George Robinson Ph: (08) 8272 9872

Association Historian

Vacant

AEME/RAEME Association of South Australia Inc. Web Site

www.raemesa.com

Webmaster - WO1 Dean Ellis e-mail - jeddell@bigpond.net.au

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Another year is fast coming to a close and I am sure everyone is looking forward to the Christmas New Year break and enjoying the festive season with family and friends.

The WW1 Gun Team continues with their labour of love and they should be proud of their efforts so far. The restoration will not be completed for Remembrance Day celebrations this year at Moonta as hoped, but it will be returned and dedicated at an appropriate time in the New Year.

SGT Steve Maher, our Property Member, has scored a deployment with Rifle Company Butterworth for three months. Contrary to the position that he was going to fill, Steve has become Platoon SGT, 1 Platoon and is currently on a training exercise in Townsville honing his infantry skills before the company deploys. Steve will be returning mid February 2007.

The web site is progressing extremely well under the custodianship of our Webmaster WO1 Dean Ellis. Since its upgrade it now has greater capacity and functionality, so if you have anything of interest, including articles and pictures, you can submit them to the Committee for possible inclusion. You can also contact Robin Maslen if you want further advice or information relating to the web site.

The annual RAEME Corps Conference was held on 19-20 October 2006 at Army Logistic Training Centre, Bandiana, Victoria. I attended with the ASM 107 FD WKSP, WO1 Wayne Birch. The theme of the Conference was "MMM in Support of Operations". Presentations covered, included trade proficiency, contracting and fleet procurement. A significant part of the conference however covered the development of revised Corps Doctrine, something that has been lacking since the introduction of new electronic maintenance programmes and the move to a Tri-Service environment. Robust debate was evident and general agreement reached to enable HOC Cell to move forward. The conference and both dinners were well attended and enjoyed by all. Also the Head of Corps BRIG David Mcgahey, CSC, attended and handed over Head of Corps responsibilities to BRIG David Welch, after 4 years at the helm.

The last Association activities for 2006 will be the AGM and Corps Birthday celebrations on Sunday 3 Dec. This year the AGM will be held in 107 FD WKSP.

Nominations for the Election of Office Bearers for 2007 will be taken from the floor.

I ask members to attend and also consider making an additional contribution to the Association by taking a role on the committee. Current members on your committee have been serving for many years and Secretary David Turner has decided to step down at the end of 2007. The election of an Assistant Secretary at the AGM is vital for a smooth transition at the end of 2007. Immediately after the AGM, Corps Birthday celebrations will take place in the Warradale Area Other Ranks Canteen.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM and Corps Birthday Celebrations.

ARTE et MARTE

- *Grant Kuchel*

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Well it may be the middle of Spring, but the weather feels more like early Summer. And of course the big Dry continues. I hope this Newsletter finds you in better spirits now the cold of Winter is definitely behind us.

I am currently seeking permission to hold the **Annual General Meeting** on the morning of **Sunday 3 December** prior to the **2006 RAEME Corps Birthday Family Function** (the date and time of the AGM will be confirmed in the Notice of AGM due out next month). As I mentioned in the July Newsletter, if re-elected as Secretary at this AGM, this will be my last year on the Committee of the Association for the time being. I will make myself available for election to the Committee when I retire from work in approximately 5 years time. I hope, therefore, that you, the Members, will elect an Assistant Secretary, or a new Secretary, at this AGM, so that they can "learn the ropes" (if a new Secretary is elected then I will be quite happy to be elected Assistant Secretary for the coming year). I also strongly recommend that someone volunteer to take on the job of Editor of the Newsletter. This will make the Secretary's job less time consuming. I know that both the President, Grant Kuchel, and the Treasurer, Bob Killoran, have been on the Committee for a long time now (10 years for Grant, 11 years for Bob) and both would like someone else to take over. However, they realise that it would be unfair to the Association for us all to step down together. Current Committee Members with long service are Mike Culley (12 years), John Howard (11 years) and Frank Owen (13 years). So, **please give serious consideration to giving some of your time to the Committee of Management of the Association in 2007.**

MAJ David Rogers, Officer Commanding 107 Field Workshop 9CSSB, Warradale Barracks, has confirmed that the date of the **2006 RAEME Corps Birthday Family Function** is on the afternoon of **Sunday 3 December**. **An Invitation with all the details is attached to this Newsletter.** It is intended that the function will be held straight after the **Annual General Meeting** in the morning. That way personnel from 107 Field Workshop, many of whom are members of the Association, can attend the AGM.

DIARY DATES 2006

<u>Activity/Function</u>	<u>Date</u>
- Fort Largs Guns Restoration	Saturday 2 December

- | | | |
|--|--------|------------|
| - Annual General Meeting (tentative) | Sunday | 3 December |
| - RAEME Birthday Family Function (tentative) | Sunday | 3 December |

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

We are currently seeking permission to hold the Annual General Meeting on the morning of **Sunday 3 December** in the **Workshop at Warradale Barracks**. If permission is granted then the meeting will start at **10:00am sharp!** The meeting should finish in good time for the BBQ Lunch being put on by 107 Field Workshop personnel in conjunction with the Association at the start of the Birthday Function in the afternoon at the Warradale Area Other Ranks Canteen.

Please give serious consideration to giving some of your time to the Association by becoming a member of the Committee of Management in 2007. As I mentioned in *FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK*, all three current members of the Executive have given 10 years or more service to the Association, and three of the seven Committee have also given 11 years or more of service. Its time others stepped up to take the Association to the next level. We also need someone to take over RAEME Merchandise sales (SGT Steve Maher has been deployed to Rifle Company, Butterworth, until mid February 2007) and someone to look after the photos and documents in the Association Historical collection.

Meetings are held bi-monthly, currently on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30pm in Warradale Barracks (although the date/time is subject to the agreement of the Committee members who are elected). Although we have approval to have our meetings in the Warradale Area SGT's Mess, for convenience we now meet in the Conference Room at 107 Field Workshop. The meetings are of a relaxed, informal nature.

As per the "Statement of Purposes and Rules" of the Association, you will receive the Notice of AGM and Agenda by post three weeks before the AGM.

2006 RAEME BIRTHDAY FAMILY FUNCTION

MAJ David Rogers, Officer Commanding 107 Field Workshop 9CSSB, Warradale Barracks, is organising a **mixed all ranks family function** to celebrate the RAEME Corps Birthday (we will be 64 years young). It will be held in the **Warradale Area Other Ranks' Canteen at Warradale Barracks** on the afternoon of **Sunday 3 December**. Entry to Warradale Barracks is via the Main Gate on Oaklands Road.

The function will commence at 11:30am. 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 most senior and most junior serving RAEME persons present will cut the Birthday Cake. The 2006 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 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 me, or ring me, after hours, on phone 08 8381 3644, before Sunday 19 November at the latest so we know how many to cater for.

2006 RAEME "SOLDIER OF THE YEAR" CENTRAL REGION

The 2006 Awards to the best ARA and GRes "Soldier of the Year" in Central Region will be presented at the **2006 RAEME Corps Birthday Family Function on Sunday 3 December**.

MAJ Karel Dubsky, Senior RAEME Representative Central Region and Battery Commander of Support Battery (the Workshop) at 16AD Regiment, Woodside Barracks, will select the winning ARA candidate. MAJ David Rogers, Officer Commanding 107 Field Workshop 9CSSB, Warradale Barracks, 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 6 November** (good luck to all serving RAEME Soldiers - Ed).

A SENIOR MOMENT

A very elderly gentleman, (mid nineties) very well dressed, hair well groomed, great looking suit, flower in his lapel, smelling slightly of a good after shave, presenting a well-looked after image, walks into an upscale cocktail lounge.

Seated at the bar is an elderly looking lady, (mid eighties).

The gentleman walks over, sits alongside her, orders a drink, takes a sip, turns to her and says, "So tell me - do I come here often?"

- *Courtesy of an e-mail from a friend*

FORT LARGS GUNS RESTORATION PROJECT

John Howard has reported that he, Lindsay Johnson, Robin Maslen and Keith Tainsh attended the Work Party held on 19 August. They greased and exercised the mechanisms of both Guns and fixed two (2) brass Plaques, made by WO2 Ian Jeisman several years ago acknowledging the restoration work carried out by Association members over the years, in the vicinity of the Guns.

As John was the only person who attended the Work Party on 7 October, he was not able to do much except grease and exercise the mechanisms.

The final Work Party for the year will be held on Saturday 2 December. Members are very welcome to visit (you don't need to bring your overalls). Please ring John Howard on phone 08 8447 7681 prior to the scheduled date to check that the Work Party has not been rescheduled.

WORLD WAR I GERMAN 105MM HOWITZER RESTORATION - UPDATE

Work has really progressed on the restoration of this gun since the last update. The barrel is back in place, a new rear handle and locking mechanism has been manufactured, along with new brake cables and numerous small nuts, bolts and spindles. The gun has been undercoated and the wheelwright has commenced manufacturing the two new wooden wheels. I have visited Moonta and given a presentation of 150 slides of the work in progress to all the sponsors who have contributed to the project. The Moonta Mayor Paul Thomas and his wife and the State RSL Vice President Don Richards and his wife were also in attendance. All were amazed at the extent of the work being carried out.

Our original deadline for the 11th November will not be reached and so it is planned for a special event early in 2007. The new building to house the gun has been completed with interior decorating in progress.

On the way to Moonta I called into the Veteran & Families excellent facilities in Kadina where I met Mike Rodstedt Pension Officer and one of the members who will be undertaking the restoration of the Kadina 10.5 cm WW1 German trophy. He was after lots of information and advice for their group before starting on their gun.

The final challenge for the Moonta gun is to design and manufacture a breech mechanism to operate the breech block, load the very large balancing spring under the barrel tissy up a few bits and pieces fit the new wooden seats and help fit the steel tyres to the wooden wheels then give the gun a couple of coats of paint and it will be ready to take "home" to Moonta. When this happens we will have a go at making up a couple of dummy shells to finish the picture.

For those on the Internet the association now has a new website with lots of room for articles and photos. The latest update on this restoration project with a load of pictures has been added by Dean Ellis the Webmaster in Townsville.

It is worth a look. <http://www.raemesa.com/articles/ww1Gun.html>

- *Robin Maslen OAM*

NEWSLETTER

Attached to this Newsletter is a Survey Form. Robin Maslen is seeking a return from Members who would like to receive their copy of the Newsletter via e-mail. **Please return the "tear-off" slip to Robin Maslen as soon as possible.**

RAEME MERCHANDISE - AVAILABLE LOCALLY

The Association has a small stock of RAEME Merchandise. Listed below are the items that are currently available:

RAEME Cap	\$15:00
Artificer Cap	\$15:00
RAEME Tie	\$30:00
RAEME Tie Tack	\$8:00
RAEME Stubby Holder	\$6:50

Payment can be made by cash, or cheque made out to:

AEME/RAEME Association of South Australia Inc,

Enquiries can be made to WO2 Grant Kuchel. Phone (08) 8305 7023, or fax (08) 8305 7027, on weekdays, 8:00am to 4:00pm.

RAEME MERCHANDISE - ARMY MUSEUM BANDIANA

Below is an up-to-date list of RAEME Merchandise held by the Army Museum Bandiana and their costs:

RAEME Tie Pin	\$7:00
RAEME Pewter Coaster (2 per pack)	\$8:00
RAEME Thermal Mug	\$15:00
RAEME Print - Presentation of the Prince Philip Banner (unframed)	\$5:00
RAEME Statue "The Craftsman"	\$85:00
RAEME Thermal Mug Khaki	\$12:00
RAEME Coffee Cup	\$7:00
RAEME Mouse Mat	\$6:00
RAEME / Artificer Cuff Links	\$15:00
RAEME / Artificer Tie Bar	\$8:00
Artificer Tie Tack	\$7:00
Stubby Holder (Blue Bell & Artificer)	\$7:00
Plaques (RAEME, Artificer, Balcombe & Latchford)	\$40:00
Army Apprentice Hat & Collar Badges	\$5:00
Apprentice Mouse mats	\$6:00
Field Message Note Book	\$10:00
Field Message Note Book Refills	\$2:50
Note Book Cover DPCU	\$15:00
40 Page Vuee Tuee	\$15:00

If you are interested in purchasing any of these items, contact **Army Museum Bandiana** on phone (02) 6055 2525 or fax (02) 6055 2886, Monday to Friday between 8:00am and 4:00pm, or via e-mail bandiana.museum@defence.gov.au. The prices include GST, but not postage and handling. However, they will tell you how much your order will cost when you ring to enquire. Note that prices are also subject to change (please check prior to ordering). Payment can be made by Cheque or Postal Note and Credit Card facilities are available. The postal address is:

Army Museum Bandiana

PO Box 26

MILPO BANDIANA VIC 3694

www.defence.gov.au/army/awma_mus/default.htm

EMPTY A BATH

During a visit to the mental hospital, a visitor asked the Director what is the criterion that defines a patient to be institutionalised.

"Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub, we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the patient and ask the patient to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would choose the bucket as it is larger than the spoon or the cup."

"Noooooo," answered the Director. "A normal person would pull the plug."

- *Courtesy of an e-mail from a friend*

2006 RAEME Craftsman Port

The RAEME personnel at 10 Force Support Battalion, Townsville, are producing this year's Corps Port. They have selected "Fine Old Tawny" made by R.L.Buller and Son Pty Ltd of Rutherglen in Victoria. The cost is \$20 per bottle. The Association has purchased two (2) dozen bottles, which should be available for sale at the RAEME Corps Birthday Function.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

The mailing address for all queries regarding medals is:

Directorate of Honours and Awards

T-1-49

Department of Defence

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Telephone: 1800 111 321

SOLDIER FEEDBACK MAKES ARMY BUSHMASTER VEHICLES EVEN BETTER

The protection and crew comfort of one of the most effective new items of equipment of the Australian Army, the Bushmaster infantry mobility vehicle, is being further improved as a result of operational experience in the Middle East.

The Vice Chief of the Defence Force, Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie, expressed confidence in the Bushmaster following press reports on 1 September that crews had criticised the lack of an on-board drinking water cooling system, and aspects of armour protection.

"Feedback from crews of the 26 Bushmasters on operations in the Middle East is significantly influencing improvements under way for this vehicle," Lieutenant General Gillespie said. "The results of listening to this feedback include a new prototype cooling system for the on-board drinking water tank, which is planned for field testing in October this year."

Lieutenant General Gillespie said that Bushmaster vehicles already provide crews with a high level of blast and ballistic protection, but Defence is enhancing crew protection features.

"In July 2006 the Government approved rapid acquisition of a protected weapon station for Bushmaster," he said. "Soldiers will operate the protected weapon station by remote control from inside the Bushmaster, without exposing themselves to fire. The protected weapon station also will improve the surveillance capability of the Bushmaster at all hours and in all weather. Initial engineering design work has been completed and the first protected weapon stations will be fielded on operations before the end of the year."

Lieutenant General Gillespie said that the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) and Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) are testing further proposed enhancements to armour protection. These tests cover ballistics, blast and handling to assess the effect of armour weight on the safe operation and capabilities of the vehicle.

- *Courtesy Minister for Defence Media Release, Friday 1 September 2006*

AUSTRALIA GETS WORLD'S BEST TANKS

The Abrams tanks represent a significant step in providing Australia with a stronger Defence Force, with which to protect our people, interests and values. Today, the Australian Government has taken delivery of the first 18 of 59 Abrams Tanks. This project is an investment of more than \$500 million in Australia's security. The Abrams project is ahead of schedule, and within budget. These tanks are the most advanced and capable tank in the world. This capability will be increasingly important, as widespread proliferation of cheap, high tech and lethal anti-armour, anti-personnel weapons could pose an increasing threat in any future conflicts.

The Abrams Tank will provide our Army with the mobility, firepower and sophisticated networking capability with which to defeat the enemy, along with superior protection that will

enhance safety for our soldiers. These tanks will be harder to hit. When the Abrams hit, they will hit harder. Abrams tanks are a key component of the Hardened and Networked Army initiative announced last year. They will also enable us to co-ordinate and network with allies.

We will have a number of options for transporting these tanks, including: our new C-17 heavy airlift aircraft; Amphibious Ships; the Adelaide to Darwin rail network; and our new tank transporter trucks.

In total, Australia will take delivery of 59 Abrams tanks, seven M88A2 Hercules Armoured Recovery Vehicles, 14 Heavy Tank Transporters, eight Refueling Trucks, six Advanced Gunnery Training Simulators and one Tank Driver Trainer Simulator.

This significant investment further illustrates the importance of the Government's long standing commitment to Defence and ability to deliver a strong economy. Since 1996, funding for Defence has increased by more than 40% in real terms and the 2006/07 Budget committed to an average 3% real increase each year for the next decade.

The Abrams will be transported to the School of Armour at Puckapunyal, with the remainder of the 59 tanks eventually being based in Darwin.

Australian industry is playing a key role in delivering this capability. The prime contractor for the Heavy Tank Transporter is MAN Military Vehicle Systems Australia Pty Ltd. Drake Trailers Pty Ltd, an Australian-owned and operated Brisbane-based company, is manufacturing 14 swing-wing trailers. Brisbane-based MAN Automotive Imports Pty Ltd is making final modifications, conducting compliance testing, and will manage the ongoing repair and maintenance support.

- *Courtesy Minister for Defence Media Release, Friday 22 September 2006*

HOSPITAL

While making rounds, a doctor points out an X-ray to a group of medical students.

"As you can see," she says, "the patient limps because his left fibula and tibia are radically arched. Michael, what would you do in a case like this?"

"Well," ponders the student, "I suppose I'd limp too."

- *Courtesy of an e-mail from a friend*

CRAFTY MOMENTS - THE ROYAL CORPS

By Terry Beaton (Corps Historian)

The last "*Crafty Moments*" touched on the changes to our distinguished Corps Emblem and hat badge. Although surmounting of the "*horse forcene*" with the **Queen's Crown** occurred in 1955 - (over three years after her coronation in Feb 52) - there has been on further significant and sad change. Few serving today will know that our current hat badge was introduced in **1972**, when the former 1955 format was altered to display a much larger Queen's Crown in compensation for the loss of our "*prestigious*" title as "***The Royal Corps of Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers***". From 1948 until 1971, our Corps was the only one in the Australian Army with this elite title, granted by King George VI on 10 Nov 48 for our dedicated services during WWII.

Sadly, the loss of our "unique" title resulted directly from the Hassett Committee Report⁽¹⁾ released in 1971, which recommended a complete restructuring of the Army, due to the changing face of warfare learnt on the battlefields of South Vietnam. Our new title as the "***Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers***" was granted by Queen Elizabeth II and gazetted in 1971. The Hassett Report instilled the new Corps of RAEME with the responsibility for the repair and maintenance of all of the Army's equipment. It also saw the formation of the Royal Australian Corps of Transport (RACT), but at the demise of the *Royal Australian Army Service Corps* (RAASC) and the movement of "Watercraft Transport" from RAE to the newly formed RACT. The cover of Issue No.51 of "The Craftsman" (Summer 2003/4) showed that the Corps was 55 years old with the granting of "Royal" in 1948. But this was slightly inaccurate! In Dec 03 "the Corps" as formed on 1 Dec 42 was 61 years old. It's title as "***AEME***" lasted less than 6 years (1 Dec 42 to 10 Nov 48). It's title then as "***The Royal Corps***" lasted 23 years until 1971. Whereas its current title as "RAEME" has now been in existence for *32 years*. As such,

RAEME will celebrate its 35th Anniversary on 1 Dec 06, but "The Corps" will celebrate its 64th year since its formation.

The Corps, and in fact the whole ADF, faces on further major change to all emblems which incorporate a Queen's Crown. Some time in the future a "*King*" will sit on the throne. It took over three years for Australia to change all emblems from a King's Crown to a Queen's Crown with the death of King George VI. How long will it now take with clothing contracted out and the whole of the Australian Government faced with the same problem. Will this be an opportunity for the republicans to argue that it is time to cease our observance to heritage and the Monarchy. Regardless of the argument, it is still going to cost the ADF a large sum to change all insignia, from a Queen's Crown to either a King's Crown or a new image.

Many readers will not be aware that the Corps has a "*Memorial Tree of Remembrance*", which is growing on the St Kilda Rd side of the serene gardens of the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne. It is a Spruce Tree and was planted during a dedication service in Dec 1964, when the Directorate of Electrical & Mechanical Engineering (DEME) was located with AHQ Melbourne at Albert Park Barracks, before the advent of Russell Offices in Canberra. The *Memorial Tree* is marked by a dedication plaque acknowledging our prestigious title as "*The Royal Corps*". Next year as part of the RAEME Day of Remembrance Service on 4 Feb 07, the Corps Memorial Tree will be re-dedicated and hopefully a new plaque, identifying the Corps with our current title as RAEME, will be placed next to the older historical plaque - which will now commemorate the loss of our prestigious title as "*The Royal Corps*".

Footnotes

1. General Hassett was the Chief of General Staff (CGS) at the time.
- *Courtesy "RAEME CRAFTSMAN" Issue No.56 Winter 2006*

AFV REPAIR IN THE LIGHT GREEN

There is no doubt that most of us are familiar with the prominent Corps artwork depicting repairs to a Centurion Tank in Vietnam. But how many of you know the origins of the painting? The painting currently resides in the foyer of the Army Logistic Officers Mess. The following text is reproduced from Maintenance Cell precis and provides an insight into the history behind the painting.

On October 29th, 1971 Brigadier Bendall told the Corps Committee that he and Colonel R.D.White had met Mr.McFadyen, who had suggested that a painting depicting repairs to a tank by a forward repair team and with a helicopter delivering a spare engine might be suitable. It was necessary to know whether such a combination of events had ever occurred, but it was confirmed during the Committee's discussion that helicopters had been used in this way. The Committee approved the suggestion and Mr.McFadyen then painted his subject on a canvas approximately 3 feet by 2 feet. The inscription on the work reads, *AFV Repair in the light green Vietnam November 1969. K.G.McFadyen*. There is no record of when the painting was received; however, it was either late 1971, or sometime in 1972.

The caption to the painting describes a day in the life of a Craftsman. *"In November 1969 a troop of gun tanks supported by an ARV became bogged in the light green east of the Long Hai Hills in the Phouc Tuy Province of the Republic of Vietnam. In addition to the bogged vehicle, two gun tanks were immobilised, one with gear box failure and one with a final drive failure. Whilst the crews and the ARV, with sterling efforts on the "Shovels, GS (AUS)" extricated the two serviceable gun tanks, a Forward Repair Team was deployed from 106th Field Workshop to provide the lift necessary for replacement of two failed MUA's. The M113A1 (Fitters) transported the gear box (inside the vehicle) while the final drive assembly was lifted in by CH47 Chinook. The repair and resupply operations were timed to enable the CH47 to back haul the two repairable assemblies. The operation was conducted over a seven hour period. The organic RAEME commitment was an ARV, crewed by two Recovery Mechanics, one Electrician and three Vehicle Mechanics. The non-organic support was provided by, 106th Field Workshop Forward Repair Team comprising, one M113A1 (Fitters) crewed by three Vehicle Mechanics. Troops involved were from a Troop from 1st Armoured Regiment consisting of four main battle*

tanks under command of SGT Browning (RAAC) on operation control to a company of Australian Infantry.

- Courtesy "RAEME CRAFTSMAN" Issue No.55 Summer 2005/6

ARMY APPRENTICES' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Frank Poole, Inaugural President - Frank.Poole@bigpond.com

I had hoped (I know, I'm naïve!) that I would be swamped by volunteers seeking to serve on the Committee. This wasn't the case and although a number of positions have been filled for which I am grateful to those listed below, the Secretary and Treasurer slots must still be filled before we can proceed. It would be foolish to proceed further until we have these two essential office bearers in place. To date we have volunteers for the following Committee positions, which will be ratified at the inaugural meetings:

President:	Frank Poole
Vice President:	Jack Westernhagen
Secretary:	<i>Vacant</i>
Treasurer:	<i>Vacant</i>
Membership Secretary:	Les Sutton
Public Officer:	Greg Mulcahy
Welfare Officer:	<i>Vacant</i>
Heritage Officer:	Chris Moon
Webmaster:	Glen Jones
Legal Officer:	Gib Owen
Committee Members:	Andrew Bishop, Dennis Anspach, <i>Vacant</i>
Regional Representatives	

NT:	Edward Carpenter	Sth. Qld:	Frank Maloney
Nth. Qld:	Jim van Reyk	East Vic:	Graeme Horne
WA:	Brian Cooper	NSW:	<i>Vacant</i>
ACT:	<i>Vacant</i>	Sth. Vic:	<i>Vacant</i>
Nth. Vic:	<i>Vacant</i>	SA:	<i>Vacant</i>
Tas:	<i>Vacant</i>		

I thank all of the above for offering their services.

WOULD ALL APPRENTICES PLEASE EXAMINE YOUR AVAILABILITY TO FILL THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER SLOTS AND TO ATTEND MEETINGS IN CANBERRA ON 22/23 JULY? PLEASE ADVISE ME IF YOU CAN ASSIST URGENTLY SO THAT AGENDA, MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND ADMIN ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE.

- Courtesy "The Lightning Flash" Issue 48 August 2006

WEB SITE ADDRESSES

RAEME Associations of Australia	www.raeme.org.au
AEME/RAEME Association of SA Inc:	www.raemesa.com
AEME/RAEME Association - ACT:	members.austarmetro.com.au/~lwedd/raeme
RAEME Association NSW Inc.	www.raemensw.com
The RAEME Association of QLD:	www.raemeqld.org
RAEME Association of WA (Inc.)	www.raeme.org.au/wa
Army Apprentices:	www.armyappies.no-ip.org www.armyappy.com
National Service Association:	www.nashos.org.au
Vietnam Veterans Federation:	www.vvfagranville.org.au
Department of Defence:	www.defence.gov.au
World War II personnel details:	www.ww2roll.gov.au
Australian/Commonwealth Honours:	www.itsanhonour.gov.au
Army Museum Bandiana	www.defence.gov.au/army/AWMA_MUS/default.htm

If there are other Web Sites that you know of that may be of interest to other members, please let me know. If any of the Web Sites listed are not working please let me know.

A COUPLE OF PUNS

- Energizer Bunny arrested - charged with battery.
- A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative.

SOME MORE PUNS

- Shotgun wedding: A case of wife or death.
- I used to work in a blanket factory, but it folded.
- Marriage is the mourning after the knot before.
- Banning the bra was a big flop.
- A successful diet is the triumph of mind over platter.
- When you dream in color, it's a pigment of your imagination.

- *Courtesy of an e-mail from a friend*

CHRISTMAS IN CANBERRA

The High Court ruled that there could not be a Nativity Scene in Canberra during the Christmas season. This wasn't for any religious reason, they simply could not find three wise men in the Nation's capital. There was no problem, however, finding enough asses to fill the stable.

- *Courtesy of an e-mail from a friend*

A THOUGHTFUL WIFE

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 blond.

Now, we have a nice house, nice car, big bed, and 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 blond, and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap apartment, driving a cheap car, and sleeping on a sofa bed.

- *Courtesy of an e-mail from a friend*

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

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

Ken Field, Ian Moody, Mick Ellis, Ron Moran

Subs are due at 1 July in the year your membership is "current to" ie if the date on your Membership Card is 2006, 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 on 3 December 2006.

According to my records, the following persons are financial members of the Association. The number in brackets is the year your membership is "current to".

Honorary Life Members

Mike Culley, Dutchy Holland, George Robinson, David Turner

Ordinary Members

Walter Ade (2010), Milton Ahrens (2009), Frank Aldous, (2008), Jeff Allen (2008), Bruce Amor (2007), Heath Arblaster (2009), Ernest Atkinson (2007), Peter Badcock (2007), Joe Barton (2007), Richard Beare (2009), Gavin Bellis (2010), Marco Benazic (2007), Paul Berk (2008), Wayne Birch (2009), John Black (2006), Helmut Bohn (2008), David Brand (2007), Dennis Brown (2009), Fred Brown (2008), Shane Buckley (2008), Roger Burzacott (2009), Nicholas Cashman (2008), Dave Cawthorne (2007), Craig Chatterton (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 (2007), George Craig (2009), Bob Davis (2007), Gavin D'Cruz (2008), Graham de la Rue (2009), Chris Duffield (2007), Robert Duffield (2006), Nick Ebbs (2010), Len Edwards (2008), Mick Ellis (2009), Bluey Etheridge (2007),

Kym Everett (2013), Andrew Ferguson (2007), Ken Field (2010), Jim Fisher (2009), Brian Flavel (2010), Jan Gancarz (2009), Pete Gaskin (2008), Charlie Gauci (2006), Bob Gell (2008), Nick Gogilis (2009), Steve Gough (2010), Steve Gould (2007), Tony Gow (2008), Robert Hansford (2007), Bill Harding (2007), Jock Hart (2008), Don Harvy (2010), Arthur Hasse (2009), Tracy Hatch (2007), Greg Hay (2010), Norm Hay (2008), Colin Haynes (2010), Tony Hinton (2007), Andrew Hobson (2006), Brian Holmes (2008), Darryl Horner (2006), Col Howard (2007), John Howard (2009), Gary Howell (2008), Rod Hussey (2009), Tony Ivens (2007), Graham Janz (2007), Juris Jaudzems (2010), Jeff Johns (2007), Lindsay Johnson (2006), Ben Jones (2008), Eddy Kaminski (2011), Eric Kelly (2008), Bob Killoran (2009), Bob King (2010), Geoff Kohler (2007), Les Kovacs (2007), Grant Kuchel (2007), Alf Lee (2010), Lou Leeuwrik (2011), Ken Lorraine (2009), Greg Lowe (2007), Chris Macintosh (2010), Steve Maher (2008), A.D.Marks (2007), Trevor Martin (2007), Robin Maslen OAM (2009), Bob Matthew (2006), Bob Matthews (2011), Penny Mayman (2007), Alan McGregor (2008), Fred McInerney (2010), Philip McKelliff (2008), Pete McKenzie (2007), Reg Mead (2006), Buzz Meakes (2010), Ian Moody (2010), Ron Moran (2011), Don Morgan OAM (2007), 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 (2008), John Owen (2008), Dick Pailthorpe (2007), Doug Pammenter (2009), Nick Papanikolaou (2010), Geoff Parker (2007), Trevor Parrott (2007), Roger Parsons (2010), Lionel Penley (2007), Rex Perry (2007), John Raftery (2008), Chris Rajasingham (2009), Hank Ramm (2008), Tamara Rebeck (2007), Mick Reeve (2007), Lionel Renfrey (2007), Dave Renshaw (2006), Peter Reynolds (2007), Greg Robinson (2006), Bill Roch (2007), Greg Rosser (2007), Ray Ryan (2007), Perry Sangster (2010), Brian Sayers (2009), Barra Schmidtke (2007), Glendon Shaw (2007), Dave Shelly (2009), Harold Shipp (2009), Robert Silcock (2011), Craig Smith (2008), Victor Sobotnik (2006), Walter Soroka (2010), Max Sparrow (2008), Deborah Spicer (2009), Ian Starick (2006), Murray Stock (2008), Donald Sutherland (2013), James Szpunar (2008), Keith Tainsh (2007), Ian Taylor (2007), Paul Teague (2010), Howard Terry (2008), Jim Thomas (2010), Noel Thomas (2009), Dick Tischer (2007), Donald Tremethick (2009), Joe Tuckwell (2007), Damien van de Velde (2011), Mark Van Oostveen (2008), Eugene Wasilenia (2010), Bruce Watson (2007), Alan Webb (2010), Paul Weir (2006), Graham West OAM (2006), Brett Wilkeson (2008), Warren Williams (2012), Alan Wilson (2008), John Wilson (2007), Betty Winstanley (2008), Curly Woolcock (2007), Pat Wright (2008), Brian Yelds (2007), John Zander (2008), Pete Zander (2007).

Associate Members

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

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please inform me or a member of the Committee of Management of any change of address. This will ensure that you receive the latest copy of the Newsletter.

VALE - LEST WE FORGET

Max ADAMS - 15 August 2006

John DAVIDSON (Past AAS Instructor)

Rev Fr Bill HANSON (SVN) - 31 May 2006

David ROLFE (17th Intake Appy) - 27 February 2006

WO1 Rex STRAUGHAIR (Malaysia & SVN) - 10 June 2006

- Courtesy "The Lightning Flash" Issue 48 August 2006

Max MOORE - Vice President, The RAEME Association (Victoria) Inc - 7 September 2006

ARTE et MARTE
(Corps Motto: With Skill and Fighting)

David Turner
Hon. Secretary