



THE LIGHTNING FLASH

SOLDIER and CRAFTSMAN

November 2004

Issue 43

The RAEME Association (Victoria) Inc.

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A Thank You from Norma Clifford



To all our RAEME & AEME friends and for the moving articles in the "Lighting Flash" Issue 42 and South Australia RAEME Association "Vale to Ron Clifford" in "The Horse's Mouth", Vol. 7 No.3.

My family and I would like to thank you all for the cards, flowers and phone calls during our difficult time.

Ron had a very fulfilling life and he would have been so proud to see all of his friends farewell him on his final journey.

Norma Clifford and Family

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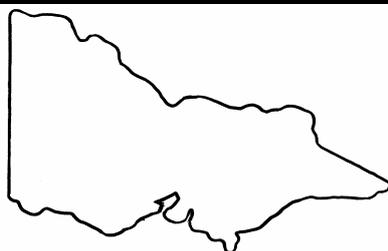
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We are looking for a new Representative. (Help Please)

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 25 Main Neerim Rd,
 DROUIN 3818
 ☎ 56 252 232 Mobile: 041 913 6149

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Kevin Moon
 1 Hawkins St,
 KORUMBURRA 3950
 ☎ 56 551 545

ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

This magazine is produced by the members, for the members, and is not to be solely one-way communication.

How do you find out what is happening in and around the RAEME ASSOCIATION, or in fact RAEME? through 'The LIGHTNING FLASH' of course.

DISCLAIMER

The views and articles expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the policy and views, official or otherwise, of this Association.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Peter Cartledge)

May I congratulate COL. Graham Smith on his appointment to Representative Colonel Commandant elect and COL. Terry Beaton to the post of Colonel Commandant Southern Region elect, both are members of our Association.

While on the congrats, to our editors Terri and Pat Marley on the safe arrival of grandchild number 17 with number 18 "in the hanger" I think you should turn out the light Pat, they seem to be attracted to the light, like moths!!

By the time you read this report we will have been to Merimbula, it is a pity such a few members attended as we always have a great time on our trips away. Several members (and some friends not members) look forward to going away with us! Why not try one of our trips next time they are on?

Next Cup weekend we will join REME (SA) at Victor Harbour so please give it some serious thought? We need to give our REME friends numbers as soon as possible they are well under way with the organising. Please let me know ASAP.

Your committee has purchased a notebook computer and we are in the process of loading information on to it for our new Secretary Gus Allen.

You will notice a new look page 2 in this 'flash, it includes your committee members and may I take this opportunity to congratulate our new committee made up of hard working people I am very happy with.

We are still on the look out for a Provincial Representative for Leopold / Anglesea / Portarlinton area since Lyall Butling moved "up town". Please give this matter some thought, there is not much work to do in this position.

May Leonie and I take this opportunity to wish each and everyone of you and yours a Safe and Happy Christmas and Healthy and Prosperous New Year for 2005, my how time flies!!

Peter Cartledge
President

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Gus Allen)

Firstly I would like to thank the members of the Committee Of Management for the opportunity to serve as the Secretary of the RAEME Association.

On reflection this year has brought its highs and lows. The passing of Ron Clifford cast a shadow of sadness over our Association. Ron was such a fine Secretary. My task will be to follow the high standard set by his dedication and experience.

I look forward to providing a continuing service to the Secretarial duties and membership requirement of the RAEME Association.

May I close by wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Gus Allen
Secretary

New Members

The President and Members would like to welcome our newest Members to the Association and look forward to seeing them at our AGM and other Social Functions.

Brian Taylor
Mark Palmer
Judith Squires

Confusing Signs of Our Times:

Spotted in a toilet of a London office:

Toilet out of order.
Please use floor below.

In a Laundromat:

Automatic washing machines:
Remove all your clothes when light goes out.

WELFARE REPORT (Reg Cox)

A call to Barry Ridgway who is having many scans to track out palpitations and blurred vision. Barry apologies for not being able to attend the AGM, and he sends his best wishes to everyone.

Ross Hope is having follow up ultra sound scans on his arm, which is slowly on the mend, and he is sleeping a little better at night. It appears that there is a hole in a tendon, which is causing him a great deal of trouble.

A call to Ken and Alice Kermond, Alice is back home after a stay in Hospital. Ken is having on going adjustments to his hearing aid equipment; they both send their kindest regards to all.

Aranka Illia has been suffering from an extremely bad throat infection; we wish her a speedy recovery.

Jim McFarlane had an internal haemorrhage passing a lot of blood and had to be air lifted to Hospital. Following a transfusion he is now at home recovering slowly. Jim is convinced that the blood from the Blood Bank was from a very lazy person, as he now walks the dog and sits by the riverbank.

May Collins is recovering from her heart trouble, meanwhile Ed Collins is on new medication for his Osteoporosis and is improving.

Brian Tingwell was taken to Wodonga Hospital with pneumonia and is now back at home and on the recovery list.

It was good to see Barry Ridgway at Tony See's Funeral and Barry looked very well.

Reg Cox
Welfare Officer

Confusing Signs of Our Times:

In a London department store:

Bargain basement upstairs

SOCIAL REPORT (Peter Cartledge)

We had a most successful AGM last August followed by our traditional Bar-B-Que lunch, then the showing of the Opening of the Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial at Ballarat video in the Model room, which several Members enjoyed.

By the time you read this we will have returned from Merimbula (all 26 of us) members and friends, what about the other 200 odd members? Where were you? We missed you!

Please join us next year at Victor Harbour with REME (SA). They are well down the track with their organising and are requesting numbers so if YOU are going to enjoy a weekend away with us LET ME KNOW NOW.

November 11th we will keep Remembrance Day with a wreath laying at the Garden of Remembrance Wall at 1030 hrs, Oakleigh Barracks, with the Depot staff, The Ordnance Association and The Old Sappers Association please attend if you are able.

November 26th is the Corps Birthday dinner and the Presentation of The Craftsman of the Year Award at East Malvern RSL Stanley Grose Drive East Malvern 3145. This dinner is held by the Colonel Commandant and assisted by your social committee so please get behind us at this function. SEE FLYER ELSEWHERE IN THIS FLASH.

Sunday March 20th 2005 our annual luncheon to honour our Widows and Life Members will be held at Oakleigh Barracks followed by (to be confirmed) a talk by COL.Terry Beaton on the building of the Burma Railway. Terry is a historian on the railway, I've heard his talk at East Malvern RSL and found it fascinating and enlightening. Please keep this date free for our luncheon.

ANZAC Eve April 24th our Annual reunion at Oakleigh Sergeants Mess and as "Dipper" would say **BE THERE**

Peter Cartledge: Social Coordinator

ASSISTANCE REQUESTED

Ford Breakdown Truck

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you seeking information or some direction to obtaining information from somebody who may have worked on, operated, or had been involved with Lorries 3 Ton Breakdown No3A Ford.

I am currently restoring one of these vehicles and can find very little information on their service history. Photographs or information from unit personnel who can add some enlightenment on these phantom trucks would be most appreciated. I believe they served in Bougainville but have no confirmation.



I am an ex RAEME member who served in Vietnam as a recovery mechanic in 1968. Perhaps there is a recovery mechanic who can still remember the good or the bad points of this type of vehicle. ?

Hope you can assist me with a lead as to likely units which may have used this breakdown truck.

Regards,

Dave McCallum
22 Clegg Avenue
Croydon 3136
(03) 9723.1533

Confusing Signs of Our Times:

In a London department store:

Bargain basement upstairs

1970 Ceremonial Guard Photos

Max Moore received the following email:

Original Message -----

From: Bob Killoran

To: Max Moore

Sent: Saturday, August 28, 2004 12:00 AM

Subject: 1970 Sig/RAEME Ceremonial Royal Guard April 1970

Max,

In your archives, do you have any info or photos of the then Southern Command supplied Ceremonial Guard for the 1970 Royal visit. I was at Armoured Centre LAD and was selected (obviously for my natural beauty), we spent a week in Watsonia doing drill, then off to Canberra where we were billeted in the Forestry Commission Barracks in Yarralumla, and then around to the GG's residence for duty as required. After the final parade they took our photo but I have not heard of it since. I was in Canungra the next week, and then the funny country, so my copies are probably still in the Chemist's shop.

May be you might know someone else involved or have access to copies of the photos.

Bob Killoran

If anyone can help, contact Bob through Max Moore on
Telephone 9802 9128
Mobile: 0412 378 183
E-mail: vraeme@nex.net.au

Confusing Signs of Our Times:

In an office:

After tea break staff should empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board.

Outside a secondhand shop:

We exchange anything - bicycles, washing machines, etc.
Why not bring your wife along and get a wonderful bargain?

105 FIELD WORKSHOP COMPANY REPORT (Lt Terry Fulton)

Since our last commentary 105 Fld Wksp Coy has been preparing itself for EX Hamel, the Corps conference and the X-Mas stand down period.

Several of our members attended the Corps conference, held at Bandiana and were able to easily recognise that the future of the core is indeed bright. To simplify the conference the slogan was 'doing things better' and indeed the Head shed of the Corps are seeing to it that it is. One of the key issues that were discussed at the conference was the employment of the Prod Clerk. Whilst the role of the Prod Clerk is set to return, there is a little work still to do. It will be a watch this space for any news on this front.

Workshop Facility

Some recent news for the Wksp Coy is the potential move into the established Workshop Facility at 4/19th located at Simpson Barracks. This facility is currently under assessment for its potential to offer 4CSSB a new home, as the current facility located at Broadmeadows is currently unsuitable for our needs. The Wksp facility at Oakleigh will continue to function and be manned by both ARA and Gres staff alike.

EX Hamel

EX Hamel took place in June/July and the unit was busy preparing the CSSB's vehicles during this time. The Wksp Coy conducted FRT's to Puckapunyal in support of the deployment activities and the period was a good refresher for the team.

TRF

We are actively maintaining our TRF credentials by conducting audits and training, this will progress through 2005.

Movements

We recently had a new ARA inclusion to our unit with WO2 Gavin Richards-Bell joining the team from the British Army. WO2 Richards-Bell has come from the 103 Battalion REME as the ASM. WO2 Richards-Bell completed 22 years service

in the British Army and comes to us with a wealth of knowledge. Completing the Transfer to the Australian Army will be the arrival of his wife Jo in December who is also an Ex member of the British Green Machine. We welcome Gavin and his wife to the team.

A movement out of the unit is the Oakleigh Pl. Comd. Lt Terry Fulton at the end of the year who is posted to 3 Recovery Company. Lt Fulton leaves us after 3 years service and we hope that his new posting will be as good as his last.

Deployments

Two of our members are currently in preparation for the RCB Butterworth rotation beginning in November 2004. This activity is a joint ARA Gres deployment and will continue for our members until Late Feb next year. 105 Wksp Coy is represented by CPL Toby Bailey and CFN Mark Mozjeko who are looking forward to the experience. We wish them well and look forward to their return.

Confusing Signs of Our Times:

Notice in health food shop window:

Closed due to illness

Spotted in a safari park:

Elephants please stay in your car

Seen during a conference:

For anyone who has children and doesn't know it, there is a day care on the first floor.

Message on a leaflet:

If you cannot read, this leaflet will tell you how to get lessons.

On a repair shop door:

We can repair anything.
(Please knock hard on the door the bell doesn't work.)

3 RECOVERY COMPANY REPORT (Maj Robert Hudson)

The period since the last report has seen the Company move forward with a real enthusiasm.

SGT Danny Hayes and LCPL Tim Knowles are working with Armoured Centre at Puckapunyal and are in the process of gaining a Leopard Armoured Recovery Vehicle licence. They will then supply support to armour on a continuing basis.

The in-house training preparation for Residential Module 1 will see a number of members from outside 3 Recovery Company attending and being trained (including interstate members). This will hopefully be ongoing as 3 Recovery takes on the Recovery Mechanic training for all GRes members.

Work is in process to place 3 GRes members on to the ARA Recovery Course next year. A lot of hard work has been done by the Operations Warrant Officer (OPSWO) WO2 Sean Lee to bring this about. It will see the Company take a huge step forward in its ability to supply support.

Two Heavy Recovery Vehicles (HRVs) have been transferred back to the Defence Material Organisation to initiate the rebuild program for the new HRV. There is a very good chance that 3 Recovery Company will have a large input into the training of personnel in the new HRV.

The posting cycle is out and will see MAJ Steve Fisher march-in as OC with myself heading to 4CSSB; CAPT Ron Chapman move across to OPSO with CAPT McGrice posted to 2/10 Med Regt and CAPT Ian Stewart (on promotion) moves across as 2IC. 3 Recovery Company will also gain an ARA CAPT, CAPT Sven Holzeimer (posted to 9FSB, for duty 3 Recovery Company) to have a staff officer present as an Administration Officer and relieve the OC of a lot of day to day running around.

It has been a year of a lot of good work by a lot of members. To start naming them would require a roll call of the Company.

As the outgoing OC I would like to state that I have been proud to work with all of the members who have given their utmost to see that things happen on time, safely and effectively. The efforts of the majority of members who have never operated to a time clock have been in the true manner of both our Corps and, for non RAEME members, their Corps. It is true to say we may all be loggies, but that is something to be proud of because our efforts can stand up to any of the Arms units.

Well done and thank you.

ARTE ET MARTE

Robert M. D. Hudson, Major
Officer Commanding
3 Recovery Company

Investments

The young bride approached her awaiting husband on their wedding night and demanded \$20 for their first lovemaking encounter. In his highly aroused state, he readily agreed.

This scenario was repeated each time they made love for the next 30 years, with him thinking it was a cute way for her to buy new clothes, etc.

Arriving home around noon one day, she found her husband in a very drunken state. Over the next few minutes she heard of the ravages of financial ruin caused by corporate down sizing and it's effects on a 50-year-old executive.

Calmly, she handed him a bank-book showing deposits and interest for 30 years totalling nearly \$1 million dollars. Pointing across the parking lot, she gestured toward the local bank while handing him stock certificates worth nearly \$2 million dollars and informing him that he was the largest stockholder in the bank. She told him that for 30 years she had charged him each time they had sex, and this was the result of her investments.

By now he was distraught and beating his head against the side of the car. She asked him why the disappointment at such good news and he replied, Oh ****, if I had known what you were doing, I would have given you all of my business!"

**Men have absolutely no idea
when to keep their mouths shut**

**COL COMMANDANT (Southern Regions) RAEME ALL RANKS
CORPS DINNER
PLUS
THE CRAFTSMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

WILL BE PRESENTED BY COL Terence BEATON

THE CORPS ALL RANKS DINNER IS TO BE HELD AT EAST MALVERN RSL
STANLEY GROSE DRIVE EAST MALVERN 3145
FRIDAY 26th November 2004 (THE CORPS 62nd BIRTHDAY)

WHO IS INVITED?

All serving and retired members of the Corps and their Partner or Guest

TIMING

1900 for 1930

DRESS

Ladies After Five wear Gentlemen Coat and Tie
Miniatures are to be worn.

COST

\$38.00 (inc. GST)

Payable to 2004 Victorian RAEME Corps Dinner Committee
c/o 8 NEERA Crt. GLEN WAVERLEY 3150

Proceeds will assist the AEME Display at the Army Museum, Bandiana

ACCOMMODATION

By arrangement at own unit level.

Transport from and to MAYGAR BARRACKS may be available (yet to be confirmed)

(Bookings through the following Contacts)

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**COME and SUPPORT your CORPS and your CRAFTSMEN
MEET and WELCOME our NEW COLONEL COMMANDANT**

Arte et Marte



Name: Iand my Partner / Guest.....
will / will not be attending the 2004 RAEME CORPS 62nd BIRTHDAY All RANKS DINNER at EAST
MALVERN RSL on the 26th November 2004. Signed.....

Please find enclosed my Cheque / Money order (made out to 2004 Victorian RAEME Dinner) for
\$.....

Please forward this return to 2004 Victorian RAEME Corps Dinner Committee, Address as above.

