



SOLDIER and CRAFTSMAN

# THE LIGHTNING FLASH

November 2007

Issue 52

The RAEME Association (Victoria) Inc.

Patron: Brigadier Conrad Ermert. MSc FIEAust CPEng

Incorporation Reg No. A 0022655Z

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**Remembrance Day 11 November 2007**

**Nation Unites in Remembrance**



John Stapleton and Paul Maley | "The Australian" November 12, 2007

**FROM the Australian War Memorial in Canberra to tiny rural hamlets, the nation stood briefly united yesterday for a minute's silence - at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.**

Under the traditional words, "Lest We Forget" and "To Our Glorious Dead", wreaths were laid at cenotaphs around the country by everyone from John Howard to ordinary citizens, from premiers and a host of civic and military dignitaries to the grieving families of returned and fallen soldiers.

Ceremonies for Remembrance Day, including the playing of The Last Post, marked the 89th anniversary of the end of World War I, and the deaths of more than 100,000 Australian soldiers in overseas conflicts.

In Canberra, the Prime Minister said the deaths in Afghanistan of Trooper David Pearce and Sergeant Matthew Locke had been a sad reminder of the nature of sacrifice in war on behalf of a free people.

"Whether the deaths occurred in Gallipoli or the Somme, in the Western Desert, Kokoda or Milne Bay, in bomber command over Europe, in Long Tan or Oruzgan Province in Afghanistan, all Australians who have died in conflict have died for a common ideal ... that men and women might choose how to live their lives and to shape their futures," he said.

# **THE RAEME ASSOCIATION (Vic) Inc.**

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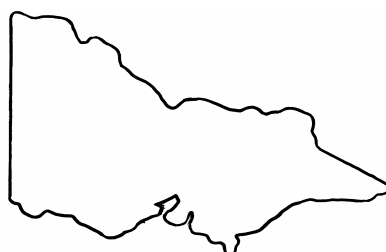
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**We are looking for a new  
Representative. (Help Please)**

### **BERWICK/PAKENHAM WARRAGUL/ MORWELL/ TRARALGON & SALE**

#### **Bill Slegers**

25 Main Neerim Rd,  
DROUIN 3818  
☎ 5625 2232 Mobile: 041 913 6149

### **CRANBOURNE/KORUMBURRA & WELSHPOOL**

#### **Kevin Moon**

1 Hawkins St,  
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## **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.

## **Let's hear from you!**

Deadline for March 2008 Flash  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2007

Items to Pat Marley,  
Sec. Gus Allen  
Pres. Peter Cartledge

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Peter Cartledge

We have prepared a new and hopefully complete list of all our members c/w addresses, 'phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

However in sending out a flyer a couple of weeks ago we sent some to the email addresses we had, and quite a number were returned.

Would you please send an e-mail to Gus [raeme.sec@nex.net.au](mailto:raeme.sec@nex.net.au) or Guy [mail4us@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mail4us@bigpond.net.au) or me [pcart8@optusnet.com.au](mailto:pcart8@optusnet.com.au) so we can make sure your listing with us is correct please?

We would like to send you your copy of the Lightning Flash by email with coloured photos and receive it that much quicker and save on printing and postage for your Association.

Leonie and I together with all members of your Committee of Management would like to wish you and yours all the best wishes for Christmas (and hasn't it come around so quickly!!) and a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year.

**Peter Cartledge**  
**President**



## SECRETARY'S REPORT

The secretarial work load has been steady with the annual dues coming in. I do wish to report a new member Robert Bray. Welcome Robert.

Seasons Greetings to all.

**Gus Allen**  
**Secretary**

## WELFARE REPORT

Reg Cox

Our Welfare Officer, Reg Cox, visited Phil Cook at Drouin. Phil has had a carpal tunnel operation to his hand, unfortunately an infection developed whilst at the Warragul Hospital.

They could not stop the bleeding. Phil went up to his son Terry who is a doctor at Mildura. Terry put Phil in hospital for 3 weeks and finally cleared the infection.

**Reg Cox**  
**Welfare Officer**



**Garry (Marty) Hedger**

**12<sup>th</sup> Intake Army Apprentice**

**8 September 2007**

## SOCIAL REPORT

Peter Cartledge

Twenty-eight of us had a pleasant weekend in Canberra including some friends of Members.

We had a couple from The Old Sappers Association join us and they are now asking where to and when is the next trip!! So come on all members give our social functions a try and find out for yourselves!!

In this issue you will find a tear-off for our upcoming 65<sup>th</sup> Corps All Ranks Dinner. Please look hard at attending and return it whether you are attending or not then we can see if you are at least reading the Lightning Flash and interested in our functions!

I have included a copy of the flyer in this Lightning Flash if you have not received it earlier. You will see all our functions laid out there with details.

Coming up apart from our Corps dinner is our Annual pilgrimage and service at The Shrine of Remembrance on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2008.

This is followed by our Annual Luncheon to honour our Widows and Life Members. This Luncheon should be attended by ALL who are able to come, to remember and honour members who have passed away and in some small way to host their Widows, while honouring our Life Members who have put in so much time and effort into making our Association the great organisation that it is today.

I am very disappointed to report the fact that our friends of the Bandiana Chapter have had to cancel their dinner which they put so much work into arranging. (Due to lack of interest, the members asked for it but did not support it!!) We have never (I don't think) had to cancel a function over the last 10 or more years but we have sailed very "close to the wind" several times.

I will pass these comments over to you, the members, and after reading them think long and hard as to what YOU CAN DO. To quote a saying "It is not what the Association can do for you BUT what you can do for The Association".

**Peter Cartledge**  
**Social Coordinator.**

**"Bluebell – Ironsides.**

**We have a situation here, over."**

**Tank Commander:**

"Driver – avoid large hole directly ahead!"

**Driver:**

"Avoid hole? What hole?"



## Good Military Advice

- "Never trade luck for skill."
- The three most common expressions (or famous last words) in aviation are: "Why is it doing that?", "Where are we?" and "Oh Shit!"
- "Progress in airline flying: now a flight attendant can get a pilot pregnant."
- "Mankind has a perfect record in aviation; we never left one up there!"
- "Flashlights are tubular metal containers kept in a flight bag for the purpose of storing dead batteries."
- "Flying the airplane is more important than radioing your plight to a person on the ground incapable of understanding or doing anything about it."
- "Just remember, if you crash because of weather, your funeral will be held on a sunny day."



## COLONEL COMMANDANT'S END OF YEAR REPORT 2007

COL Terry Beaton

Greetings to All,

It was with the deepest regret that I tendered my resignation as both the Colonel Commandant (RAEME) -Victoria and Tasmanian Region and as Corps Historian to BRIG David Welch on Saturday, 1 Sep 07, effective from 30 Sep 07, due to health and welfare demands of aging parents.

BRIG Welch reluctantly accepted my resignation on Monday, 3 Sep 07, but requested that my departure be delayed until the end of October 2007, to permit my attendance at the Corps Conference, where he intended to deliver a vote of appreciation to all departing Colonel Commandants. Unfortunately, I was unable to accept this kind offer due to my current domestic situation. Moreover, I felt that my earlier departure would permit another volunteer to be elected, who could then attend the Corps Committee Meeting and Conference, thereby being in a better position to continue the rebuilding of "Corps Ethos" within this Region.

Unbelievably the passing of my Mother on 25 Jun 07, set of a string of deaths touching our family, as well as health and welfare issues associated with aging "outlaws" and friends. It has "knocked me for six" and drained me of enough willpower and motivation for me to recognise that I can no longer give the same level of commitment to the Corps, nor dedicate myself to the role of Colonel Commandant; especially as I have never been content to just be a token figurehead - which has sometimes upset former Corps members.

As a volunteer looking after the Veteran Community, we are taught that family comes first and as such I must now concentrate on my family before "the Corps".

Termination of my duties at the end of this month will still enable me to complete my current obligations with two activities associated with 3 Recovery Company.

Having recently enjoyed the warm hospitality and friendship of the RAEME Association of Tasmania at their Annual Dinner, I cannot think of a better Victorian unit of "Bluebells" with whom to end my time as Colonel Commandant.

I sincerely hope that all the hard work by everybody over the last three years will continue.

I urge everybody to support the Victorian Association's 2007 *RAEME Corps Dinner* on 30 Nov 07 and hope that the annual "*RAEME Day of Remembrance*" will be continued by Regional Groups, despite my departure as it's instigator.

Hopefully when things settled down on the domestic front, I will be able to offer my support again to help "*Corps Brothers*" and their families.

I wish everybody good health, happiness and safety, and truly thank all those who have diligently supported me throughout my thoroughly enjoyable and very rewarding time as Colonel Commandant.

Yours - "With skill"

**Terry Beaton**

**Colonel  
Colonel Commandant (RAEME)  
VIC & TAS Region**



## LUNCHEON TO HONOUR OUR WIDOWS AND LIFE MEMBERS

**Our Annual luncheon to honour our Widows and Life Members will be held at  
OAKLEIGH BARRACKS**

**On Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

**At 1130 hrs for 1200 hrs**

**Dress Smart Casual please**

**All Members and Guests are invited**

### Menu

**Succulent roast rump pork and crackling with apple sauce**  
**Tender seasoned leg of lamb with mint sauce**  
**Juicy roast beef with horseradish, mustard and gravy**  
**Roasted jacket potatoes with lashings of sour cream and chives**  
**Gourmet freshly cut, garden green salad**  
**Various other salads including coleslaw, potato, pasta and rice**  
**Baby beets**  
**Buttered breadsticks**  
**A selection of Desserts**

**Drinks will be available at Sergeants Mess prices**

**Cost \$30.00 per person**

Tear here.....

I.....

I will/will not be attending the Annual Luncheon to Honour our Widows and Life Members

Please find enclosed Cheque/Money order for \$..... being for .....persons

My guests names are.....

RSVP to 8 Neera Crt Glen Waverley by 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008 PLEASE!!






# THE RAEME ASSOCIATION (Victoria) INCORPORATED

Incorporation No.A0022655Z

Patron: Brigadier C. Ermert ARMIT Msc FIEAust CPEng

Dear Members and Friends, Just a reminder of our upcoming events as we move into the “busy” time of the year where everybody seems to be doing their own thing running around in ever decreasing circles!!





	Date	Event	Address	Contacts and Details
	<b>24 Nov 2007</b> <b>(Saturday)</b>	<b>Inaugural Annual Formal Dinner</b>  of the Bandiana Chapter	To be held in the Waratah Room  The Albury Commercial Club	1900 hrs for 1930 hrs all members and their partners are invited to join our Head of Corps Brigadier David Welch (Keynote Speaker), DHOC and the Corps WO in the presence of The Corps Banner for a 3 course dinner together with wines and toasts.  Dress to be Black tie / Mess kit / Jacket and Tie / equivalent. Cost \$55-00 per Association member and partner \$60-00 Non members. Contact for details and bookings Mr George Reid (02) 6059 3153 <a href="mailto:reidysnr@aapt.net.au">reidysnr@aapt.net.au</a>
	<b>30 Nov 2007</b> <b>(Friday)</b>	<b>RAEME Assoc Annual Corps Birthday Dinner</b>	East Malvern RSL  Stanley Grose Dve East Malvern,	starting at 1900 hrs for 1930 hrs. The cost of this function is still being negotiated with the RSL however I feel we will be able to keep it below \$50.00 per person. Please check details in November Flash however you may book as numbers are limited to 90
	<b>3 Feb 2008</b> <b>(Sunday)</b>	<b>Annual Corps Memorial Service</b>	The Shrine of Remembrance Melbourne  ST Kilda Road	Remembrance and laying of wreaths at The Shrine of Remembrance Starting at 1100 hrs this will be preceded by a guided tour of The Shrine starting at 1000 hrs. Following the Shrine service we will gather at The RAEME Tree for a short wreath laying there too. For those interested we can then have a lunch at The Emerald Hotel in Clarendon St South Melbourne.



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Incorporation No.A0022655Z

Patron: Brigadier C. Ermert ARMIT Msc FIEAust CPEng

	<b>16 Mar 2008</b> <b>(Sunday)</b>	<b>Widows and Life Members Luncheon</b>	Oakleigh Barracks	Our Annual Luncheon to honour our Widows and Life Members at Oakleigh Barracks 1130 hrs for 1200 hrs. This Luncheon is open to ALL MEMBERS and their Wives, Partners and Friends. This event has been poorly supported recently, so this year I am asking you one and all to attend and support our Life Members and our Widows who's husbands we all should remember!
	<b>20 Apr 2008</b> <b>(Sunday)</b>	<b>Annual Association Corps Reunion</b>	Oakleigh Barracks	Annual Association Corps Reunion in the form of a Bar-Be-Que lunch to be held at Oakleigh Barracks at 1200hrs with the Sergeants Mess open for bar trading, come along and have a snag or burger, salad and a beer and a bloody good afternoon.
	<b>25 Apr 2008</b> <b>(Friday)</b>	<b>ANZAC Day</b>	Oakleigh Barracks	Dawn Service at 0600hrs followed by a sit- down breakfast in the Gym. At 0800hrs a coach picks us up to travel into Melbourne for The March and a Toyota Coach (kindly provided by 3 Recovery Company) transports our infirm and disabled from Oakleigh and through the March to the Shrine and they return together with the main body to Oakleigh Barracks for a light lunch. Our numbers at the March have been slipping so let us see if <b>we can reverse that trend this time!!</b>
	<p align="center"><b>PLEASE KEEP THESE DATES FREE AND MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND AT LEAST SOME OF THESE ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p>For any further details on any of our functions please contact me on (03) 9802 6406 phone/fax or 0414 771144 or 8 Neera Crt Glen Waverley or <a href="mailto:pcart8@optusnet.com.au">pcart8@optusnet.com.au</a></p>			



**RAEME ASSOCIATION (VICTORIA) INCORPORATED  
RAEME MIXED ALL RANKS CORPS BIRTHDAY DINNER  
PLUS  
THE CRAFTSMAN OF THE YEAR WILL BE PRESENTED WITH  
THE ASSOCIATION AWARD**

**THE CORPS ALL RANKS DINNER IS TO BE HELD AT EAST MALVERN RSL  
STANLEY GROSE DRIVE, EAST MALVERN (MEL 60, A12)  
On Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2007**

**WHO IS INVITED?**

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

**TIMING**

**1900 hrs for 1930 hrs**

**DRESS**

**Ladies: After Five Wear      Gentlemen: Coat and Tie  
Miniatures are to be worn.**

**COST**

**\$45.00 per head (inc. GST)**

**Payable to *RAEME Victoria***

**c/o 8 NEERA Crt. GLEN WAVERLEY 3150**

**RSVP : No later than Monday, 21st November 2007**

**SEATING CAPACITY**

**As the maximum seating for this venue is only 90 seats  
Get your returns & cheques in early, as “first-in best-dressed”**

**CONTACTS**

<b>Peter Cartledge</b>	<b>(Pres)</b>	<b>9802 6406</b>	<b>email:</b>	<a href="mailto:pcart8@optusnet.com.au">pcart8@optusnet.com.au</a>
<b>Gus Allen</b>	<b>(Sec)</b>	<b>9802 5460</b>	<b>email:</b>	<a href="mailto:raeme.sec@nex.net.au">raeme.sec@nex.net.au</a>

**COME and SUPPORT your CORPS and your CRAFTSMEN**

**Arte et Marte**

✂------(Cut off here)-----

Name: I .....and my Partner/ Guest.....  
Will/Will Not be attending the 2007 RAEME Corps 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday Mixed All Ranks Dinner at East Malvern RSL on  
30<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

Signed.....

Please find enclosed my Cheque / Money order (*made payable to RAEME Victoria*) for \$.....

Please forward this return to the Address as above.

## THE LIGHTNING FLASH

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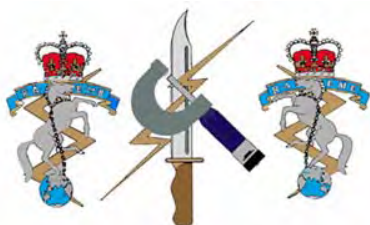
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SOLDIER and CRAFTSMAN

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Name .....(Block Letters)

Address .....

.....Postcode: ..... Ph. No. ....

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