



SOLDIER and CRAFTSMAN

# THE LIGHTNING FLASH

**August 2008**

**Issue 54**

**The RAEME Association (Victoria) Inc.**

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**2008 marks the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of the Army Apprentices' School, at Balcombe Victoria.  
There are a number of ex-Army Apprentices in our RAEME Association**



## **AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES MEMORIAL**

The Australian Army Apprentices Association is to construct a Memorial to all Apprentices at the Memorial Park, Bandiana, Victoria, which is located adjacent to the Army Museum. The design is being developed by an ex Apprentice on the basis of proposals agreed by the Association's Committee. In essence, the Memorial will centre on a set of gates that were moved from Balcombe when the Apprentices School was relocated to Bonegilla in January 1983. These gates were constructed by apprentices from the 8th and 10th intakes and are similar to the main gates (known as the Marine Gates) that provided entry to the parade ground at Balcombe, but were situated at what was known as the Metal Trades entrance on the Nepean Highway, about 400 metres south of the main gates.

The gates are currently installed at Latchford Barracks. It is intended to relocate these to the Memorial Park where they will be a part of a permanent memorial to all Apprentices. The Memorial will be dedicated to all Apprentices who supported the Australian Army in war and peace, particularly to those who sacrificed their life in defence of Australia. It will also be available to all Apprentices to permanently record their place as an Army Apprentice, and as a resting place for their ashes; forever with their mates. Memorial plaques will be affixed to the gate support walls.

*(Extracted from the web-page of the Australian Army Apprentices' Association Inc)*

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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 November Flash  
Monday 13 October 2008

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

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Presidents Report August 2008

Here we are now almost AGM time again, my how the past year has flown by; I think they get shorter as we get older!

I was very proud to have The Corps Centrepiece at our Birthday Dinner November last and have requested The Corps Banner for this year's Birthday Dinner but as you can imagine there are a number of requests for The Banner. We live in hope that our request will be successful.

Our By-Laws sub-committee is in the process of reviewing and rewriting our by-laws and looking to see if there are any alterations or additions needed to our rules.

Our Historic sub-committee are writing up all items of memorabilia and to decide where these items should be placed.

Your Committee has sent \$2,000.00 to the Queensland Branch of the Association who have taken over from the NSW branch, sending packages of "goodies" called "spanner paks" to our overseas serving troops who are most grateful and leaving other Corps troops wondering if their people have forgotten about them. Well done RAEME another first for our Corps and let the others follow!! These "paks" have items that have been purchased with the funds provided and from generous sponsor companies. In a year or two it will be a job for another branch to get involved but wouldn't it be great if there was no need for our troops to be overseas!

May I remind you all that our Annual General Meeting will be held on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2008 @1100 hrs in the Model room Oakleigh Barracks, followed by a Barbeque luncheon in the covered area outside the Messes one of which will be open.

Details elsewhere in this 'Flash.

**Peter Cartledge**  
President

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Our last Committee of Management meeting was held at 3 Recovery Coy at Doveton. It is a fairly new Army Depot with comfortable surroundings.

On the completion of our meeting the committee enjoyed the hospitality of the member of the unit in the mess. I wish to thank MAJ Michael Newbond for his generosity in allowing the Association to use the fine facilities.

### New Members

Since our last LIGHTNING FLASH and over the past months we have gained several new members:

**Mark Ryan**  
**Damian Arthur**  
**Shane Fox**  
**Stephen Woods**  
**Ken Chapman**

I heartily welcome them to the RAEME Association.

**Gus Allen**  
Secretary

## WELFARE REPORT

A call to Barry Ridgway who is now home but not the best, he has difficulty standing and walking. He sends his regards to all.

On the home front, my wife Roma & I went to Maldon for a quiet weekend with our Daughter and Son in Law.

Upon arrival at Maldon Roma suddenly took very ill and was in a lot of pain. Roma spent the night in the Bendigo Base Hospital.

Tests over night proved the problem to be Renal Colic. Later further tests were carried out at Monash Medical Centre. I am pleased to report all is now fine.

**Reg Cox**  
Welfare Officer

## Social Report August 2008

Our reunion was most successful however we need more members attending as is always the case!

Following our AGM 31<sup>st</sup> August next there will be a Barbeque lunch in the covered area outside the Sergeants Mess with that Mess open for our use.

Margaret and Ross Hope together with Leonie and I had a week away at Numurkah and one of the things we did was to visit Echuca and Moama area to see firsthand what was offering for our Melbourne Cup weekend trip away.

Our Motel is all ground floor level quite spacious rooms with most rooms "earmarked" for our use, so please let us know ASAP if you will be joining us for a most exciting and very busy time away that Barry (our Coach Captain, now he will get a swelled head - our bus driver-that's better) Marg, Leonie, Ross and myself have presented before you.

If you wish you may "pay-off" the cost of the trip if this would assist some members but please rest assured this is NOT a fund raising function, what you are charged is what it costs your Association to the nearest dollar.

You will find a flyer and tear off elsewhere in this Lightning Flash.

**Peter Cartledge**  
**Social Convener**

### MY LIVING WILL

Last night, my partner and I were sitting in the living room and I said to her, "I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

She got up, unplugged the TV, and threw out my wine.

## Army Apprentices Reunion Albury/Wodonga 24-26 October 2008

### 60th Anniversary of the formation of the Army Apprentices School at Balcombe, Victoria in 1948

#### Background

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



The necessary approvals have been obtained by the Association, and it is the intention to have the construction of the Memorial completed by October 2008.

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

#### Programme of Events:

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

#### **Friday 24 Oct 08, afternoon:**

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

#### **Saturday 25 Oct 08, morning:**

Albury City is sponsoring our march through the CBD commencing at 10.00am. We have been fortunate to secure the services of the Australian Army Band. This is not a long march and will conclude with a Civic Reception by the Lord Mayor in the City Square.

The Association Secretary Stephen Hladio (28th MSN) will be our Parade Marshal on the day. You will all need to be "booted & spurred" with shiny medals, hats, sun screen, etc. Morning tea will be served at the conclusion of the reception. We believe that the whole activity will be over by 11.30am. This leaves some free time for intake gatherings during the afternoon.

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

#### **Saturday 25 Oct 08, evening:**

Commencing at 6.00 for 6.30pm the Reunion Dinner will get underway. This will include a 3 course sit down meal, probably a beef / chicken alternative, but special dietary requirements will be available, just let us know when you register. Again we will be inviting dignitaries` to share this evening as our guests. That will lead to the inevitable speeches, but I promise they will be few and brief. Music of the times will come from the DJ, but I`m confident that a few of those AAS Musicians given half a chance under the baton of Stephen Hladio may do us a treat as well. The setting for the Dinner is the Albury Convention Centre, Swift St. This is where we formed up for the parade earlier in the day and, which whilst being the biggest venue in Albury; it can only accommodate 750 bodies.

Tables will be set for 10 people, and Groups / Intakes will be able to reserve a table provided that:

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

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

#### **Sunday 26 Oct 08, morning:**

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

#### **Sunday 26 Oct 08, 12.30pm**

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

#### **Matters General**

##### **Car Parking**

The Bandiana Base Support organization have assured us that they will provide adequate secure car parking, guides etc inside the Bandiana Barracks area and close to where the action will be for both our functions. Dedicated parking facilities for the Saturday march could not be arranged in Albury, so you are on your own.

#### **First Aid**

St John`s Ambulance will be in attendance at all venues.

#### **Memorabilia**

The Association will have a range of items available for purchase at the events but as this is early days we are still building the inventory. We intend publish the items available and costs in the near future.

#### **Accommodation**

The Albury / Wodonga area is well served with a full range of accommodation to suit all tastes and requirements. For assistance we suggest that you contact Albury / Wodonga Tourism, Renee Phillips on 02 6051 3758, or at [www.destinationalburywodonga.com.au](http://www.destinationalburywodonga.com.au)

Renee can guide or arrange your needs or you may source your own. At this time of the year we are "the activity" in town, but that could change anytime so you are encouraged not to leave it too long to organize.

#### **Weather**

The Albury / Wodonga area is normally quite pleasant at this time of year but I`d keep the brolly and raincoat fairly close to you.

#### **Finally**

This reunion is about renewing the bonds and friendships that were forged a lifetime ago.

Sadly we will reflect on our missing friends who are no longer with us, but we will rejoice in the company of lifetime mates, who together, so proudly trained and served the nation.

If you have any concerns, please don`t hesitate to contact me, email preferred

Don`t miss this one, travel safely and let`s meet up in October 08.

**Frank Maloney (Speed) 13th Intake VM  
Chairman Reunion Organizing Committee**

[frmal@bigpond.com](mailto:frmal@bigpond.com)

0418 728 181



**Edward Henry (Ted) HALLAS  
Died 11 May 2008**

*12<sup>th</sup> Intake Army Apprentice Electrician  
Army Apprentice Classmate and  
50-year-long friend of Editor Pat Marley*

**Wesleigh (Wes) Tabe  
Died April 16, 2008**

**Norman Creek  
Died April 19, 2008**



## Bandiana Chapter

### AGM

Our Chapter AGM was held on 6 April at the Stump Hotel and was well attended and the committee members for 2008-2009 are: President: Andy Turner, Secretary: George Reid, Treasurer: Mike Kusternig, Committee: Jack Colville, Ian Deegan, Phil Stephenson and a new committee member welcomed aboard ; Anthony Heald. Our thanks to Alex Wolf for his time on committee.

Our guest speaker was Ray Norman, President RAQ who informed us of the Spanner Pack project.

### Colonel Commandant

We are pleased that Brian (Buck) Jones has been appointed as Colonel Commandant for Victoria and Tasmania. He is one of our founding Chapter members. As he gets around and you meet him you will understand what a great choice he is for the role.

### Spring Dinner

When the nomads are back and the winter hibernation is eases the Committee will be planning our Annual Dinner to be held in Spring time. Our planning for this will be for a less formal and more social occasion than what we had planned last year.

### RAEME Seminar

The Corps Seminar is planned for October with its dinners and BBQ. Chapter members will again be attending the dinners and BBQ and helping as required.

### Andrew Turner

#### President

RAEME Association (Vic.) Inc.

Bandiana Chapter

02 60561946

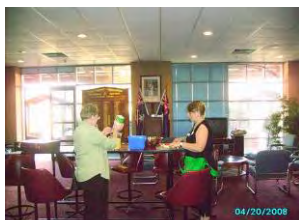
## ANZAC DAY 2008



Nothing new Gus Allen,  
Bruce Williams, Reg Cox  
still at the Bar.



Jack Westerhagen & Kevin Moon  
(1st time for several years for  
Key)



Leonie Cartledge & Marg Hope  
(The Workers)



Doug Brazier Margaret Hope,  
Ross Hope, (2 Visitors from  
Dandenong) (Ex REME), Mal &  
Inez Drechsler. Happy times



Sandra Williams, May Collins,  
(visitors Joan Williams, Pat John)  
enjoying the day

## AICW F88 Rifle



Rate of fire: 650 rounds per minute (for 5.56mm barrel) Capacity: 30 rounds (5.56mm) magazine plus 3 40mm rounds in the G/L barrel

The AICW (Advanced Infantry Combat Weapon) is a joint development of the Australian DSTO (Government operated Defence Science and Technology Organisation), and private companies Metal Storm and Tenix Defence.

This development has been carried out since the turn of 21st century, closely following the concept of the American XM29 OICW system. Overall, ICW represents the modular weapon system that combines the 5.56mm rifle/carbine component as a host (basic) platform with 40mm multi-shot grenade launcher (G/L) module and multi-purpose electro-optical sighting system, which can be used to fire either rifle or G/L component, and also can provide recon data to external "consumers" such as tactical computers.

The host rifle component of the AICW is the updated Australian-made F88 rifle, which is a license-built Steyr AUG. However, the basic F88 rifle has been extensively modified to accept other elements of the system - for example, receiver has been upgraded to receive the G/L module at the top, and the buttstock has been enlarged to accommodate G/L electronic fire control module

Other changes include modification to the safety and trigger arrangements - AICW system has a single trigger for both weapon components (5.56 and 40mm), and a three position (safe - rifle - G/L) safety/selector switch at the side of the pistol grip.

The most interesting part of the AICW weapon is the multi-shot Metal Storm 40mm grenade launcher, which looks like a single 40mm G/L barrel but contains three 40mm projectiles stacked one behind the another. These projectiles are launched using the electric ignition impulses, provided by the fire control module built into the buttstock of the host rifle.

Since the muzzle velocity of these projectiles is slightly more than usual for 40mm handheld G/L (95m/s instead of 75m/s), host rifle incorporates the recoil reduction buffer, that allows the Metal Storm G/L barrel to recoil against the spring, decreasing the peak recoil impulse.

The top of the receiver hosts the multi-role sights of various type and make. At the AICW VX3 live fire demonstrations that took place in the summer of 2005, AICW prototypes were displayed with ITL Viper multi-purpose rifle sight (that incorporates laser range-finder and digital compass), or with Vinghog Vingsight Fire Control System. At the present time (late 2005) AICW prototypes have not yet fired 40mm grenades with live warheads, nor incorporated an airburst facility. However, it is stated that it is possible to easily adapt most of the existing 40mm grenade warheads to the Metal Storm technology, including air-bursting grenades that are now in development in several countries.

At the present time AICW weapons are available only as the "3rd generation technology demonstrators", that completed first live-fire trials (as a complete system) in the summer of 2005.

Current Australian MOD plans state that ADF may start to purchase AICW systems in around 2010-2012

**BLUEBELL**  
**August 2008**  
**News from R.A.E.M.E. Veterans**  
**Southern Chapter**

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The last General Meeting was held at Traralgon RSL and although our next meeting was to be in Warnambool, due to circumstances beyond our control that could not happen. We have moved the next meeting to Box Hill RSL, with the following meeting to be held at Warnambool. Spotted past vice president Jim Saddington cleaning up the lawn bowls competition at Traralgon. In his position as president of their club it was good to see him leading from the front.

Ray Norman was at the last RAEME Association Victoria meeting, held at 3 Recovery Unit at Dandenong to update us on the "Spanner Pack" operation, which was initiated by the NSW RAEME Association, now run by the Queensland RAEME Association which has Ray as its representative. He outlined how it all operates. Victoria has made a financial contribution to this cause and will have their turn at organizing it next. Thank you Ray for the effort, as I am sure all the Bluebells will appreciate them, as we did when we would receive something from home.

**Sick List**

Col Joe Smith is in a critical condition in Townsville Hospital as a result of a motorcycle accident. Thank you Laurie O'Dwyer for the email. Our prayers and thoughts are certainly with Joe as he fights his way to recovery.

John Forster had a visit to hospital for some treatment for his heart.

Mick Latimer is now out of hospital and recovering. Peter Bassett and Harold Baker are both unwell. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

**Puckapunyal**

Had a visit to the "Armoured Corps Museum" recently. Good to see they had a RAEME exhibit as well. I believe the ARV they have on display was the one driven by ex - Victorian Brian Willis. [ The "crafty" with the rather large moustache].

Next stop was the "Sixties National Service Camp Site", which is only now half its original size, as both A and B company lines have been removed. C and D company barracks and mess block have all been refurbished and look quite smart. The total area securely fenced off and it looks more like a prison. Unfortunate sign of the times we live in. Had lunch at the mess, which was great. Fortunate sign of the times, with Spotless handling the catering. Biggest disappointment was no more Area Workshop building with the huge RAEME letters, which had been there since the "Fifties". Arriving and leaving the military area you are no longer met with those all too friendly chaps with the red lanyards, but a happy smile from the civvy Chubb Security fellow.

Sadly attended the funeral of John Leslie Dunstan along with Rocky Gerzina and Mick Carroll. John was a RAASC driver with 1 ALSG AT Vungers. Post Vietnam he became along with John Meehan, Paul Curran and a band of dedicated helpers a pension advocate where he made a huge effort to assist fellow veterans and countless widows gain their pensions. This Association extends our condolences to his family, mates and Noble Park VVAA and RSL, where he will be sadly missed.

**ANZAC Day March**

RAEME Viet Nam now have permission to have the 102Fld. Wkshp and 1Fld Wkshp banners in the march behind the existing RAEME and 106 Fld Wkshp ones. John Scully kindly joined us to lead this year's march in place of Conrad Ermet, who was on a well earned holiday.

Dave Mc Callum advises me that 1 Div S T Wksp had a most successful re-union in Canberra as part of the Balmoral- Coral Anniversary. No further re-unions are planned for 1 Div S@T Wksp at this stage.

Viet Nam Veterans Day – 18 th August 2008 40 th Anniversary of the Battles for FSB Coral/Balmoral

0900 Hrs	Gunfire Breakfast Northern Forecourt
1130 Hrs	Marchers form up at northern forecourt [ behind RAEME banner]
March Leader will be Royal Australian Regiment Association [60 <sup>TH</sup> anniversary of the Regiment]	
1200 Hrs	March Step Off
	Guest Speaker will be Brig. Neil Weekea AM MC [Retd] – Coral Veteran
VIPs: Victorian Governor and Premier, Senior ADF Officers and Senior /ESO Representatives.	

**Honour the Dead but  
Fight Like Hell for the Living**

**See You There**

# VCDF clocks up 40 years service



Memories: VCDF Lt-Gen Ken Gillespie with a photo of himself back when his career began on January 15, 1968.

Photo by Cpl Andrew Hetherington

## By Cpl Andrew Hetherington

MOST soldiers aim to serve 20 years, then retire and move onto another career. Not so the VCDF, Lt-Gen Ken Gillespie, who last month reached the milestone of 40 years service.

Lt-Gen Gillespie joined the Army at Brisbane on January 15, 1968, aged 15 years. He said he did not know why he joined; it was always a life long ambition, even at that early age.

"When I was a little kid on a farm, I listened to a radio drama based on the events of WWII in the Pacific; it used to support CMF recruiting in those days," Lt-Gen Gillespie said. "It was sort of the soldier's version of Biggles and it fired me up and made me want to be a soldier." Lt-Gen Gillespie joined the Army not as an officer, but as an apprentice.

"I was a brick layer and completed my four year apprenticeship at the Apprentice School at Balcombe in Victoria," he said. "It was good for a young kid, it was a college life, there was a lot of sport and excitement, with little parental supervision. "It was good fun."

During his apprenticeship he realised he had to do something else if he was going to stay in the Army, so he decided to become an officer. "Luckily I passed the selection process on the completion of my apprenticeship," Lt-Gen Gillespie said.

"I went to Portsea, spent 12 months there and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in December 1972."

He said he had many career highlights since then, including being selected to work in the UK as an instructor. "I worked at the Royal School of Military Engineering in 1986- 87," he said. "Other career highlights were being promoted to Lt-Col, selected as the contingent deputy and ops officer for the contingent to Namibia.

"As a senior officer I have commanded troops in Timor Leste, have held the position of Land Commander and now the VCDF, so I've had a lucky but truly rewarding 40 years," he said.

Lt-Gen Gillespie said the most challenging aspect of his career so far, would be trying to continue to stay fresh in his job.

"I worked hard to try and remain agile of thought and mind and not become one of those generals who sits there, has no fresh ideas and revels in the good old days," he said. "You have to keep to your ideas and be prepared to morph yourself and the organisation into something that is ready for the next war and not the past war."

On reaching the 40 year milestone Lt-Gen Gillespie said he has hardly noticed the time pass since his enlistment day in 1968. "It's passed in a heart beat," he said. For serving Army members Lt- Gen Gillespie said he liked to think that his career experience could be seen as an example of what was possible in the ADF today. "If you are prepared to take your opportunities, work hard and make successes of them, you can travel from apprentice brick layer to General and I don't think there are too many military forces in the world where that can happen," he said.

Lt-Gen Gillespie said he was unsure what path his future in the Army would take. "The Government will make up its mind about the new Defence leadership team in July," he said. "Whether I am a part of that or not is a matter for the Government, so my horizons for the rest of my military career could be as short as the next four or five months, or it could be a while longer," he said. "If I serve on I will do it gladly and put my efforts into it.

"As to what I will do after the Army, I don't know what I will do at the moment. It is a debate between my wife and I at present and she certainly sees me as a continuing member of the work force!"

*"Army" February 7, 2008*



**[RAEME ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (INCORPORATED)  
AGM – MINUTES CONDUCTED ON 26 AUG 2007]**



**AGENDA**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Attendance  | 10. Proposal of a Life Member                           |
| 2. Apologies   | 11. Appointment of Auditor                              |
| 3. Silent Tribute – the Ode  | 12. General Business                                    |
| 4. Confirmation of minutes of 16 <sup>th</sup> AGM – 28 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2006 | 13. RAEME Corp shop items                               |
| 5. Business Arising from previous minutes                                      | 14. Other general business                              |
| 6. Presidents Annual Report  | 15. Election of Committee of Management for 2007 – 2008 |
| 7. Report on Chapters  | 16. Date of 18 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Committee   |
| 8. Annual Financial Report   | 17. Closure of the meeting                              |
| 9. Sub-Committee Reports   | 18. 26 Aug 2007   |

Time	Notes	Comments
11:15	The meeting was declared open by the President	
11:15	Last Post and Reveille is played, with the Ode	
11:16	Introduction of the AGM by Mr Peter Cartledge, President of the RAEME Assoc (VIC)	
11:20	The President introduced the reports that were attached to the AGM document package and invited member to read the reports as tabled	It is noted that the AGM package will be emailed out to members in advance before the next AGM
	Reports from the Chapters are also included in the document package	
	Minutes from the previous AGM were offered as read <b>Moved: Guy Langford, Seconded: David</b>	
	Minutes from the previous Chapter reports were offered as read <b>Moved: Allan Hawkins, Seconded: Geoff Bell</b>	
	The Financial reports were offered as submitted and as read <b>Moved: Bruce Williams, Seconded: Neil Charter</b>	No queries from the reports were tabled, all accepted as submitted
11:25	Life Membership of John Lee, introduced by the President, with a reply by Bruce Williams, including the foundation of the RAEME Assoc Inc. editing and delivery of the rules, organising of the move to the Oakleigh Barracks site. This was replied (seconded) by Ross Hope as read by the President as Ross was unable to be present. John Lee's Reply: Starting up the Assoc as a going concern and moving to Oakleigh barracks was the first stage. Incorporation was a major achievement that I was able to preside over and was referred to as Stage 2 of the invigoration of the RAEME Assoc, with inclusion of the Chapters as Stage 3. This series of actions has led to an increase in the gene pool for the association and has carried the assoc forward. Unlike many other association that have folded in recent times. John admitted he was very proud to receive this award and thanked the association and all present very much <b>For: All Present, Against: None</b>	<b>Notes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John served as a key president</li> <li>• Is also the Chairman of trustees</li> <li>• Mentor of current president</li> <li>• Historian to Mentone RSL</li> <li>• Ex design and safety engineer of long standing</li> <li>• Peter presented the Life Membership badge to John Lee</li> </ul>
11:35	The appointment of an Auditor is still open as a vacancy, this is an honorary position and it needs to be filled	
11:37	Appointment of a Marketing Committee to be decided, with the following members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bruce Williams as the head of this sub committee</li> <li>• Current GRES member</li> <li>• A number of present assoc members</li> </ul>	<b>Notes by Allan Rogers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter spoke of the loss of the older members of the association</li> <li>• Focus for this committee needs to be on younger</li> </ul>

**RAEME ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (INCORPORATED)**  
**AGM – MINUTES CONDUCTED ON 26 AUG 2007]**

Time	Notes	Comments
	<p>The outline of activities are listed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canvas personnel in Melbourne area regarding membership options</li> </ul> <p>Marketing Committee to formulate a plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Golf day</li> <li>• Operating as an autonomous body</li> </ul>	members
11:42	<p><b>Discussion of Project Focus</b></p> <p>RAEME GRES units and personnel will be pulled into a brigaded formation, in the Watsonia area, as a pooling of RAEME personnel.</p>	This will concentrate all of the RAEME personnel in one place (Watsonia) on a number of weekend per year
11:45	<p><b>WO1 Allan Hawkins replies.</b></p> <p>This project involves the centralisation of all logistic elements in the Watsonia area. Commencing on 1 Nov 07. GRES members will parade in their home location (own unit) on either a Tues or Wed night, with weekend parades at Watsonia to conduct repair and maintenance work. 3 or 4 weekends a month will be allocated for RAEME maintenance activities to support BDE units. Planning will be based on 3 month cycle. More info will be handed about when it has been formulated. Thanks to WO1 Allan Hawkins for his brief</p>	<p><b>Bruce Williams comment:</b></p> <p>Committee needs to discuss and decide on the levels of support for this change. Perhaps this could include the alternating of sites for the AGM / Committee meetings between Oakleigh, Watsonia and 3 Recovery.</p>
11:53	<p><b>Secretaries report</b></p> <p>A general increase in membership has been produced by the incorporation of the Chapters, with a total figure of around 355 members as at the date of this AGM</p>	
11:55	<p><b>Elections for new Executive Committee members:</b></p> <p>All committee positions declared vacant. All members of the current committee were asked to re-stand. More nominations were received than vacant positions, therefore a secret ballot was conducted to elect the nominated members. Nominating members were elected as nominated by secret ballot. Votes were taken and collected, with John Lee invited to be the Returning Officer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Margaret Hope resigned as Minute taker and was thanked for her commitment and persistence in the time she was the minute taker for the association.</li> </ul>	Mr Geoff Gould was unsuccessful in his bid for election to the executive committee.

**[RAEME ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (INCORPORATED)  
AGM – MINUTES CONDUCTED ON 26 AUG 2007]**

Time	Notes	Comments
12:05	<p><b>Speech by Brig Ross Grant (ret)</b></p> <p>Ross indicated that the only way to keep ahead of the wave is to use a new model, with the Association of Queensland as a successful example of how an association came be done. Note that it is not the only example, just a current one. The best news of today is the Marketing Committee, as this is an important first step to allow the committee and the association to become more focussed, strategy and marketing are essential elements to address.</p> <p>There are a number of untapped resources – the RAEME Mafia email list is one such example. The meeting held at VBM was considered a success, with good feedback and exposure for the RAEME association among the largely RAEME members of the VBM population. The association needs to find a way of attracting or engaging the some 500 members who are part of that email list to the association as a matter of urgency. The email list needs to be segmented and then seek out and speak to them as a matter of urgency.</p> <p>The association need a model that attracts the younger member who will come along to this type of association (when finished with self indulgence). Nurturing needs to become part of the process of engagement with the association, using a multi-layered strategy.</p> <p>Ross indicated that the regional chapters are needed to extend the reach of the association. Don't expect help in the local area from Army units, don't rely on the Army for assistance for activities. RAEME product sales is a strong element of the association and should be kept up (and expanded).</p> <p>Chapters should be encouraged to conduct their own activities, with committee sanction and advertising, to foster greater levels of activity. Centralised functions are used with the Brisbane association, including functions in Brisbane and Vic Barracks Brisbane.</p> <p>Perhaps functions in VBM and Watsonia to develop a long term strategy, including Oakleigh.</p> <p>Brig Welsh needs to be pushed for support of the associations around Australia.</p> <p>Each person in the association needs to use their own connections to exploit the connections we have with other RAEME personnel we know who are not part of the association, tying this into the ex-apprentice sector, inclusive of the public service personnel that have a RAEME connection and their wives.</p>	

**RAEME ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (INCORPORATED)**  
**AGM – MINUTES CONDUCTED ON 26 AUG 2007]**

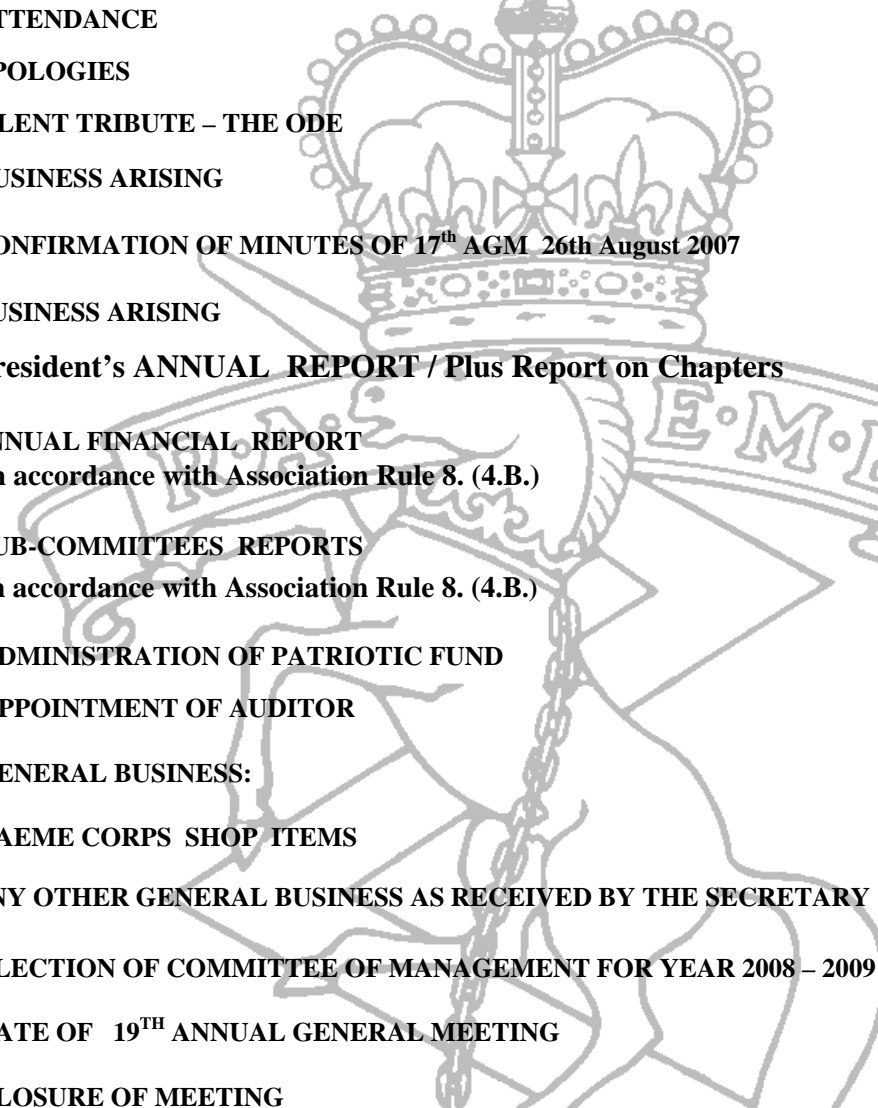
<b>Time</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>12:20</b>	<b>Speech by Brig Conrad Ermert (Ret)</b> The association is looking good, moving into the future. Thanks to Ross for his input and to Peter (President) for his contribution. Conrad presented Peter with his Australian Defence Medal, read an inscription that Peter was a stalwart of the association. Conrad also indicated that the CORP of RAEME still best placed to keep the punch in the Army's fist.	
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Next AGM 31/08/08</b>	
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Meeting declared closed</b>	<b>All members invited to enjoy the BBQ lunch</b>
<b>12:40</b>	<b>Meeting of the 2008 Committee</b> Committee Members as elected are listed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• President – Mr Peter Cartledge</li> <li>• Vice President – Mr Guy Langford</li> <li>• Secretary - Gus Allen</li> <li>• Treasurer – Roma Cox</li> <li>• Assistant Treasurer – Aranka Illia</li> <li>• Welfare Rep - Reg Cox</li> <li>• RAEME Assoc (Vietnam Vets) Chapter President - Dennis Clarke</li> <li>• RAEME Assoc (Puckapunyal /Seymour) Chapter President – David Maddick</li> <li>• RAEME Assoc (Bandiana) Chapter President - Andy Turner</li> <li>• Alan Rogers Committee member</li> <li>• Bruce Williams Committee member</li> <li>• Ross Hope (Provincial Rep) Committee member</li> </ul> <p>Executive committee re-elected unopposed and meeting declared closed at 12:52.</p> <p><b>Moved: Bruce Williams    Seconded: Guy Langford</b></p>	

THE RAEME ASSOCIATION (Victoria) INCORPORATION

***Incorporation Reg No. A 0022655Z***

**NOTICE OF 18th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**and ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS 1100hrs Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2008**  
**Oakleigh Barracks, 1318 North Road, Oakleigh South**

**A G E N D A**

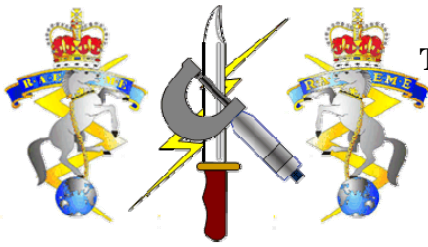
- 
1. ATTENDANCE
  2. APOLOGIES
  3. SILENT TRIBUTE – THE ODE
  4. BUSINESS ARISING
  5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 17<sup>th</sup> AGM 26th August 2007
  6. BUSINESS ARISING
  7. President's ANNUAL REPORT / Plus Report on Chapters
  8. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT  
(In accordance with Association Rule 8. (4.B.))
  9. SUB-COMMITTEES REPORTS  
(In accordance with Association Rule 8. (4.B.))
  10. ADMINISTRATION OF PATRIOTIC FUND
  11. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR
  12. GENERAL BUSINESS:
  13. RAEME CORPS SHOP ITEMS
  14. ANY OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS AS RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARY
  15. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT FOR YEAR 2008 – 2009
  16. DATE OF 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
  17. CLOSURE OF MEETING

**Note:** A meeting of the 'INCOMING' Committee of Management for the purpose of Election of Office Bearers for Year August 2008 – August 2009 will be held  
**Immediately** after the conclusion of the A.G.M

A light luncheon will be served in the Sergeants Mess with drinks at bar prices.

**Please ensure you have signed the Attendance Book prior to leaving the meeting**





**SOLDIER and CRAFTSMAN**

**THE RAEME ASSOCIATION (Victoria) INCORPORATED**  
Incorporation Reg No. A0022655Z

**NOMINATION FOR COMMITTEE MEMBER**

I, ..... **(Proposer)** Membership No. ....  
(Given Name) (Surname)

Street & Address: .....

..... Post Code: .....

Signature: ..... Date: ...../...../..... Phone No. (....).....

Hereby nominate: ..... (Nominee)  
(Given Name) (Surname)

Date of Birth: ...../...../..... Membership No: .....

Street & Address: .....

..... Post Code: .....

for Election as a Committee Member of the RAEME Association (Vic) Inc.

I, ..... **(Seconder)** Membership No. ....  
(Given Name) (Surname)

Street & Address: .....

..... Post Code: .....

Signature: ..... Date: ...../...../..... Phone No. ( ... ).....

Second the above nomination.

Support reason for consideration: *(Please be brief)* .....

.....

I, ..... **(Nominee)** Membership No. ....  
(Given Name) (Surname) accept the above nomination.

Signature: ..... Date: ...../...../..... Phone No. ( ... ).....

**Please note: Each member being Nominated or Proposing this nomination, MUST BE financial at the time of submitting this form.**

**Received for inclusion in AGM Ballot:**

Signature of the Secretary: ..... Date: ...../...../.....

# **ECHUCA-MOAMA TOCUMWAL**

## **MELBOURNE CUP WEEKEND NOV. 1,2,3 &4<sup>th</sup>**

Have we got a great trip this year with our friend Barry Mills our coach captain!

Leaving Oakleigh Barracks Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov @ 0800 hrs

I have requested parking and am awaiting a reply

Coffee and Cake en route

Via Elmore with a visit to the Campaspe Run Mackay Harvesters

Lunch at own cost

Arrive River Country Inn Moama and settle in

Motel Telephone number if required (03) 5482 5511

Moama RSL Dinner at own cost

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>

After a cooked Breakfast

River cruise followed by a guided tour of Echuca Wharf

Lunch at own cost

Chanter Estate Winery and Military Vehicle Display

Dinner at Golf Club at own cost

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>

After a cooked Breakfast

Off bright and early to Tocumwal to view the Historic Aerodrome

It WAS the largest in the Southern Hemisphere together with the Museum

Lunch at The Strawberry Farm at own cost

Visit Cactus Country on way back to Moama Motel for

Bar-Be-Que Dinner and get together

Cost Included

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>

After a cooked Breakfast

Pack up and leave Moama travelling Via Tatura & Murchison

Tatura Museum of Irrigation and Wartime Camps

Murchison where 4,000 POW's were interned

Coffee and Cake en route Lunch at own cost

Visit the Italian War Memorial, Chapel & Mausoleum

Then on to Oakleigh Barracks and home for a "rest"!!

**All this for \$400.00 per person twin share based on 30 people attending.**

.....

I / we..... will/will not be attending the Melbourne Cup  
Weekend trip 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4<sup>th</sup> November 2008

Please find Cheque/Money Order to RAEME Assoc.(Vic) Inc. for \$..... enclosed being  
payment for the trip and post to Peter Cartledge 8 Neera Crt GLEN WAVERLEY 3150 by 10<sup>th</sup> October  
2008

or call (03) 9802 6406

Signed.....

## THE LIGHTNING FLASH

If undeliverable return to  
The RAEME Association (Vic.) Inc.  
C/- Oakleigh Barracks  
1318 North Rd  
OAKLEIGH SOUTH VIC 3167

**SURFACE  
MAIL**

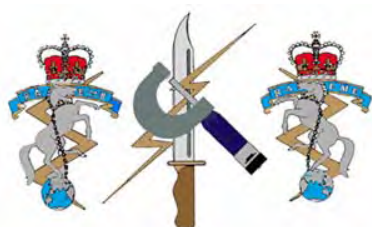
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AUSTRALIA**

Print Post Approved  
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## PLEASE SAVE WRAPPER (PTO)

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SOLDIER and CRAFTSMAN

### Change of Address

Is your address shown above correct?  
If not please fill in the spaces below and return  
This whole sheet in an envelope to:

**The Editor , THE LIGHTNING FLASH  
C/- Oakleigh Barracks 1318 North Rd  
OAKLEIGH SOUTH VIC 3167.**

Name .....(Block Letters)

Address .....

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

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