



THE LIGHTNING FLASH

November 2008

Issue 55

The RAEME Association (Victoria) Inc.

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What is Remembrance Day?

Remembrance Day - 11 November - is set aside as a day to remember the sacrifice of those who have died for Australia in wars and conflicts. It was originally known as Armistice Day.

Why is this day special to Australians?

At 11 am on 11 November 1918 the guns of the Western Front fell silent after more than four years continuous warfare. The allied armies had driven the German invaders back, having inflicted heavy defeats upon them over the preceding four months. In November the Germans called for an armistice (suspension of fighting) in order to secure a peace settlement. They accepted the allied terms of unconditional surrender.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month attained a special significance in the post-war years. The moment when hostilities ceased on the Western Front became universally associated with the remembrance of those who had died in the war. This first modern world conflict had brought about the mobilisation of over 70 million people and left between 9 and 13 million dead, perhaps as many as one-third of them with no known grave. The allied nations chose this day and time for the commemoration of their war dead.

On the first anniversary of the armistice in 1919 two minutes' silence was instituted as part of the main commemorative ceremony at the new Cenotaph in London. The silence was proposed by Australian journalist Edward Honey, who was working in Fleet Street. At about the same time, a South African statesman made a similar proposal to the British Cabinet, which endorsed it. King George V personally requested all the people of the British Empire to suspend normal activities for two minutes on the hour of the armistice "which stayed the worldwide carnage of the four preceding years and marked the victory of Right and Freedom". The two minutes' silence was popularly adopted and it became a central feature of commemorations on Armistice Day.

(Extracted from Australian War Memorial Web-Page)

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☎ 5331 3153

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Jack Balsillie

147 The Outlook Bendigo Village
Mandurang Rd.
Spring Gully 3550
☎ 5443 4803

HOPPERS CROSSING/GEELONG

Rex Foord

598 Thompson Rd,
NORLANE 3214
☎ 5275 1728

LEOPOLD/ANGLESEA & PORTARLINGTON

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,
KORUMBURRA 3950
☎ 5655 1545

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 Flash
Monday 2nd February 2008

Items to Pat Marley,
Sec. Gus Allen
Peter Cartledge

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We had a very bad run with members passing away of late with three funerals within the last month. This is a terrible way to start. I know we cannot do anything about it but it is so sad to hear of our Members or anyone for that matter passing away.

There are some cracks appearing in our rapport with 22 Construction Regiment and ourselves, I am looking forward to a meeting with COL John Raike (CO) to see where we stand.

I am very proud to inform you all that we have been granted The Prince Phillip Banner to parade at our Corps Birthday Dinner to be held on 28th November. This is a great honour for our Association and I look forward to seeing you all at the Dinner.

Leonie and I wish each and every one of you and your families a happy Christmas and a happy, safe and healthy New Year.

Peter Cartledge
President

SOCIAL REPORT

There were some very happy and tired people on Tuesday 4th November after returning from a great weekend away at Echuca, Moama, and Tocumwal, having learnt some very interesting facts and figures along the way.

It is a pity some more of you had not been there to enjoy the weekend with us.

If ever you are looking for a Motel in Moama you could not go past River Country Inn with our hosts Darren and Britt Phillips and their 2 little girls. Nothing was a trouble to them and it's not easy to please 28 people all the time!

The rooms are spacious including the bathrooms which is a big plus, with a private courtyard and solar heated pool to enjoy.

We were lucky that a Recovery Mechanic and his Lady wife were able to join us, relying on his new G.P.S. in lieu of his map reading skills after travelling from Tangambalanga to Moama via Sheparton !!

Speaking of sense of direction it is a good thing for us that our "Coach Captains" can navigate his Coach better than he is able to navigate his feet whilst walking, not to mention the unwelcome "visitor" dressed in black who "materialized" in his room in the early hours!!

Up coming events on our Calendar:

28th November 2008 Corps Birthday Dinner at East Malvern RSL where we will parade The Prince Phillip Banner

13th December 2008 Invitation from 3 Recovery Coy to join them at their Christmas break up. **See details of these events elsewhere in this 'Flash**

1st February 2009 Tour of The Shrine of Remembrance followed by our Annual Service in the Sanctuary at 1100hrs then a service by our RAEME Tree.

Peter Cartledge
Social Convener

WELFARE REPORT

Harry Ross has been in hospital in Bendigo, but is home again now.

Reg Cox
Welfare Officer



Ronald Kelsey (Qld) 18 May 2008

Brian Kelly 1 Sept 2008

Eric Butler 25 Sept 2008

Barry Ridgway 3 Oct 2008

Wes Missen 14 Oct 2008

Neal Stewart 24 Aug 2008

BANDIANA CHAPTER

At Bandiana Chapter we have settled into our 3rd year of our Charter as a Chapter having been granted on **8 May 2006**.

Office bearers for 2008-2009 are:

President: Andy Turner,

Secretary: George Reid,

Treasurer: Mike Kusternig,

Committee: Phil Stephenson,

Jack Colville,

Ian Deegan, and

Anthony Heald.

Head of Corps Rep. Maj. Graham Anderson.

Alex Wolf had to leave the committee due to a job move. Thanks for all your good work Alex.

You will note from our accounts (over) that we are faring well. Our account is with Bendigo Bank with the Pres., Sec., and Treas., as any two to sign: BSB: 633000 Account Number: 127901593.

Our committee met 8 times and has maintained the normal recording and accounting including our reports throughout the year as required by our Charter.

On 26 Aug 2007 the Secretary, Treasurer and I attended the RAV AGM in Melbourne. On 9 Feb 2008 Treasurer and I attended a RAV monthly meeting in Seymour.

Last year, we planned for an **Annual Formal Dinner** to be held in Nov 2007. We cancelled it as not enough members would attend to make it viable. Numbers were reasonable but our planning was too costly for viability.

Our third **RAEME Remembrance Day** on 4 Feb 2008 was well attended and including dinner at the "Stump" afterwards. A number of widows attended and we will encourage their future involvement. Our oldest member, Wally Swingler, (AEME 1942) said the Ode. Support from the Army was excellent.

A **Family BBQ** was held on Sunday 6 April in the Memorial Gardens and numbers were boosted due to the Puckapunyal Chapter conducting a memorial service for Joe Harlow.

We intend planning for **those three activities each year** as well as taking part in Corps Conference week activities where possible and keeping our members informed of wider RAEME happenings.

We have advanced planning for a **Spring Dinner** in November. Having learned from last year we have planned for numbers and cost to be balanced.

We are pleased that one of our founding members, Brian (Buck) Jones, has been appointed as **Colonel Commandant for Victoria and Tasmania**.

The **RAEME Corps Seminar** is in October and Chapter members will again be attending the dinners and BBQ.

Many thanks are due to all who helped during the year and particularly the hard work put in by our Committee members.

Arte et Marte

Andy Turner

President

RAEME Association (Vic.) Inc

Bandiana Chapter

**RAEME Association (Victoria) Incorporated
RAEME MIXED ALL RANKS CORPS DINNER**

PLUS

**THE CRAFTSMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD 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 3145
FRIDAY 28th November 2008**

WHO IS INVITED?

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

TIMING

1900 hrs for 1930 hrs

We Will Parade the Prince Phillip Banner at the Dinner

DRESS

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

COST

\$47.00 per head (inc. GST)

Payable to RAEME (Vic) Inc.

c/o 8 NEERA Crt. GLEN WAVERLEY 3150

RSVP No later than 21st November 2008

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

Peter Cartledge (Pres)

9802 6406 email:

pcart8@optusnet.com.au

Gus Allen (Sec)

9802 5460 email:

gus_allen@bigpond.com

COME and SUPPORT your CORPS and your CRAFTSMEN

Arte et Marte

#------(Cut off here)-----

Name: Iand my Partner / Guest.....
will be attending the 2008 RAEME CORPS 66th Birthday All Ranks Mixed Dinner at EAST MALVERN RSL on
28th November 2008. Signed.....

Please find enclosed my Cheque / Money order (made out RAEME (Vic) Inc. for \$.....

Please forward this return to the address as above.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – ELECTION of OFFICE BEARERS

Date of MEETING: 31st August 2008

Meeting started 12.10pm at: Oakleigh Barracks

NAME	Committee		NAME	Chapters	
Peter Cartledge	President	P	Dennis Clarke	RAEME Vets	P
Bruce Williams	V.President	Ap	Dave Maddick	Seymour	P
Gus Allen	Secretary	P	Andy Turner	Bandianna	p
Roma Cox	Treasurer	P			
Aranka Illia	Asst Treasurer	P	SUB COMMITTEE		
Reg Cox	Welfare Officer	P	John Lee	Rules & Bylaws	
Alan Rogers	Committee Member	Ap	Jack Westernhagen	Heritage /By-Laws	
Bruce Williams	Committee Member	P	Leonie Cartledge	Social committee	
Ross Hope	Committee Member	P	Margaret Hope	Social Committee	

The meeting was declared open and chaired by the outgoing **President Peter Cartledge** for the purpose of the meeting to elect Officers of the Association until the next AGM 2009.

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous **COM meeting 21st August 2008** were set aside for the purpose of electing the **COM in compliance with Rule 23(6)** and they will be tabled at the forthcoming meeting in September 18th 2008.

ELECTION OF OFFICES of the ASSOCIATION (In accordance with rule 21(1))

Nominations were called for:

President. Peter Cartledge. **Nominated by** Ross Hope **Seconded by** Gus Allen and **Carried.** As there were no other nominations **Peter Cartledge accepted the position** and was elected for the ensuing year.

Vice President Bruce Williams **Nominated by** Alan Rogers (By Proxy) **Seconded by** Dennis Clarke and **Carried.** As there were no other nominations **Bruce. Williams accepted the position** and was elected for the ensuing year. (Note the Proxy form was in the hands of the Secretary in accordance with the rules 19(1))

TREASURER Aranka Illia **Nominated by** Bruce Williams **Seconded by** Alan Rogers (By Proxy) and **Carried** in accordance with the rules 19(1) As there were no other nominations **Aranka Illia accepted the position and was elected** Treasurer for the ensuing year. (Note the proxy form was in the hands of the Secretary in accordance with rules 19(1))

SECRETARY Gus Allen **Nominated by** Peter Cartledge **Seconded by** Aranka Illia and **carried** as there were no other nominations **Gus Allen accepted the position** and was elected Secretary for the ensuing year.

As there was no other nominations required **Peter Cartledge (President)** welcome the new incoming Officers and looked forward to working with them over the coming year.

Meeting was closed at 12.20pm

Photos from the Annual General Meeting
(from Bruce Williams)



Bruce receiving
Life Membership



Gus, Bruce and Peter



Bruce and Jack Westernhagen



Margaret, Ross and Tiny Hepburn



Bruce and Shirley Foord



Peter, Jack Wilson & Bill Slegers



Dennis Clarke, Ivan Royle, Gus,
Neil Charter and Jack



Rex Foord and Margaret Hope



Gus and Bruce



Doug Brazier



The Officer Commanding, PMC and members of 3 Recovery Company would like to extend an invitation to all members, partners and guests to attend:

The 3 Recovery Company End of Year Function

Saturday the 13th December at 10.00 until 16.00 at the

Dandenong Depot, Monash Barracks.

Activities include;

Recovery under fire demonstration
 4x4 Driving Demonstration
 Parade
 Racing Kart Demonstration
 Super bikes Demonstration
 Bouncy Castle
 BBQ Lunch
 Farewell presentations

Dress: Uniform as required and Casual

Cost: The BBQ lunch will cost \$10.00 per person (over 12 yrs), children free.
 The money will be collected on the day.

Enquiries are to be directed to SGT Bernau on 03 8710 2416

PLEASE RETURN BY TUESDAY 18th NOV 08

FROM

To SGT Benau 3 Recovery Coy
 (03) 8710 2416 or
 65 Princes Hwy
 DOVETON 3177

Name

I will/will not be attending the function, I will be bringing adults (including myself) andchildren.

Signed

Print

Seymour/Puckapunyal Chapter AGM

The AGM of the Seymour/Puckapunyal Chapter was held in the Members Lounge of The Seymour Club on Thu 24 Jul 2008 and was well attended. As there were just enough nominations for the committee, there was no need for an election. All previous members were declared re-elected with the addition of Tex McPherson to the committee. Committee members for 2008-2009 are: President; David Maddick, Vice President; John Phoenix, Secretary; Rick Avery, Treasurer; Mick Quinlan, Committee; John Blackwell, Brian (Squizzly) Taylor, Glenn (Deadly) Ernst, Richard (Dick) Duncan, Geoff (Tex) McPherson.

We welcome Tex McPherson on board, but it appears the job has forced him out of the country. Within a fortnight of the elections, his wife was whisked away by the allure of a contract teaching position in Bangkok. Until Christmas!!! Ha, Ha. What year?

Our guest speaker was Brig. Ross Grant (Rtd) former Head of Corps, who gave a very interesting talk on future maintenance policy of the Defence Force, the RAEME Association in Queensland and Operation Spanner Pack. A very enlightening talk was then followed by many questions and answers. Thank you very much Sir.

New Members

We welcome to the Chapter; Dennis (Arnie) Peter and Ian (Punchy) McDonald.

Working Bee & B-B-Q

Some of our members have been active in volunteer work at the Tank Museum, Puckapunyal. The first project has been their M543 Wrecker. All wheels, brake drums and wheel cylinders have been removed, the wheel cylinders have been re sleeved, new brake lines obtained, and the vehicle is ready to be re assembled. It is planned to hold a Working Bee and Family B-B-Q day at the Museum on Sun 30 Nov 08 to complete this work and celebrate our Corps Birthday the following day. Any interested personnel wishing to join us may do so. Please contact any of the committee for catering purposes.

**David Maddick,
President,
Seymour / Puckapunyal Chapter.**

News from R.A.E.M.E. Victorian Southern Chapter

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE VIETNAM SOUTHERN CHAPTER WILL BE HELD AT LEGACY HOUSE AT 11.00 Hours on Wednesday the 26th November, 2008.

Legacy House is located at 293 Swanston Street, Melbourne

VALE

BRIAN KELLY

Malaya, New Guinea, Viet Nam

Past President RAEME Viet Nam Veterans Association

Re-union Information

We wish all the Army Apprentices a happy Re-union at Albury-Wodonga on the 60th Anniversary of the formation of the Army Apprentices School at Balcombe. Jack Westernhagen has worked hard to help make it a success.

106 Field Workshop held a most successful 40 year anniversary re-union at Coolangatta – Tweed Heads. Bill Slegers attended, along with over seventy other Bluebells. Phil Bond has some memorabilia available such as blue polo shirts, key rings and compact discs available of the event.

102 Field Workshop will hold their Re-union again at Gannawarra via Koondrook, during the last weekend of September. A big thank you to Noel and Una Lake for their hospitality.

1 Field Squadron Workshop is holding their next re-union in Hobart Tasmania over the Anzac Day period in 2010. More information on this to follow.

Next Anzac Day the RAEME Viet Nam banner will be followed by the 106 Fld Wksp, 102 Fld Wksp and 1 Fld Wksp banners.

Despite the inclement weather Viet Nam Veterans Day saw a good turn up of Bluebells, with some new faces amongst them. The Army has helped organize the Day over the past three years. The RAAF will now assist the VVAA for the next three years.

Spoke to John Methven from the Viet Nam Museum at Phillip Island and he is looking for RAEME Equipment to display in the Museum as there is a distinct shortage of RAEME Exposure. The ex - aircraft hanger is to be extended to allow room for a recently acquired Canberra Bomber that served in Asia. They were also looking for a tarpaulin for a MK. 111 International and a tent.

ANNUAL CORPS DINNER 7.00PM. FOR 7.30 START the 28th November 2008 at East Malvern RSL and is a great night. COME and SUPPORT your CORPS and CRAFTSMEN.

Arte Et Marte
Dennis Clarke 9848 6757

THE LIGHTNING FLASH

If undeliverable return to
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C/- Oakleigh Barracks 1318 North Rd
OAKLEIGH SOUTH VIC 3167.**

Name(Block Letters)

Address

.....Postcode: Ph. No.
