

# THE LIGHTNING FLASH

SOLDIER and CRAFTSMAN

**October 2016**

**Issue 85**

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

*Incorporation Reg No. A 0022655Z ABN: 96 873 522 994*

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**RAEME Vietnam Veterans Marching on Long Tan Day**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am honoured and humbled to be re-elected as the President of the RAEME Assn VIC (Inc) for another year!

Our AGM was due to be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2016, however, due to unforeseen events, the floor at Clayton RSL was removed and replaced and this resulted in our AGM being rescheduled to 18 September 2016. I thank all the members who attended to make the AGM a success.

Our secretary, Alan R and I attended a couple of VIC Barracks Chapter (Spanner Club) meetings at the Mail Exchange Hotel (cnr Bourke and Spencer Streets). They were very enjoyable and one has an opportunity to catch up with mates that you may not have seen for a while! The next Spanner Club social gathering is on Friday 25 November 2016, commencing at 1600h, at the Mail Exchange Hotel. Members of the Spanner Club have offered an Open Invitation to all RAEME members, both past and present, to attend this social function.

Alkira Secondary College conducted a ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance in honour of our Vietnam Veterans on Monday 10 October. This was a moving ceremony that was well conducted by the students. On 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016, I attended an unveiling ceremony of WW1 plaque, followed by morning tea before moving to the Cranbourne RSL for lunch where VCAL presentations were made. Amy Hocking was named dux of VCAL for 2016 and was presented with the RAEME Trophy.

On the evening of 13<sup>th</sup> October, we were invited to Melbourne High School Army Cadet Unit, by the Principal and CAPT Stephen Huysing for their Annual Ceremonial Parade. The weather was kind to us and I was very impressed with the dress and the high drill standard that was displayed by all the cadets. They are definitely a credit to the School.

### Upcoming events:

The Bandiana Chapter is having their Annual Dinner on Saturday 12 Nov 2016.

Our Association is celebrating the RAEME birthday on Friday 2 December 2016 at the Clayton RSL (see details in this edition).

I take this opportunity to thank you, the members, who do your best to support our functions. I ask that you continue to support this great Association of yours.

**Mike Newbond RFD**  
**President**

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

At the 2016 Annual General Meeting the Committee resigned their Committee Positions. The Returning Officer Members submitted the listed members for Office Bearers and Committee Members. The Members below have been elected to the noted positions by the attending RAV Inc AGM members:

### RAV Inc 2016-2017 Office Bearers

<b>President</b>	<b>Mike Newbond</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Allan Hawkins</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Alan Rogers</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Aranka Illia</b>

### Members

<b>Gus Allen</b>	<b>Pat Marley</b>
<b>Danny Hayes</b>	

### Chapter Presidents

<b>Vietnam Veterans</b>	<b>Dennis Clarke</b>
<b>Victoria Barracks</b>	<b>Rod Gillett</b>
<b>Bandiana</b>	<b>Grant Connolly</b>
<b>Seymour</b>	<b>Dave Maddicks</b>

**Life Member;** At the 2016 Annual General Meeting Andy Turner was recommended by the Committee for Life Membership of the RAEME Association Vic Inc, the members concurred with the recommendation of the Committee. The Life Member Badge and Certificate will be presented to Andy Turner at this year's Annual Birthday dinner on Friday 2nd December 2016. Life Membership is given to a Member who has given outstanding Service to the Association and is recommended by the Committee for elevation to Life Member status by the Members at a Annual General Election in accordance with Association Rules.

**Melbourne High School Army Cadet Unit;** On Thursday 13th October Mike Newbond and I were privileged to attend the Ceremonial Parade. The Ceremonial drill carried out by the Cadets was excellent, we have passed on our congratulations to the Unit Officer Commanding

### Alkira Secondary College - WW1 Memorial

13th October Several Members attended the unveiling of the WW1 Plaques in the College Memorial Garden. After the service a lunch for the 2016 VCAL students at the Cranbourne RSL where our President Mike Newbond presented the 2016 VCAL Dux of the year award to Amy Hocking

(/Cont'd)





*MHSACU Banner Party*

**Alkira Secondary College;** On 10th October the Students held a Remembrance Service at the Melbourne Shrine which they dedicated the RAEME Vietnam Veterans. Dennis Clarke read out the names of our RAEME who died in the Vietnam Conflict and briefly spoke on the battle of Long Tan



**Annual Birthday Dinner;** Will be held on Friday 2nd December 2016 All members are requested to make every effort to attend this night to celebrate the Corps Birthday (**Dinner notice attached**) On the night we will be presenting our Craftsman of the Year Award in addition to other awards

**Bandiana Dinner;** 12th November 2016 Notice details further in Flash

**Victoria Barracks Chapter;** The Committee notes that Alex Birrell has resigned as President of the Chapter. Our thanks and appreciation to Alex for his work as Secretary and President of the Chapter over past years

Congratulations firstly to Bernard (Rusty) Russell who took on the task of Secretary when Alex became President and to Rod Gillett who has now taken the position of President

Arte et Marte  
*Alan Rogers*  
*Secretary*

## VICTORIA BARRACKS CHAPTER

The Victoria Barracks Chapter held it's Annual General Meeting in August, Mr Rodney "Blades" Gillett was elected as President. For those of you that might not know Blades, he was a 22<sup>nd</sup> Intake Elec Fitter and also completed the 93/73 ATET Radio course. He completed 24 years with the Corps and is still serving Defence at the Defence Plaza Melbourne.

The Chapter has held a number of successful functions this year, including ANZAC Day at the Palace Hotel, 505 City Road, in South Melbourne, we raised almost \$900. In addition the Chapter has run a number of Spanner Clubs at the Mail Exchange Hotel in Burke Street. All members of the Corps, both present and past serving are welcome. The Spanner Clubs are all about catching up with your mates, so the more the merrier.

The VBM Chapter is moving into the electronic age, using social media to advertise functions and events and EFT for all financial transactions.

The Chapter is working with the PMC of the VBM SGT's Mess for a RAEME Birthday daytime function and planning for Anzac Day 2017 is progressing. It is planned that ANZAC Day activities at the Palace Hotel will commence at 10:00am, feel free to join us anytime during the day. The RSL Anzac House sponsors our Two-Up licence and all monies raised from Raffles and Two-Up are donated back to the RSL's Patriotic Welfare Fund.

Please contact us, Pres, Vice & Sec are all in three different locations, for your convenience:

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VBM D1 - Secretary - Bernard "Rusty" Russell (03) 9282 7178 [bernard.russell@defence.gov.au](mailto:bernard.russell@defence.gov.au)

## BLUEBELL RAEME VIETNAM VETERANS

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary LONG TAN - VIETNAM DAY

Vietnam Veterans Day was similar to ANZAC Day, where the weather was quite warm. We congregated in the Gardens, just behind, the Victoria Police Shrine, where a gunfire breakfast was available. We had a good roll up of RAEME Vets. We marched from the Flower Clock to the Shrine. A Long Tan cross replica was located in the centre court, with the wreaths being lay around the border of the chain fence. Marquees were for the dignitaries, Naval Band, Army Pipe Band, and Haileybury Pipe Band and School Choir. The V V A A Committees, co-ordinated by Maurie Benson a great . School Children held five hundred and twenty-one Australian flags, with an equivalent number of crosses laid out on the lawn to the South side of the forecourt.

There were over three thousand school children in attendance. Governor of Victoria, Premier, senior US and NZ Consular staff, senior ADF and ex- Service organizations also attended.

National Vietnam Veterans Museum Open Day 5<sup>th</sup> November. Community open day to include plaque dedication, new exhibits, commemorative quilt, and ride in by Vetride 2016 cyclists. Former Federal MP Graeme Edwards will be guest speaker. Vietnamese Veterans and Community to be involved. Local Melbourne Sixties Vocalists, Russell Morris and Wendy Stapleton will provide entertainment.

RAEME Vietnam Southern Chapter have recently joined Friends of the National Vietnam Veterans Museum.

VVAA Family Day at The Seymour Horse Races 19<sup>th</sup> November <https://country.racing.com/seymour>. Click on the button with the date 19 November 2016 for information on the day. The Family Day is the culmination of the year the likes of which will never see again.

Vietnam Veterans Chapter are most grateful to Alkira Secondary College and the Shrine Staff for the RAEME Remembrance ceremony dedicated to Vietnam Veterans. Received a number of apologies, which, left a small number attending. Thank you to all the RAEME members, who made up the numbers. Vic Barracks were well represented.

## OUR VIETNAM NURSES

Another book available is by trained nurse Annabelle Brayley, who has compiled a compelling account of nursing services during the Vietnam War. The book covers the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps, Royal Australian Air Force, Civilian nurses who volunteered under SEATO to staff civilian hospitals or medics in the field providing first aid to sick, injured and wounded soldiers. The Air Force nurses catering for both Australian and American medivac flights.

The nurses handling the aircraft "milk runs", to base hospitals within Vietnam, then onto hospitals in Korea, Japan, Guam and Malaya. This book is published by Penguin Random House.

Our last meeting was held at RSL on Bell, which was formerly Heidelberg West RSL. It has been enlarged and renovated into a modern style of club. It is situated across the road from the "Repat."

### RAEME ASSOCIATION DINNER

Friday December 2 2016  
1830 for 1900 Hrs Clayton RSL  
Carinish Road Clayton  
[ Opposite Railway Station]

### RAEME VIETNAM Unit Reunions

#### 1Armoured Regiment LAD A, B, C, or C 1 Sections

1968-1971  
2017 OCTOBER  
YARRAWONGA  
Contact Russell Cunningham Tel:03 5766 2423  
[bungie12@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bungie12@bigpond.net.au)

#### 106 Field Workshop

2016 November 18<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>  
Venue: Frankston Football Club Victoria,  
The Mighty Dolphins  
Note: There is a lift access & the function centre seats  
over 200.  
Contact Milton Pearson Tel 03: 5976 8648  
[Csm1066869@gmail.com](mailto:Csm1066869@gmail.com)

#### 17 Construction Squadron

2017 on The Sunshine Coast

1 Fld Sqdn Workshop  
2017 To Be Arranged

# **OPERATION SPANNER PACK LATEST RESPONSE FROM OUR RAEME MEMBERS OVERSEAS**

Raymond Norman OAM  
Operation Spanner Pack Sub-Committee

I received the following letter with some photos from  
WO2 'Davo' Davis,  
ASM, TG AFG, QARGHA WKSP

*'Hi Ray,  
On behalf of the RAEME personnel deployed as a part  
of Task Group Afghanistan, I would like to thank the  
RAEME Association for the delivery of our 'Spanner  
Packs'. The Camp Qargha WKSP supports the task  
group as a whole, particularly the Force Protection  
Element (out largest customer) in AFG.*

*We are a small WKSP – only four Craftsmen and an  
ASM. The WKSP is in a remote British Camp, away  
from the main AS HQ, but we have our REME brothers  
present. We have our own EMEOPS office and a decent  
sized Vehicle bay with overhead crane, however there is  
not much indication that a RAEME WKSP is even  
present - I would guess as a result of not having an ASM  
present, as this is the first 'full' rotation that an ASM will  
be located with the WKSP, despite being in its 6th  
Rotation. So in my time, I have been attempting to  
spruce the place up with as much esprit de corps as  
possible. I understand MAJ Howells is organising some  
memorabilia for us, so that we can make our presence a  
little more obvious.*

*It was great to see how much the Crafties appreciated  
receiving the packs, for all of them this is their first  
deployment, so they were unaware of 'Operation  
Spanner Pack', but you could see how proud they were  
to be in RAEME, that their Corps cares about them and  
they let the other Corps mates know about it too hahaha.*

*Thanks again  
Arte et Marte  
'Davo'*



**OPEN INVITATION**

**TO ALL RAEME MEMBERS**

**BOTH PAST & PRESENT**

## **Calling All Spanners!**

*(please forward to any spanner that may be  
interested)*

The Victoria Barracks Chapter of the RAEME  
Association of Victoria (Inc) is hosting a social  
gathering for all interested RAEME personnel  
on **Friday the 25th of Nov 2016** commencing at  
1600hrs.

### **Venue:**

**Mail Exchange Hotel**  
**688 Bourke St, Melbourne**  
**(cnr Bourke and Spencer Sts)**

Enter the Hotel down the stairs/escalator  
then veer left toward the Bistro; you'll see us,  
**We are the Crusty Ol' Crafties!**

We'll put on some Bar Snacks  
you buy your drinks at the bar.

Off street parking available at Wilson Parking  
542 Little Bourke St  
for an \$8 flat rate after 1600hrs

**Looking forward to a large turnout;  
last one for 2016.**

Rusty

**Bernard Russell**

Secretary Vic Bks Chapter  
RAEME Association of Victoria



## **CORPS HAPPENINGS**

### **Plan CENTAUR Update.**

Welcome to this extract from the Plan Centaur e-Newsletter, Army's land materiel maintenance reform program. This is the status of the project as of August 2016:

- The Phase 3 Preliminary Stage is expected to commence by mid-September and continue through to early October.
- This Preliminary Stage will further define the Phase 3 Stage 1 project scope and end-state.
- The Program Management Office (PMO), along with project leads, will be engaging with stakeholders to ensure the outcomes sought from each project are agreed and clearly articulated. Planning is underway to conduct a second LEAN activity in Townsville to inform the wider LEAN rollout in Phase 3 and continue momentum on this important initiative.

### **Centaur 'Quick Wins' Update**

DTR-A staff conducted a LEAN Six Sigma 'yellow belt' workshop for Plan CENTAUR PMO staff and Brigade Liaison Officers from 17-19 August.

The aim of the training was to provide PMO personnel with a greater understanding of LEAN and Six Sigma principles, and to build a pool of staff to contribute to the roll-out of further LEAN workshops across 1, 3 and 7 Brigades in Phase 3. The training was also attended by a number of maintenance personnel from 7 Brigade units to prepare them for 7 Brigade LEAN workshops. Two members of the PMO are also undertaking "green belt" training through the University of Technology Sydney to further enhance the LEAN workshop project delivery.

### **Life Subscription Annual Subscription**

Gary Lancaster, Desmond Thompson, Rod Wilkinson  
John Lyddiard, John Carpenter,

Julian Fleming, John Harris, Cameron McNaught, Jeff Biddle, Peter McAndrew

### **Tools lead to productivity improvements in workshops.**

The tangible results of Plan CENTAUR are continuing to be seen in the Brigades, with multiple unit workshops receiving batches of new tools during August as part of a trial under Capability and Sustainment Group's Commodity Reform Program.

The batch of more than 650 tools – including cordless drills, grinders and impact wrenches – are intended to increase workshop productivity by ensuring sufficient tooling is available, incorporating new tool designs, and reducing the need for infrastructure, such as power and compressed air, at the job site.

The procurement method trialled through the Commodity Reform Program also has potential to reduce the time and cost to source new tools by reducing the steps required to place a demand and the time taken for delivery. The trial validated the practice where industry delivers high quality tools direct to Army units at an affordable price and in a short timeframe.

'This trial has now provided \$99,000 in tools to 18 units, including 20 STA Regiment, 145 Sig Squadron and a number of other Brisbane, Adelaide and Townsville units,' said COL Ed Smeaton from Plan CENTAUR PMO.

'The feedback we are receiving from units so far indicates that the tools are meeting a need and are assisting with improving workshop productivity.'

Regards,  
**BRIG D.F. McGahey**  
**Program Director General**  
**Plan CENTAUR**



Wreath Laid by Alkira Secondary College at the Shrine  
— RAV Inc Remembrance Day 10th October 2016

<b>RAEME Association (Vic ) Inc</b> <b>Functions 2016-2017</b>		
<b>SEPTEMBER 2016</b>	<b>OCTOBER 2016</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 2016</b> 12th Bandiana Dinner
<b>DECEMBER 2016</b> 2nd RAEME Birthday Dinner	<b>JANUARY 2017</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 2017</b>
<b>MARCH 2017</b> 5th Shrine Remembrance & Light Lunch	<b>APRIL 2017</b> 15th Anzac Day Reunion 25 <sup>th</sup> ANZAC Day March	<b>MAY 2017</b> Sun 14th President Lunch Clayton RSL
<b>JUNE 2017</b>	<b>JULY 2017</b>	<b>AUGUST 2017</b> Sun 27th AGM
<b>SEPTEMBER 2017</b>	<b>OCTOBER 2017</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 2017</b> Bandiana Dinner Date TBA
<b>DECEMBER 2017</b> Friday 1st 75th Anniversary RAEME Birthday Dinner		

**Note.****Venues and Timings will be issued under separate cover****Venues & Dates may be subject to change from time to time****Months after August will be subject to the incumbent Committee of Management****Contact the Association Secretary for further details if required**

RAEME Association (Vic.) Inc.  
Inc. Reg. No. A0022655Z

## Bandiana Chapter

# ANNUAL



# DINNER

## Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016

<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Commercial Club Albury, Stanley C Room</b>
<b>Timings:</b>	<b>7.00 for 7.30pm</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$40.00 per person, guests welcome</b>
<b>Dress:</b>	<b>Coat and Tie</b>
<b>RSVP:</b>	<b>Return below by 7<sup>th</sup> November 2015</b>

RAEME Members, partners and guests are invited to the RAV-B Spring Dinner. The Colonel Commandant for Victoria and Tasmania, BRIG David McGahey, will be in attendance. A Guest speaker is yet to be named.

This three course dinner will be a great opportunity to come together for the many RAEME members, both serving and ex-serving who live here in the Albury / Wodonga area. It will also be a great excuse for members living further-a-field to re-visit their old stomping ground.

For Special Diet requirements, please notify Secretary.

Any enquiries please contact our Secretary: Mr. George Reid (02) 60593153 e-mail: [reidysnr@inet.net.au](mailto:reidysnr@inet.net.au)

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### The Secretary

RAEME Assoc. (Vic.) Inc. – Bandiana Chapter, P.O. Box 231, WODONGA 3689

I..... will be attending.

Address: ..... City; ... PC..... Phone.....

My guests' names are: .....

Seating Preference.....Enclosed is a Cheque for Total amount of \$ .....

or,

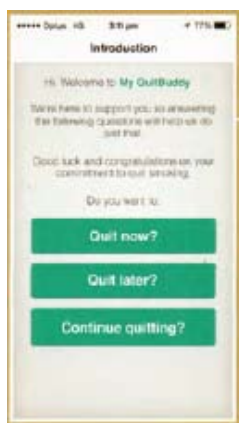
A Direct Deposit of \$ 40-00 Has been made to **BSB: 633 000. A/c No. 127901593** Bendigo Bank, RAEME Assoc. Bandiana (remember to include your name in a direct deposit transaction)



## Health Technology



**HEADSPACE:** (free, Apple & Android with In-app purchases available): Here's a cool app that will help you create a better you through meditation and mindfulness techniques. It has received rave reviews: the New York Times said it is 'doing for meditation what Jamie Oliver has done for food'. Big praise indeed! The app will allow you to learn the basics of 10 types of meditation in 10 minute timeslots, with reminders to keep you on track and the ability to invite friends to share your successes. Some sessions can be downloaded for use offline if this suits you better. With Headspace, you will be inspired to use meditation to begin a new chapter in your life.



**MY QUITBUDDY:** (free, Apple & Android): This clever app from the Australian Government is both creative and inspirational, and will become an essential part of your efforts to quit smoking. It has a huge number of features that allow you to customise the app to your own situation: you can use the 'Quit Now' 'Continue Quitting' or 'Quit Later' option; it tells you about danger times; you can view your daily progress (and the amount of money you've saved); you can set up a personalised slideshow to remind you why you're quitting and to keep you motivated; alerts can be set to keep you on track; and you can read messages from others, as well as nominate friends or family who can assist when needed. The My Quitbuddy app is a great example of technology being employed in the battle for better health outcomes. Be inspired and download it today!



**505 MOTIVATIONAL QUOTES:** (free, Apple & Android): Quite often it's the most simple of things that can motivate and inspire us. As the name suggests, this contains 505 motivational quotes in eight categories (Happiness, Life, Inspirational, Leadership, Personal Growth, Success, Wisdom) that you can view on a random basis or in any of the above categories. As John Muir (the famous American, thinker, author and conservationist) stated, 'The power of imagination makes us infinite. 'With inspiration like that, there's no holding you back now!'



**Google Translate:** (free, Apple & Android): For those who are inspired to travel, or simply those who want to understand a foreign language, Google Translate reflects how the world is shrinking but at the same time allowing the individual to expand their knowledge. Is your Latvian lacking, your Welsh wanting, or are you timid with your Thai? Well, fear no more since the app can translate 90 (yes, 90!) languages with your voice, handwriting, camera or keyboard. The latest version allows translation of signs in eight languages through pictures taken with your camera without an internet connection. If that is not enough, in camera mode you can snap a photo, highlight the text, and get a translation in 36 languages. Plus, with automatic language detection in the speech/conversation mode, the app will instantly recognise the two languages being spoken for a quicker conversation. So, there are no more excuses not to expand your horizons.

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**ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION**

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

**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 February Flash  
 Friday 20 January 2017  
 Items to Pat Marley:

[webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au](mailto:webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au)





**THE LIGHTNING FLASH**

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Print Post Approved  
PP 339549/40061

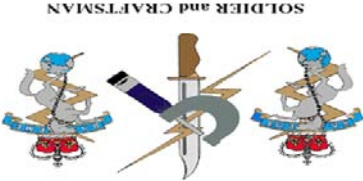
SURFACE  
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**PLEASE SAVE WRAPPER**

**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 Secretary,  
The RAEME Association of Victoria Inc  
PO Box 2118 Fountain Gate Vic 3805**



Name .....(Block Letters)

Address .....

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

Email: .....