



THE LIGHTNING FLASH

SOLDIER and CRAFTSMAN

July 2018

Issue 92

The RAEME Association (Victoria) Inc.

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

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Firstly apologies to one and all for my miss-spelling of our Corps in the last FLASH.

Since the last FLASH, ANZAC Day has come and gone, it was good to see some new members attending the march. A big thank you to Greig and Paul for the setting up of the new venue for the after march activities, some minor technical hitches have been sorted so next year should be bigger and better.

The Presidents lunch was cancelled this year unfortunately due to low numbers, let's see if we can address this for next year as it is always a good event.

Sunday 1st July 2018 will see the last Reserve Forces Day march held nationally, it would appear that Government funding has hit all areas including this. Hope to see as many current or Ex Reservist's there.

The Annual AGM is fast approaching so if you wish to be part of the committee then submit your application (available on the RAV web site) and submit to the Secretary.

For the Fitter Armourers out there, RAV in conjunction with Richmond RSL, 105 WKSP COY, 22 ER and City of Yarra are about to embark on a restoration activity on a WW1 Artillery piece that was captured as part of 76 others by ANZAC Corps in September 1918.

If you wish to assist or provide advice on the restoration, then please email RAV Vice Pres MAJ Peter Crosby or myself.

Finally, thank you to those that continue to support your association.

ARTE ET MARTE

Allan Hawkins
President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Corps Anniversary Dinner

The Dinner was well attended and enjoyed by 60 members. Small and tall tales were told by members at each and between tables.

Special Guests included; Representing our COL/CMDT BRIG David McGahey; COL David Cocker. LTCOL Wes Snipe CO 4CCSB; our Patron BRIG Konrad Ermert; COL Cocker and President WO1 Allan Hawkins presented the RAEME CFN of the year Association Perpetual Shield to CFN Daniel Albano 4CSSB 105 Wksp Coy along with a RAEME Plaque as a personal award.

Shrine Remembrance Day

The Day was well attended with 30+ members and family attending. Unfortunately our Chaplain John Brownbill was unable to attend due to ill health. Thanks to Dennis Clarke we were able to secure Andrew McNeill as the Chaplain for the Services in the Cenotaph and at our RAEME Tree.

Our thanks to Dennis Clarke who once again made any new crosses and set all crosses of our departed mates at the RAEME Tree.

Members after the Service retired to the Western Gallery to enjoy a light lunch and to swap the old & bolds tales

President's Lunch

This lunch has been on the calendar for several years allowing those members who are unable to attend the Annual Dinner at night to catch up with their fellow mates and to enjoy each other's company

Due to the lack of interest the lunch was cancelled, Members should decide whether they wish to continue to support future functions.

Membership

Currently Annual Membership Fees, At time of printing payments have been extremely slow with about 12 members forwarding payment.

Members are reminded that Annual Fees are due no later than 31st July each Year. Without Annual fees being paid on time it becomes difficult for the Treasurer to meet financial commitments

Alan Rogers
Secretary & Membership

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Meet Aranka Illia

Giving Back



AILEEN PHILLIPS



ANDREW TAUBER

As one of only a handful of female Sub-Branch Presidents in Victoria, Aranka Illia is bucking the trend. But she does not want to make headlines because of her gender.

Aranka gives generously of her time to lead the Clayton RSL Sub-Branch around her full-time work commitments. "What volunteering is, is that you do the job, you go home, you come back the next day, you do the job. You do it out of the goodness of your heart for the community and the people around you."

Arriving in Australia as an eight year old from Yugoslavia after living in various migrant camps in Italy, Aranka made an effort to contribute to her new home. After completing her studies, she went on to work in the finance sector, only to find that she was chasing something more and wanted a new challenge to pique her interest.

In 1977, Aranka enlisted as an Australian Army Reservist and served for 15 years. She started off as part of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps, followed by the Royal Australian Artillery and finally with the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. "I enjoyed every minute of my time in the Army Reserves. I don't think I had one bad moment in there."

Her affiliation with the RSL dates to 1991, when she joined the Dandenong RSL during her time in the Reserves. It was only in 2005 that her connection was formed with the Clayton RSL by sheer chance. "We had ANZAC Day one year, we went to march in the city and then gathered at Clayton RSL. That's when I became a Service member there."



**YOU DO IT OUT OF THE
GOODNESS OF YOUR HEART
FOR THE COMMUNITY AND
THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU.**

She eventually joined the Committee and from there she continued to climb the ranks, doing a short stint as the Welfare Officer, followed by Treasurer and is now in her fifth year as President.

And a humble President she is, proud of the Sub-Branched's team of hardworking volunteers. "We are not here to get the kudos. We are here to help the community preserve the goodwill of the RSL in the area."

Aranka Illia is the first to admit she enjoys a new challenge. For now, though, she is keen to continue donating her time to the Clayton RSL and lead it into the future for as long as she is in the role.

Remembrance Day 2018



Three elderly warriors pay respects to their departed mates



Chaplain Andrew McNeil, President Allan Hawkins and Dennis Clarke



COL David Cocker, President WO1 Allan Hawkins, CFN Albino with RAV CFN of Year Shield, 2017 Certificate & Plaque


V A L E
Harold John BAKER
1st Armoured Regt LAD Vietnam
1968-69

To Members who have already paid current fees please ignore this notice

Royal Australian Electrical & Mechanical Engineers
Association (Vic) Inc
2018 to 2019 Annual Subscription

Dear Member

Your Annual Subscription for the year 2018 to 2019 are now due

2018 -2019 Fees

Members Fee	\$20-00
Associate Fee	\$15-00

Fees are due and payable by the end of the 2018 Financial year
(30 June) but no later than 31 July 2018

CHAPTER MEMBERS PAY SUBSCRIPTIONS THROUGH YOUR CHAPTER AS USUAL

Regards

Alan Rogers

Membership Officer

Arte et Marte

EFT; Bank NAB. Berwick BSB; 083 547 Acct No; 28634 9442
Account name: RAEME Association (Vic) Inc

Details required on EFT - Name Membership No.
Annual Fees for: 2018 to 2019

Please advise Membership Officer of your EFT Payment Details

By Post to;

Membership Officer
PO Box 2118
FOUNTAIN GATE 3805

Cheque Made out to RAEME Association (Vic) Inc; Annual Fees for 2018 to 2019

Name Membership No



Members Name _____ Mshp No _____

Please find enclosed payment \$ _____

Cheque Money Order EFT

(Please circle appropriate Account)

email: raeme.assn.vic@bigpond.com

☎ 03 9704 6700 M: 0422 888 851

BLUEBELL
RAEME VIETNAM VETERANS

ANZAC DAY saw RAEME Association march as a Complete Group, which is the first time in at least thirty years.

Like to thank Box Hill RSL , who provided members of their associated Cadet Unit to assist with the Banners. As an added bonus we had Hawthorn City Pipe & Drum Band leading us and helping to maintain step.

The V V A A also intend to celebrate Coral – Balmoral [Operation Surfers] on that day Coral – Balmoral Defenders have previously had a 50 year celebration in Canberra, during May, when some members of units, who were either strictly at Coral – Balmoral or Nui Dat during the time of Operation Surfers could apply for an American Citation of Gallantry – Federation Star.



As we enter the colder months we have two other Shrine Commitments, first being Army Reserve Day on 1st of July. The 2018 Army Reserve Day will be the final day, due to a lack of funding. This will be followed by Vietnam Veterans Long Tan Day.

Unfortunately Harold Baker who has been a Committee Member, stalwart and long time member of our Association has had to stand down due to ill health. He will be greatly missed.

The Committee would like to thank those who have supported the Rotary Waverley Raffle. The money raised will go towards the "Spanner Pack" program, supporting RAEME soldiers.

Our last meeting was held at Cheltenham Moorabbin RSL, on the 31st of June. This RSL has obviously had a major rebuild of recent times. Modern and well laid out.

Our next meeting will be Thursday 6 September 1030 Hrs at Sunshine RSL

Remembrance Day will be celebrating 100 years this year. A number of RSL will be lifting the bar somewhat to make it a memorable event.

RAEME VIETNAM Unit Reunions

1 Armoured Regiment LAD
A, B, C, Squadrons or C 1 Sections 1968-1971
2019 OCTOBER, CANBERRA
Contact Russell Cunningham
Tel:03 5766 2413, M: 0437 834089
bungie12@bigpond.net.au

106 Field Workshop
2018 2nd November, Brisbane
Contact Secretary RAEME Queensland
webadmin@qld.raeme.org.au

17 Construction Squadron Workshop
3rd - 8th September Albany Western Australia
Contact Gary Whykes
Tel 08: 9276 1920, Mob 0411 810077
tresshar@yahoo.com.au

161 Recce Flight Re-Union
2019 September -- Victoria
Contact John Custance
janducustance@bigpond.com

1 Field Squadron Workshop
July 20th 2021 – Hervey Bay Queensland
Contact Norm Barrett
Tel M 0414 342819
normbarrett@bigpond.com

102 Fld Wkshp Re-Union
"Avondale" 601 Bray's Road Gannawarra Victoria
Contact Noel Lake
Tel 03 5456 9246
koonda@activ8.net.au

Army Apprentices' School 70th Birthday Reunion Canberra Anzac Day 2018



**The Army Apprentices' School trained
Army Tradespeople at
Balcombe 1948 - 1982
Bonegilla 1982 - 1995**

Army Apprentices led the Anzac Day March in
Canberra in 2018
the 70th year since AAS was founded.







Captured German Gun - WW1



Spiked Breech of Captured German Gun



Renovated German Gun with WW1 Style Camouflage



Transport of old WW1 Captured German Gun by SA Wksp Coy.

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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 2018
Items to

webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au

THE LIGHTNING FLASH

If undeliverable return to
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PO Box 2118 Fountain Gate Vic 3805

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

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