

SOLDIER and CRAFTSMAN

# THE LIGHTNING FLASH

## December 2020

## # 101

The RAEME Association (Victoria) Inc.  
Incorporation Reg No. A 0022655Z ABN: 96 873 522 994

Patron: BRIG Konrad Ermert. MSc, FIE Aust, CPEng (Retired)

Colonel-Commandant (Vic/Tas): COL/CMDT COLONEL Martin Griffiths RFD (Ret'd)

President: WO1 Allan Hawkins

Vice President: MAJ Peter Crosby

Treasurer: Aranka Illia

Secretary: Alex Birrell

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Web: [www.raemevic.org.au](http://www.raemevic.org.au)

\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE\*\*\*\*\* All correspondence for Victorian Association memberships now needs to be forward to the following –

RAEME Association of Victoria. Inc. Attention A Rogers 14 B Mahogany Ave Berwick 3806.

\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE\*\*\*\*\* All correspondence for Vietnam Veterans Association memberships now needs to be forward to the following –  
RAEME Vietnam Veterans Chapter – Dennis Clarke - [dclarke1947@gmail.com](mailto:dclarke1947@gmail.com)

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## December 2020

After a year like no other in this the supposed modern era, despite the smoke, fires, hail and COVID-19 this year has been one of challenges and changes both nationally (which includes the states and territories) and closer to home and personally. Throughout all of this our front-line workers and Defence personnel have continued their excellent and at times stressful work, helping all across this vast country, to you all I salute you and say thank you for your dedication and service.

We saw Bushfires, COVID-19 MK 1, a reprieve, then COVID-19 MK 2, a rather different ANZAC Day celebrating at the end of our driveway. We saw the ring of steel around Melbourne which may have caused a few angsts between the city and regional areas, social distancing became the norm, then the start of freedom (reductions in the restrictions imposed), then onto picnics in the country, shopping centers allowing to re-open, To the few, Remembrance Day was held in limited numbers so long as social distancing was maintained. Throughout all this many of us had to change/modify/restructure our work/school/family routines even down to interaction with our fellow neighbors. Working from home is not something that appeals to everyone but became the norm.

As this edition goes to print, Victoria was again successful with the Craftsman of the Year Awards for 2020 taking out the Victorian ARA Craftsman of the Year and the National ARES Craftsman of the Year. Well done to those recipients (names to be added in next edition).

This year we missed celebrating several activities, a luncheon will be organized early in the new year to

conduct our AGM, celebrate our delayed Birthday celebration and a tribute to late WO1Gus Allen. Dates to be advised.

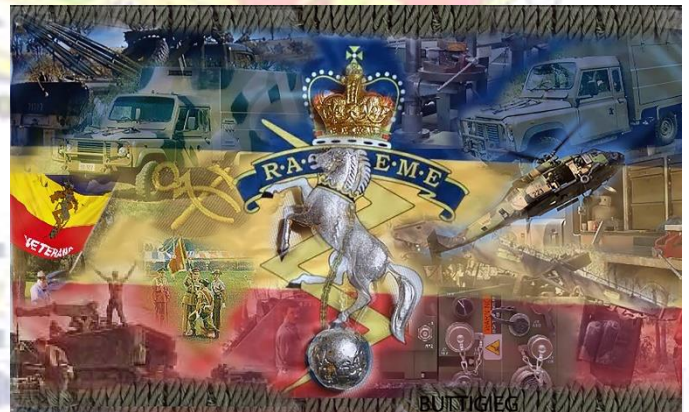
Our Annual Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 14 February 2021 at the Shrine of Remembrance, please mark your calendars.

To one and all, Sandy and I sincerely wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year....

## Arte et Marte

## Allan Hawkins

## President





## SECRETARY'S REPORT

### December 2020

2020 has been a challenging time for us all. Due to COVID strict restrictions in Victoria and having consideration for the continuing safety and wellbeing of our membership, we were unable to get together for the majority of 2020. Now that we are entering a COVID Safe Summer after all the lockdown restrictions, we are able to gather in numbers again.

We are currently planning to resume activities early in the new year with a belated RAEME Birthday celebration combined with our rescheduled 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held at Clayton RSL on Sunday 21 February 2021. You will receive more information and an invite/RSVP early in the new year.

Our Annual RAEME Remembrance Day Commemoration has been booked at the Shrine of Remembrance for 14 February 2021. I will send you more information shortly.

To all our members across the state of Victoria, I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and look forward to being able to gather together again to enjoy each other's company.

On a personal note, I will not be continuing as Association Secretary beyond the AGM. I would like to express my gratitude to all the Committee members for their assistance and support during my tenure. If any of you are considering taking on the role, I am more than happy to discuss what it involves with you. Feel free to contact me

**Arte et Marte**

**Alex Birrell**

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### Secretary

RAEME Association Victoria

### Notice from the RNN Chair –

Gentleman,

2020 has been a turbulent year with many events impacting on people's time and resources. There has been a massive shift in business operating models throughout the country as a result of travel restrictions. Some changes have been for the better, others have not, but all have impacted our members in one way or another. The country as a whole is finally gaining control of Covid infections rates which has resulted in the reductions of travel restrictions throughout Australia and a form of normality is starting to return. 2021, barring any new catastrophic events, is shaping up to be a promising year of normality and growth. With this outlook I will be looking to call an election for the RNN Chair at the beginning of March 2021. Initially the election was proposed to be run October / November this year, however with restrictions in Victoria being as they were, I felt it prudent to further delay the election till Victoria has had a chance to further recover. Please take this notice of intent to canvas your members for people who would be interested in taking over the role.

If anyone has an objection to further delaying the election, please voice your opinion for discussion. Otherwise I will take this early opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Regards,

Alex Smithers  
RNN Chair.



## Blue Bell

### Vietnam Veterans Southern Chapter

President - Dennis Clarke

Vice – President - Graeme Unmack

Secretary - Dennis Meek

Committee - Neil Bennett

Committee - David Wain

#### RAEME VIETNAM Unit Re-Unions

We held a recent meeting at Springvale RSL on RAEME Birthday December 1. with COVID19 restrictions included. Some of our meetings will now be on Zoom, instead of visiting various RSL. Our computers and I phones have become tools, for communication and hopefully our skills have improved as a result.

On a sad note, Steve Chamulko 2783357 passed away 13 October 2020 after a battle with lung cancer. Steve served with both 101 and 102 Field Workshops from 7 – 4 - 1966 till 19 – 12 – 1967.

Some of the Re-Unions that were arranged for 2020, did not go ahead due to the Covid19 restrictions. 1 Field Squadron Workshop held their Re-Union at Hervey Bay Queensland, with reduced local numbers. Hopefully 2021 we will be able to continue with our Re-Unions.

Wishing all members and families of the RAEME association a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

#### 1 Armoured Regiment LAD 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Bendigo. October 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> 2021

Robert Bail – 0419 355721 [r.bail@bigpond.com](mailto:r.bail@bigpond.com)

**17 Construction Squadron Workshop** – Port Macquarie  
2021 –

#### “ONE ALSG”

Lake Hume Discovery Park

8<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2021

33 Boat haven Rd, Ebdon Victoria 3691

Contact details – TBC.

Dennis Clarke

RAEME Vietnam Veterans

## RAEME VIC Membership.

### Membership Report 2020 - 2021

#### Membership Report;

To date the majority of Members have paid their 2020-21 Annual Membership Fees.

Overdue notices have been forwarded to those Members who are yet to pay 2020-21 Annual Fees

#### 2021 Remembrance Day;

Will be held on 14 February 2021 @ 1100h at Melbourne Shrine.

Numbers. / Light luncheon Yet to be confirmed with Shrine Instructions

Further notice will be forwarded close to the day under separate cover.



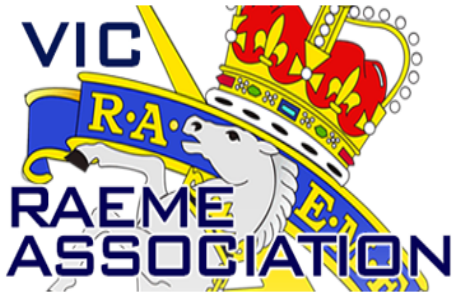
Arte et Marte

*Alan Rogers*

Victorian Association Membership

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## Upcoming Events Calendar



### 2021 JANUARY

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### NOVEMBER

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### DECEMBER

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27	28	29	30	31		

Spanner Club Function.

Venue – To be Confirmed for 2021

New 2021 Dates to be confirmed. These will be posted to RAV social media pages, along with being loaded up on the website.

Committee Meeting RAEME Association of Victoria – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Times TBC

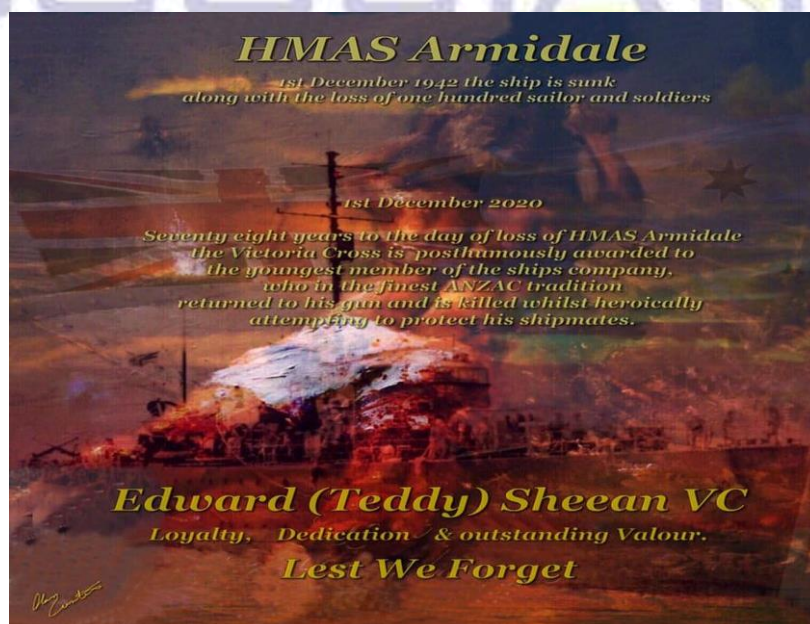
Annual General Meeting & Belated Birthday Celebrations – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021. Times TBC






1. **48544** Dean David Hopping (10<sup>th</sup> VM)
2. **18830** Ian Martin Ward (18<sup>th</sup> C&J)
3. **45867** Dale Woodhart
4. **18531** McLeod, Donal Wallace (7<sup>th</sup> F&T)
5. **243378** Davidson, Malcolm Charles (19<sup>th</sup> VM)
6. **CFN** Allen Blake.
7. Holt, Bruce Anthony
8. McKey, John Joseph
9. MAJ Keith (CHAZ) Chambers.

**Stand Down Gents. Rest Easy.**



<p><b>THE RAEME ASSOCIATION</b> (Vic) Inc. 14 B Mahogany Ave. Berwick, VIC 3806</p> <p><u>Committee of Management</u></p> <p>President: WO1 Allan Hawkins ☎ (BH) (03) 9282 6926 Mobile: 0409 662 916 <a href="mailto:president@vic.raeme.org.au">president@vic.raeme.org.au</a></p> <p>Vice President: MAJ Peter Crosby <a href="mailto:peter_crosby@hotmail.com">peter_crosby@hotmail.com</a></p> <p>Secretary Alex Birrell ☎ Mobile: 0419 004 809 <a href="mailto:secretary@vic.raeme.org.au">secretary@vic.raeme.org.au</a></p> <p>Treasurer/Merchandising/ Promotion: Aranka Illia ☎ (BH) (03) 9566 9468 ☎ (AH) (03) 9796 4794 <a href="mailto:treasurer@vic.raeme.org.au">treasurer@vic.raeme.org.au</a></p> <p>Welfare &amp; Betterment/Almoner: MAJ Michael Newbond ☎ (03) 9799 8006 Mobile 0411 769 980 <a href="mailto:mn31050@bigpond.com">mn31050@bigpond.com</a></p> <p>Rules &amp; By-Laws, Membership: Alan Rogers</p> <p>Editor / Web Master: Morgan Cornelius ☎ Mobile: 0400 115 109 <a href="mailto:webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au">webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au</a> <a href="mailto:raemevic@gmail.com">raemevic@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Social Convenor Rod Gillett</p> <p>Unit Representative &amp; Army Coordination: MAJ Peter Crosby <a href="mailto:peter_crosby@hotmail.com">peter_crosby@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p><u>CHAPLAIN:</u> John Brownbill</p> <p><u>BANDIANA CHAPTER</u> President Hans Sievers ☎ 0408698439 <a href="mailto:hanssiewers@bigpond.com">hanssiewers@bigpond.com</a> Secretary: George Reid PO Box 231 WODONGA Vic 3689 ☎ (02) 60593153 <a href="mailto:reidysnr@inet.net.au">reidysnr@inet.net.au</a></p> <p><u>RAEME VIETNAM VETERANS</u> <u>SOUTHERN CHAPTER</u> President Dennis Clarke ☎ H (03) 9848 6757 Mob 0409 518744 <a href="mailto:delac379@gmail.com">delac379@gmail.com</a> Vice President: Graeme Unmack ☎ - 0429 957505 <a href="mailto:guferretx23@hotmail.com">guferretx23@hotmail.com</a> Secretary Dennis Meek ☎ H (03) 9798 3452 <a href="mailto:dennis.meek@bigpond.com">dennis.meek@bigpond.com</a></p> <p><u>VICTORIA BARRACKS CHAPTER</u> President Rod Gillett ☎ (03) 9622 2848 <a href="mailto:rodney.gillett@defence.gov.au">rodney.gillett@defence.gov.au</a> Secretary ☎</p> <div data-bbox="619 1173 911 1361">  <p><b>PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES</b></p> </div> <p><u>SHEPPARTON</u> Mark Ryan ☎ (03) 5784 3823 Mobile: 0411 708 099 <a href="mailto:skand.pl@gmail.com">skand.pl@gmail.com</a> <u>BALLARAT/DAYLESFORD</u> George Hepburn 24 Junction St. BALLARAT 3350 ☎ (03) 5331 3153</p>	<p><u>BENDIGO/CASTLEMAINE/ HEATHCOTE</u> Alan Rogers ☎ (03) 9704 6700 Mobile: 0422 8 88 851 <a href="mailto:membership@vic.raeme.org.au">membership@vic.raeme.org.au</a></p> <p><u>HOPPERS CROSSING/GEELONG</u> TBA</p> <p><u>WARRNAMBOOL &amp; DISTRICT</u> Brian Driscoll ☎ (03) 5595 4273</p> <p><u>BERWICK/PAKENHAM</u> <u>WARRAGUL/ MORWELL/</u> <u>TRARALGON &amp; SALE</u> Graeme Vaux ☎ (03) 5199 2724 <a href="mailto:vauxy58@hotmail.com">vauxy58@hotmail.com</a></p> <p><u>CRANBOURNE/KORUMBURRA</u> <u>&amp; WELSHPOOL</u> Kevin Moon 1 Hawkins St. KORUMBURRA 3950 ☎ (03) 5655 1545</p> <p><u>ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION</u></p> <p><i>This Newsletter is produced by the members, for the members, and is not to be solely one-way communication.</i></p> <p><u>DISCLAIMER</u> <i>The views and articles expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the policy and views, official or otherwise, of this Association.</i></p> <p><a href="mailto:webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au">webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au</a></p>
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## Remembrance Day – With a Difference.





From the President and committee members, we would all like to send everyone our best wishes for the Christmas period, and we hope you all have a great and safe start for the 2021 year.

Thank you for all your support.



## Communications



Welcome to the Army Museum of  
South Australia



<https://amosa.org.au/>



SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE  
MELBOURNE

<https://www.shrine.org.au/Remembrance/Services>

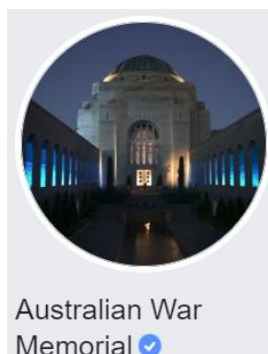
WITH  
YOU  
WITH  
ME

<https://www.withyouwithme.com/>

## Shared Communications.







Looking for a short trip away, and want to feel like being part of the extended family?

Please see below details for those that may be interested in helping out a veteran, and in doing so, helping others find a small retreat away from home. <https://cockatooriseretreat.com.au/>

**Cockatoo Rise War Veterans Retreat inc**



**OFFICIAL  
OPENING**



**SAT MARCH 6, 2021**  
( LABOUR DAY WEEKEND )

**LOCATION 26 HIGH ST MACARTHUR**  
( The OLD Pub )

**TIME 12 NOON**

**OPENED BY SENATOR JACQUI LAMBIE**

**MARCH TO RETREAT MEMORIAL 12.15**  
**MEDALS TO BE WORN**

**RSVP For catering purposes .**

**Tel Greg 0409418332**

**email cockatoorise@wideband.net.au**



Please email - [digger1254@aussiebb.com.au](mailto:digger1254@aussiebb.com.au) to register your interest.

### Web Site Updates and Changes.

Please send any and all photos from past and present events to - [webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au](mailto:webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au) or [raemevic@gmail.com](mailto:raemevic@gmail.com) if you wish to have these added into an album. The more the merrier.

All the old paper documents of the Flash Newsletter are now uploaded to the website. These have all been scanned and saved electronically for future prosperity.

Again, if you have any old documentation that you would also like saved for history purposes, please send through a scanned copy.

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### DISCLAIMER

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**Let's hear from you!**

**Deadline for next Newsletter – February 2021**

**Items to Morgan Cornelius:**

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

**THE LIGHTNING FLASH**

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



SOLDIER and CRAFTSMAN

Membership Officer -

RAEME Association of Victoria Inc.

Attention - A Rogers, 14B Mahogany Ave, Berwick VIC 3806

Name .....(Block Letters)

Address .....

.....Post Code ..... Ph: No.....

Email .....