

THE LIGHTNING FLASH

Edition # 106

The RAEME Association (Victoria) Inc.

Incorporating 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)

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Editor/Webmaster: Morgan Cornelius email - webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au

Website - https://vic.raeme.org.au/

****Please note****

All correspondence for Victorian Association memberships to be forwarded to -RAEME Association of Victoria. Inc. Att: Alan Rogers. 14 B Mahogany Ave. Berwick 3806 ****Please note****

All correspondence for Vietnams Veterans Association memberships to be now forwarded to - RAEME Vietnam Veterans - Dennis Clarke - delacl379@gmail.com Mail can be attentioned to Dennis - 9 Barrabool Street, Doncaster East 3109

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Notes from the Editor.

CONTENT.

As the times change and we move forward into a fast paced future, it is important to remember that those that are "old school", dont always have the tools to view much of what we take for granted in a world of digital media. It is for that reason, very important to make sure we share photos, images & stories via print media such as this news letter. Without the much needed content, the Flash Editions would have no substance and fall away. Please share what you have, so I can add it into future editions for all to enjoy. Cheers, Morgan.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The committee is working on auditing and streamlining our merchandise sales process. Currently the system in place is set up to receive requests for merchandise, then an invoice needs to be generated and paid prior to items being shipped.

As most of you would no doubt know, this is a time consuming exercise, that can extend the time frame for goods to be received by the recipient.

With all things COVID over the last few years, one thing that did explode and become popular was the online shopping experience that people gravitated towards to make their lifes simpler and time more efficient. Stay tuned for future updates and a new streamline platform that will allow for speedy ordering, payment remittance and shipping.

We are also looking for a safe storage place for our association memorabilia, so if there are any suggestions that can assist the association and it's history of artefacts etc. we would love to hear from you.

The Corps remembrance at the shrine went off without a hitch except for "yours truely" only just making it on time. Attendance was a little disappointing, but I put it down to a combination of a long weekend and extremely lovely weather.



I am sure next year will be better attended and hopefully we can include a commemorative luncheon.

Arte et Marte Rod Gillett

President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership

This year we gained 4 new members and those members of the Victoria Barracks Chapter.

Members with overdue repayments will be advised that Membership will be terminated unless fees are paid, prior to the end of the financial year along with the 2022-2023 annual fee.

Remembrance Day

The day was attended by 25 members with several apologies due to the long weekend. For the next service, we have made application for the Sunday after the long weekend and the Western Gallery for the light luncheon.

This year and for future years the Crosses at our RAEME Tree will no longer be in place, (due to lack of volunteers). Our thanks to Dennis & Martha Clarke who for many years have spent several hours in the placing and removing of the Crosses. In place of the crosses we had a member volunteer to make a magnificent RAEME Cross.

Our thanks to Past President Allan Hawkins, for donating his time and workmanship.

Something different this year as we found it difficult to arrange to find a Chaplain to do the prayers. On the day were led by Ethan Rogers a 17 year old who volunteered to carry out this task . (Our normal Chaplain is recovering from an operation).

Flood Appeal

This year we are again involved with the Garry Warren Smith Kia &Waverly Rotary Club Community Appeal for -1st Prize KIA Picanto S RRP \$21,250 Drive Away, 2nd \$1000-00 Fuel Voucher & 3rd Vehicle Window Tint \$595* Please see the attached Appeal form on pages 10 & 11 for tickets.



https://vic.raeme.org.au/index.php/membership

New memberships are all welcome. Please find link above for both a word doc. and excel doc. from our website.

Arte et Marte Alan Rogers



BLUE BELLS REPORT





Vietnam Veterans Southern Chapter

President - Dennis Clarke Vice President - Graeme Unmack Secretary - Dennis Meek Committee - Neil Bennett, David Wain, Robert Gazzara.

Last meeting for RAEME Viet. Southern Chap. was at the Federal Mills restaurant at North Geelong. The VVAA Geelong held a meeting following our meeting. A presentation was made to Annie, the widow of the recently deceased, former member Les Harris. Our next Meeting will be at Doncaster RSL.

VALE

Kenneth James Beatty 242753 Major passed away 17/02/2022.

Ken was the first Bluebell into Vietnam on a fact finding mission on 09/08/1963 till 17/08/1967 and then with HQ 1 ATF 04/03/1967 till 20/02/1968. Ken suffered from lung cancer, but still attended some of our local meetings.

Robert Musgrave [Bob or Biggles] 342955 Craftsman passed away 04/03/2022. Bob served with 102 Field workshop from 11/06/1968 till 18/06/1969.

Bob scored some notoriety in restoring a Citroen 11CV which was captured by Victor company 4RAR/NZ in 1968. It was painted hot pink and adorned with "Hippie" flowers and presented to the sisters at 1 Field Hospital as their personal transport.

It was a common sight around Vung Tau and the surf beach near 1 ALSG.

UPDATE on ANZAC Day 2022 Arrangements

Theme around this year is Vietnam being the 60th Anniversary of the commencement of conflict for Australian Forces.

The March will start at 09:00 Hrs.

The March will revert to the traditional format last seen in 2019 including formation points and March order. Formation in Collins Street East.

This information will be available on the RSL website from the 13thApril, in Mufti and in Newspaper.

Start point will be Princes Bridge. There is a letter from the President Victorian Branch of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia. Plans for Commemorations to mark the 50th Anniversary of the withdrawal of Australian Troops from Vietnam. If you have not seen a copy of this letter, contact us and we can forward it to you.

RAEME VIctoria - MEMBERSHIPSBLUE BELLS REPORT

RAEME Vietnam Unit Reunions

One Armoured Regiment LAD Bendigo October 15th – 17th 2022 Contact: Robert Bail r.bail@bigpond.com M 0419 355721

106 Field Workshop Curumbin RSL May 14th 2022. RSVP - 30/04/2022 Contact - Milton Pearson 0488 050261 csm@1066869@gmail.com

> One Field Squadron Workshop Wodonga March October 20th - 22nd, 2022 Contact; Mick Leonard H 02 6059 2771 M 0429 586668 mick.jude@bigpond.com

102 Field Workshop. Gannawarra - 29th - 30th September 2023 Contact -Noel Lake - 03 54569246 koonda@active8.net.au

One DIV S&T Wkshp Cowes Phillip Island Contact Tony Zammit M 0412 604179 Email – ajmm@virtual.net.au CANCELLED DUE TO COVID

RAEME VIctoria - MEMBERSHIPSBLUE BELLS REPORT

The One Armoured Regiment Light Aid Detachment and One Field Squadron Workshop plaques are now located in the V V A A Museum Peace Garden at Phillip Island. We are now ordering the 17 Construction Squadron Workshop plaque.

One Field Squadron were finally able to hold their Re- Union in Wodonga, which included a visit to the Bandiana Museum, with a visual of the RAEME Training Centre and the Blazing Stump. The floods in the northern states affected some and health also now plays a major part on the numbers attending. Mick Leonard and Jim Saddington organized it. Wives and partners attended, along with John Forster and Dennis Clarke. The Bluebells in the photo at the RAEME Cenotaph:



Left to Right are, Mike Griffen, John Walker, John Murphy, Mick Leonard, Ron Dickens, Tom Clayton [Background], Rod Muir, Noel Cooper, Peter Curran [Background], Ross Grant, John Stanford, Bruce Diamond [Background], Jim Saddington, Rob Gazzara, Ken Jenkins, John Wilde and Tony Hinton. Attendees not in photo: Keith Black, Dennis Clarke and John Forster.

102 Field Workshop Reunion



Left to right front row. David Wain, Ron McGlinchey, Ian Beveridge, BobTait, Alan Sherwood. Left to right second row. Jim Clements, John Clarke, Tony Rikken, Michael Cox, Lance Punshon, Geoff Kohler, Graeme Hendrickson, John Bugraves, Gary Elliot, Des Tubb. Left to right third row. Neville Goldsmith, Barry Nagle, Noel Lake.

Arte et Marte Dennis Clarke

President - RAEME Vietnam Assoc.

RAEME Vietnam Southern Chapter March 2033 Report to RAV Committee

Plaque program for the VVAA Museum Peace Garden have continued with 1 Armoured Regiment Light Aid Detachment and 1 Field squadron now installed. 1 7 Construction Squadron Workshop is next to be cast up and machined.





VALE - Lest We Forget



48656 Paul Guenther BERK [19th RM], 18646, Tim McIlroy, Allan Arthur Nolan, Jason Neil Whitfield (Smiley), Adrian Roberts MG OAM (1 APC SQN LONG TAN), Denis Ward, 220166 WO1 Brian Wikman 25th VM, 62145 Warren John Golder (Blacksmith) 25th Intake, Ian Mckechnie, Geoffrey Jacobs former ASM of 3 Transport Company Workshop., Dennis Cobbin (Possum), MAJ Alex Weaver, Barry Kent, 18608 William Arthur Mann. 12th Intake, 2/42563 Ralph James Young ,3rd intake, Lt Col Joseph William Thompson 20th Radio Mechanic, Marc McQueen, WO2 Michael ((Butch) Parkinson, Brian Mills, Kenneth Beatty, 62145 Warren John Golder, Frank Maloney Robert Musgrave 19th VM, 36086 Ian Athol (Wombat) LAURIE, Peter Norton 20th F&T, 20th F&T Tony Burek, Stephen Williams, 27th Intake, Colonel Francis Adrian Roberts MG, Garry Errol Fairleigh 26th Intake.



THE RAEME ASSOCIATION (Vic) Inc. 14b Mahogany Ave, Berwick Vic 3806 Committee of Management

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> Secretary Alan Rogers

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> Editor / Web Master: Morgan Cornelius

Mobile: 0422 144 808 webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au

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BANDIANA CHAPTER President Hans Sievers 20408698439

hanssievers@bigpond.com Secretary: George Reid PO Box 231 WODONGA Vic 3689 ☎ (02) 60593153 reidysnr@iinet.net.au

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HOPPERS CROSSING/GEELONG TBA

WARRNAMBOOL & DISTRICT Brian Driscoll (03) 5595 4273

BERWICK/PAKENHAM WARRAGUL/ MORWELL/ TRARALGON & SALE Graeme Vaux (03) 5199 2724 vauxy58@hotmail.com

CRANBOURNE/KORUMBURRA

& WELSHPOOL Kevin Moon 1 Hawkins St, KORUMBURRA 3950 20(03) 5655 1545



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. webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

Royal Australian Electrical Mechanical Engineers Association (Vic) Inc.

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

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Spanner Club - Dates to be confirmed. ANZAC Day March - 25th April - 9.00am step off. ANZAC Day Function - Venue & Details to be confirmed. 106 Fd Wksp - 14th May 2022 - Curumbin RSL. 1 Field Squadron Wksp - October 20th - 22nd Wodonga 1 Armoured Regiment LAd - October 15-17th - Bendigo 1 DIV S&D Wskp - TBA - Phillip Island.





RAEME Association Vic Inc GWS Community 2022 Car Raffle FLOOD RELIEF APPEAL

Notice to all Members requesting they each purchase a Book of 10 Tickets for \$20-00 All proceeds will be donated for the Lismore Flood Appeal

Notice

To all Members of RAEME Regular / Reservists/ Retired.

This year RAV Inc we will again be taking part in the Gary @ Warren Smith Group / Waverley Rotary Club Community Car Raffle.

This year the Association will donate the proceeds for Lismore Flood Relief

Raffle Background: This Raffle is conducted through the Waverley Rotary Club/ Gary @ Warren Smith Group,.

Various prizes include a choice of a brand-new KIA PICANTO with a RRP of \$21,250.00, a \$1,000 BP fuel voucher and a vehicle window tint with a RRP of \$495.

All monies sold through tickets sales are to be returned to RAEME Association Vic Inc (If we sell 50 books at \$20-00 per book of 10 tickets, we will be in a position to donate \$1000-00 for The Lismore Flood Relief)

To this effect we ask that ALL RAEME Members commit to purchasing at least (1) one book. Additional books would be great

We ask that to streamline the sales that all monies are forwarded prior to raffle books being forwarded. Please see attached order form for books. Alternatively, you can click on the link below and it will redirect to the order form via the RAEME <u>Association, VICTORIA</u> website.

CLICK HERE

Books can be purchased for \$20-00 per book by EFT/ Chg/ Money Order from Alan Rogers14 B Mahogany Ave Berwick on attached ORDER FORM on page 12, or via the link above.

As only a limited number of tickets will be available we will require your commitment with the attached form & payment of the number of books you wish to purchase books will be allocated on '1st in basis'

For interested parties; the raffle will be drawn at -CHADSTONE KIA 1575 Dandenong Rd OAKLEIGH 3166 at 6;00pm Thursday 14th July 2022. Subject to COVID Restrictions

RAEME Association Vic Inc and GWS Community Car Raffle 2022

LISMORE FLOOD RELIEF

Name_											
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I Wish to purchase x number of raffle books at \$20-00 per book											
No Books - \$ Amount - How Paid - Cheque EFT Order Money											
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PLEASE NOTE TICKETS BE PAID FOR PRIOR TO POSTING Cheque made out to RAEME Association Vic Inc Post to RAV Inc 14 B Mahogany Ave Berwick 3806 EFT to Bank a/c at - NAB; BSB: 083 547 Account No: 28634 9442 Record as RAV Car Raffle 2022 Notify Association of EFT Receipt to alang. 37 @bigpond.com In order to reduce administration, we request that raffle books are paid for in advance. \$20-00 (per book of 10 tickets purchased) will be forwarded to the purchaser when available upon payment of requested books. Ticket Butts can be filled in by Alan Rogers if requested. Tickets will be posted to your address Please retain your tickets Any queries re additional books - Please contact Alan Rogers at alang. 37 @bigpond.com (M) 0422888851											
TICKET BUTTS MUST BE RETURNED TO Alan Rogers 14 B MAHOGANY AVE BERWICK 3806 NO LATER THAN 24TH JUNE 2022											

ANZAC DAY.



With ANZAC Day 2022 fast approaching, it helps to review some of the stories and struggles that our service men and women were faced with during those operations and theatres of war. for anyone interested, below is a portal link that can be accessed to look at things such as, Wars & Missions, Stories of Service, Commemorations, Biographies and Education and Research.

Anzac Portal

CLICK HERE

Sharing Australia's military and service history through the experiences of our veterans

Details for this years ANZAC Day service are yet to be released, but will be available in April. This information will be available on the RSL website from the 13thApril, in Mufti and the Newspaper.

After March Function - To be confirmed for those that are participating in Melbourne.

This will be posted on the social media pages and also the VIC RAEME website, prior to the 25th April 2022.

If you are in Geelong, it is good to know that the editor and his family will be hosting an ANZAC Day after function at LP's Cafe-Bar-Restaurant. APOD (Australian Partners of Defence) discount will be provided for all current and ex servicing members.

Please keep an eye out on updates for the venue via LP's website, by clicking on the logo below. BBQ, Finger Food, Footy and Two Up will be available on the day.





The RSM noticed a new squaddie and barked at him, "Get over here now". "What's your name soldier?" "John" the soldier replied. "Look, I don't know what bleeding Army you think you have joined son, but I don't call ANYONE by his first name" barked the RSM, scowling, "It breeds familiarity, and that leads to a breakdown in authority". "I refer to my soldiers by their last names only. Smith, Jones, Baker or whatever, and you are to refer to me as "Sir". Do I make myself clear?"

"Now that we've got that straight, what's your last name?" The soldier sighed heavily, "Darling. My name is John Darling, Sir" "OK, John, here's what I want you to do.



On a lighter note -

From - M.A. Griffiths - Colonel.

(A quick note to advise that MAJ Pete Solomon had a heart attack on Saturday 12th of March. A group of us have rallied around Kath and the kids but thought the broader community would like to know of Pete's situation.) Regards, Martin.

I am happy to inform everyone, that Pete is up and about and is already at home with his family making a slow, but steady recovery.

Lots of love and support was provided for Pete, Kat and his family from the RAEME brethren and also the Army Apprentice School Community. Rest up Pete.



Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775: An unfortunate twist of fate for one young redcoat, Charles "Bugeyed" Bingham, was not knowing that the opposing American general had just uttered the historic command, "Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes."





Welcome to the Army Museum of South Australia



e pine

https://amosa.org.au/





https://www.veteransretreatsaustralia.info/

GEELONGRSL

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.

Berwick RSL

https://cockatooriseretreat.com.au/





http://www.rdveteransretreat.com.au/

Please send any and all photos from past and present events to webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au or 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.

ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

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DISCLAIMER

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Let's hear from you!

Deadline for the next edition of the news letter is -30th June 2022. Items, Images, Posts and/or information -To: Morgan Cornelius.

webmaster@vic.raeme.org.au



THE LIGHTNING FLASH

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RAEME Association of Victoria Inc.

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

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