

RAEME Head of Corps Newsletter



March 2013

(21th Edition)

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HEAD OF CORPS - RAEME
BRIGADIER ANDREW MATHEWSON

At the end of last year, I was honoured to learn of my appointment as Head of Corps RAEME. For those that may not know me, as a brief introduction, I was born in Mildura, Victoria and grew up on the family vineyard about 10kms west of Mildura. I joined the Army in 1980 as an Apprentice Fitter and Turner. In 1986, following great support and encouragement of my senior NCOs and officers, I received the Craftsman of the Year Award and subsequently undertook officer training at Duntroon.

My career has allowed me the somewhat rare opportunity to serve in the Ground environment and in the latter years, to work with the Aviation members of our Corps. Indeed it is evident to me that despite the healthy banter that takes place between these elements of our Corps, we have much that can be learned from each other. There is great strength in our diversity.

BRIG Ross Grant and his team are doing a fine job in progressing the Corps History Project (CHP) and I am delighted with stories being developed and provided. If your story is not yet completed, it is not too late to make a contribution. Also if you have some suitable photographs for the project, please send them to the CHP team.

The year promises to be very challenging as the ADF substantially reduces operational deployments and we grapple with reductions in budget. I am particularly concerned with the ongoing battle to retain our experienced and well qualified members of the Corps.

The important work we do in the support of materiel is every bit as important now as it was when our Corps was formed some 70 years ago. That said, it is important that we adapt to accommodate new technologies and contemplate better ways to deliver our support. I seek your support in generating ideas and contributing to the decisions being made as Army transforms the way we do business through Plan Beersheba.

Until we next meet.

Arte Et Marte

CORPS RSM - RAEME

WO1 CRAIG WEBB

(02) 6055 4031

craig.webb@defence.gov.au

Past and present members of the Corps of RAEME, hello and let me introduce myself. I am Warrant Officer Class 1 Craig Webb. In 2013 I was appointed as the Regimental Sergeant Major of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. I also have the honour of been appointed Corps RSM of RAEME. I joined the Army in 1990 as a 45th Class Apprentice Electrical Fitter (Tech Elec) and in the last 13 years I have held both regimental and trade positions across Australia.

I would like to first and foremost thank WO1 Jason Ballard for his efforts in representing the soldiers of the Corps for the past three years and wish Jason the best in his new role as RSM of the Army Aviation Training Centre. On behalf of all RAEME Soldiers I would like to congratulate Brigadier Mathewson on his appointment as Head of Corps RAEME and wish Brigadier Dave Creagh all the best in his future endeavors.

At present the Army is entering a phase where the use of resources is becoming increasingly restricted. The first major impact on the Corps was the cancellation of the Corps Conference last year. This decision will modify the way in which we conduct business in the future as at this stage as a Corps conference (in the format that we knew it) will not be achievable in the future. During the year a format for a Corps seminar will be released to give members of the corps a chance to embrace the 'esprit de corps' once again.

As the Corps RSM I am also the keeper of the Prince Phillip Banner (Corps banner) and the RAEME Centrepiece. During the last couple of years the banner and centre piece have not been utilised as much as I would have liked. Both items are part of our history and need to be used as much as possible to ensure that are not just items which gather dust in the Army Logistics Officers and Sergeants messes respectively.

Throughout the year I am hoping to visit as many members of the Corps as possible to discuss issues of the Corps and to ensure that the views of the craftsmen/women of the Corps are heard at the Head of Corps level. I am interested in your views and if you wish to contact me about corps related issues do not hesitate. I only ask that you cc your ASM or CoC so they too can be across any issues that may be affecting you.

Arte et Marte

SO2 CORPS - RAEME

MAJOR JOHN HALSTEAD & MAJOR GRAHAM ANDERSON

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john.halstead@defence.gov.au

Those of you that have waited with baited breath for another sermon of wisdom from my esteemed counterpart Ian Anfruns, will be bitterly disappointed. The CFTS gods failed to anoint the position and Ian has slipped quietly away to do some work on his farm.

Well this is as good a method to get your feet under the desk as any. Never imagined I would become a journo and I doubt that Rupert Murdoch or Packer will be knocking on my door in the near future. Here goes anyway.

In the few short weeks I have been here all the talk has centred around a few specific issues. The first and foremost are financial cutbacks. The result of these constraints on our budget has caused us to cease any future GRES employment for this FY. This will restrict our operation significantly. I expect to be flying the HOC Cell solo for the bulk of the remaining year.

We, ((DHOC (Land) , RSM and I) have plans to conduct visits during the first half of the year and now funds are confirmed planning has begun in earnest.

I have attached a copy of the schedule at the back of this newsletter.

Interesting days ahead in the Corps while we try to come to terms with ACR / Plan BEERSHEEBA, whether tradesmen need to be generic or platform trained, whether the Corps realises dedicated generic maintenance vehicles or whether they are FOV specific.

The HOC Cell had a meeting with BRIG Mathewson 28 February where he indicated concerns around opening communication lines in order to provide better situational awareness of Corps issues. I want you engage me with issues applicable to your unit/formation through email initially. We are always ready to listen to information relating to retention and how best to improve it.

Positive progress is being made on the management of the Corps History Book (CHP). The project manager, BRIG Grant (Ret) is as tenacious as always and pushing hard for articles and help. The cut off deadline is April this year so you had better get moving. Any of you who have service in the Middle East or Timor are encouraged to write. Please find enclosed flyer on the project and consider the option of contribution. Don't be concerned about the quality of your efforts as we have someone engaged to review, format and correct.

A big advertisement for unit articles for this year's Craftsman Magazine. Please forward to me as soon as you like. Subscriptions for this close end of May this year. I will acknowledge receipt of your articles. Keep your eye out for Cfn of the Yr nominations and get them in early this year please.

J. Halstead
MAJ
SO2 Corps

G.M. Anderson
MAJ
SO2 H

RAEME REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES 2013

Formation	Appointment	Rank	Name	Address	Region	Phone
6 Avn Regt	OC OP SPT SQN	MAJ	Miles Irving	Holsworthy Bks, Holsworthy, NSW	NSW	02 8782 2162
DOCM-A	CA - RAEME	MAJ	Elizabeth Stevens	Russell Offices, Russell, ACT	ACT	02 6265 5777
1 CSSB	OC 101 WKSP COY	MAJ	Paul Luck	Robertson Bks, Palmerston, NT	Northern Region	08 8925 9101
3 CSSB	OC 102 WKSP COY	MAJ	Kane Wright	Lavarack Bks, Townsville, QLD	North Queensland	07 4411 7678
7 CSSB	OC 7 CSSC	MAJ	Cameron Aitken	Gallipoli Bks, Enoggera, QLD	South Queensland	07 3332 7645
16 AD REGT	BC SPT BTY	MAJ	Tom Dowsett	Woodside Bks, Woodside, SA	Central Region (South Australia)	08 8389 0290
ALTC	SO2 ECM RAEME	MAJ	Scott Babington	Latchford Bks, Bonegilla, VIC	Southern Region	02 6055 4053
CO RAMS	CO	LTCOL	Arthanasios Tsamis	Army Avn Centre, Oakey, QLD	Darling Downs	07 4577 7400
13 CSSB	S3 OPS	MAJ	David Goldsworthy	Irwin Bks, WA	Western Region	08 9269 4305

TTMO CONTACT DETAILS – 2013

WO2	Tony	Earwacker	T	ATTMO TVL	07 44111305
SGT	Mick	Gordon	M	ATTMO TVL	
WO2	David	Shepherd	D	ATTMO BNE	07 3332 4292
SGT	David	Oram	D	ATTMO BNE	
SGT	Pam	Reffold	P	ATTMO SYD	02 8782 4301
WO2	Malcolm	Goldner	M	ATTMO DWN	08 8925 3104
SGT	Brendan	Ashlin	B	ATTMO DWN	
WO2	Russell	Haycock	R	ATTMO ADEL	08 73892480

CORPS MERCHANDISE

Craftsman Magazine

The next Craftsman Magazine is due to be published in July 2013. Contributions are to be forwarded to the editor by end of May 2013. Units / members are encouraged to provide articles and photos for the magazine.

Banner Miniatures

The final release RAEME Banner Miniatures are available from the HOC Cell, Bandiana. Order form attached.



RAEME Craftsman Port 2012

The long standing tradition of the annual Craftsman Port is alive and well with large orders and productions over the past few years. The 2012 RAEME Craftsman Port is to be produced by EME element at 7 RAR. With the Barossa Valley at their back door it is sure to be one not to be missed. Anyone interested in acting as a regional Port rep please contact MAJ E. Stokes or his staff at 7 RAR (Edinburgh).

Corps Bow Ties

Corps bow ties are now available for purchase from the HOC cell. These are a quality tie with the RAEME badge sewn into the tie. Price \$25 each.



RAEME Corps Subscriptions Form

Corps Subscriptions Contribution Rates:		
Rank (retirement rank)	Fortnightly Allotment	Lump Payment
CFN – SGT	\$1.00	\$26.00
WO2 – CAPT	\$1.50	\$39.00
MAJ +	\$2.00	\$52.00

Methods of Contributions:

1. **Allotment from pay (for serving ARA members) *Allotment is the Preferred Method***
 - Allotment to be made to **RAEME Corps Fund Non-BSB Allottee number 460** via PMKeys Portal.

2. **Annual lump-sum payment - made out to RAEME Corps Funds**
 - Forward Payment to:
 - MAJ G.M. Anderson
 - SO to HOC – RAEME,
 - HOC Cell,
 - Latchford Barracks,
 - BONEGILLA,
 - Vic, 3694

3. **Direct deposit / funds transfer to RAEME Corps Funds DEFCREDIT account**
 - **DEFCREDIT**
 - **BSB:** 803205
 - **Account Name:** RAEME Corps Fund
 - **Membership Number:** 11832
 - **Account Number:** 20509705

Each contributor to Corps Subscriptions will receive a uniquely numbered Corps Membership Medallion. The membership medallion is designed on the St Eligius (Corps Patron Saint) coin.

Regardless of which method of contribution is chosen it is requested that this subscription form be completed and forward to SO2 Corps RAEME to ensure we have your correct contact details to enable us to send you your Corps Medallion.

RAEME CORPS SUBSCRIPTIONS CONTRIBUTIONS		
<u>Name:</u>	<u>Initials:</u>	<u>Rank:</u>
<u>PMKEYS Number:</u>*		
<u>Appointment:</u>*		
<u>Unit:</u>*		
<u>Address:</u>		
<u>Suburb:</u>	<u>State:</u>	<u>Postcode:</u>
<u>EMAIL:</u>		
<u>Method of Payment:</u>		
<u>Amount of Contribution:</u> \$		
Forward this form to: MAJ G.M. Anderson HOC Cell - RAEME Latchford Barracks, BONEGILLA, Vic, 3694 Email: graham.anderson@defence.gov.au Fax: (02) 6055 2436 Ph: (02) 6055 4308		
		
(*: If Applicable)		

Unit Visit Schedule

Date	Time	Unit	POC
16/04/2013	NLT 1100h		
16/04/2013	1330- 1400	HQ 7Bde	MAJ G Follett
16/04/2013	1410- 1440	HQ 16 Bde	WO1M Meagher
16/04/2013	1430- 1630	LWC Det	WO2 D Shepherd
17/04/2013	0800- 0830	7 CSSB	LTCOL King
17/04/2013	0840- 1030	7 CSSB	MAJ Aitken
17/04/2013	1040- 1230	2/14 QMI	MAJ B Jones
17/04/2013	1330- 1530	8/9 RAR	WO1 R Smith/Perry
17/04/2013	1330- 1530	6 RAR	
17/04/2013	1530- 1630	7 CSR	
18/04/2013	0800- 1000	2 CER	MAJ A Olechnowicz
18/04/2013	1020- 1100	1 Regt	CAPT T Bligh
18/04/2013	1100- 1230	1 Sig Regt	CAPT M Wood
18/04/2013	1330- 1430	9 FSB	WO2 Melissa Corkery
18/04/2013	1445- 1630	6 ESR	MAJ S McCarthy
19/04/2013			
19/04/2013	0830- 1230	RAMS	CAPT S Aleksandrowicz
22/04/2013	0800- 0830	HQ 3Bde	CAPT P Francis
22/04/2013	0840- 1030	10 FSB	MAJ D. Marshall
22/04/2013	0840- 1030	3 CSSB	CAPT S. Mooney
22/04/2013	1040- 1130	B Sqn 3/4	CAPT A. Wheatland
22/04/2013	1140- 1230	3 CSR	LT A. McLean
22/04/2013	1330- 1500	3 RAR	LT A. Barker
22/04/2013	1330- 1500	2 RAR	LT J. Buntine
22/04/2013	1330- 1500	1 RAR	LT M. Prasad
22/04/2013	1500- 1630	3 CER	CAPT L. Hodda
22/04/2013	1500- 1630	4 Fd Regt	MAJ B.Saltmarsh
23/04/2013	0830- 1030	LWC Det	WO2 T Earwaker

23/04/2013	1040-1100	HQ 11 Bde	MAJ M. Miller
23/04/2013	1100-1130	11 CSSB	WO2 R. Murdock
22/04/2013	1130-1230	HQ 10 FSB	MAJ K. Chambers
23/04/2013	1330-1530	5 Avn Gnd	WO2 R. Bitters
23/04/2013	1330-1530	5 Avn Aero	MAJ K. Veness

Date	Time	Unit	POC
8/05/2013	NLT 2350		
9/05/2013	0900-0950	35 WTT	CPL T. Plumb
9/05/2013	1000-1030	NORFORCE	CAPT R. Pringle
9/05/2013	1110-1140	HQ 1 Bde	WO1 S Greenall
9/05/2013	1330-1430	1 Armd Regt	MAJ W Viggers
9/05/2013	1440-1530	2 Cav Regt	LT B. Hill
9/05/2013	1540-1600	1 CER	WO1 M. Patman
10/05/2013	0900-1000	1 Avn Regt Aero	LT S. Dawes
10/05/2013	1030-1130	1 Avn Regt Gnd	CAPT B. Angus
10/05/2013	1140-1230	1 CSSB	MAJ P Luck
10/05/2013	1340-1430	8/12 Mdm Regt	WO2 J. Anderson
10/05/2013	1440-1515	5 RAR	WO1 A Beaman
10/05/2013	1520-1620	LWC Det	

Corps History Book Project Flyer



To all past and present members of RAEME, RAEME has entered its seventieth year and to celebrate this achievement the RAEME National Association is writing a new pictorial history of the Corps. We want you to help us write this book by telling your part of the RAEME story by submitting your photos and stories. I have heard many amazing stories from past and present members of the Corps and it is time we used them to tell the world about our contribution to the ADF.

The written component of your submission should focus on telling the story of the human element depicted in the photographed event.

Try and keep your submission to around 1500 words, but please ensure your submission covers the who, what, where and why of the event/activity pictured.

Closing date for submissions is 1st April 2013 but please start writing now!

Submissions can be sent to HOC-RAEME Cell directly at

raemebookproject@hotmail.com in an editable electronic form (.rtf, .doc, .txt), but they can also be provided in "hard copy" form.

More information is available on RAEME Face Book and the RAEME National Association website at www.raeme.org.au

The success of this new RAEME history rests with you so get writing!

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING CORPS PICTORIAL HISTORY BOOK PROJECT

Introduction

Here is an exciting opportunity for all members, both past and present, of the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Corps (RAEME) to participate in an important venture – the writing and compilation of the next Corps history.

You may not be aware but RAEME has entered its seventieth year of service to the ADF. To celebrate this achievement, it is timely to record the events which have contributed to our reputation as a Corps over that time.

To get this important project underway, the Head of Corps RAEME, BRIG David Creagh, AM, has encouraged the newly established RAEME National Association to take the lead in developing a new pictorial history of the Corps. Your national Association has jumped at the chance because it is in line with its emerging role. The Association also sees this pictorial history complementing the original history, “Craftsmen of the Australian Army-The Story of RAEME”, published in 1992. The key difference this time is the desire to use personal accounts and experiences provided by our own people as the basis of the narrative.

The national Association also hopes that these stories will inspire all members of RAEME, in particular our newest members, to emulate the proud traditions of all those who have served and currently serve, in the Corps. The Association also seeks to give our newest members a sense of pride in the Corps’ achievements, understand its contribution to the nation in general, but specifically, its contribution to the ADF since its inception. It is also in line with the Corps Vision:

RAEME enjoys a reputation for service and technical excellence: a reputation hard won and highly valued. It results from several generations of officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and craftsmen committing themselves to a culture of service and support to combat arms and services through the delivery of outstanding materiel maintenance, maintenance engineering and recovery support.

War fighters of the future will continue to depend on our traditional support, but increasingly, they will depend on the technological edge provided by members of the Corps to enhance equipment on modern, complex and fluid battlefields. Therefore the Corps’ future on the modern battlefield is assured. Most importantly, the Corps’ reputation, as an active member of an integrated combat-team, contributing to the defence of our Nation, will only grow richer: its spirit is in the hands of the people who comprise our Corps – past, present and future members.

These stories are also important to the general Australian community, who know little about the “back room boys” of the Army, and their contribution to the Army’s war-fighting ability through the effective management of maritime, land and aerospace equipment in war and peace.

Statement of Intent

So in a summary, the intent of the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Corps Pictorial History (CHP) Book project is to produce a pictorial memoir celebrating the achievements of individuals, sub-units and units of the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Corps (hereafter referred to as RAEME) during peace and war. The book will be compiled from contributions in the form of stories and photographs from past and current members of RAEME. These contributions will be developed and published as a “coffee table” book.

Aim

To assist our many potential contributors, this article outlines the methodology to be employed to capture, store, edit and publish suitable personal stories for the book to be entitled “In Peace and War – A Pictorial Memoir of the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers”.

Outline

Contributions will be collected by all available communication channels and stored in a permanent electronic form by the Head of Corps (HOC) Cell at Bandiana. To assist contributors prepare, personal stories should address various facets of the Corps’ support to operations and training since 1942, by reference to major ADF activities or operations; and by chronological sequence of events (e.g. RAEME in Timor 1999 to 2011). You are encouraged to provide quality photographs of interest, together with short accounts of the events depicted in the photo or photos.

You should be aware that your contributions will be vetted by the HOC Cell staff for suitability by applying a number of tests, including an initial check, to ensure the content is relevant, clear, authentic and readable. Contributions will then be stored safely in an agreed format to aid identification and management by the CHP Editors.

The contributions will then be passed to the CHP Editor for compilation and the development of the first draft document. The HOC will also administer the Code of Good Practice, which each contributor will be asked to adhere to, in order to protect the writer and the project team. Finally the draft book will be placed in a suitably designed publication, or electronic format, forming the basis of a largely pictorial memoir. Publishing methods are still to be agreed but clearly form an important part of the project.

Contributions

Clearly the success of the book is highly dependent on the quality of photographs and stories submitted. To assist you in selection of photographs, we encourage you to ensure they depict an interesting story, or specific activity, in which members of the Corps participated or more importantly led. Equally important is the written account that underpins the photograph. The written component of the submission should focus on telling the story of the human element depicted of the photographed activity within the context of an historical event. By employing the above philosophy, it is anticipated that a very readable and interesting book will be produced.

Contributors should provide their stories to the HOC-RAEME Cell directly, or through and preferably in, an editable electronic form (.rtf, .doc, .txt), but they can also be provided in “hard copy” form. An email address for contributions and general communications has been established and hard copies should be to the following address:

Electronic Copy

raemebookproject@hotmail.com

Hard Copy

SO2 Corps Heritage
HOC Cell - RAEME
Latchford Barracks
BANDIANA, Vic, 3694

The book seeks to include contributions from all members of the Corps, full and part time, and AEME and RAEME service personnel regardless of gender, origins, or rank. Contributions are also welcomed from non-members of the Corps who have a story about the Corps, or a family member, which they think should be shared.

It is critical that photos provided are of the highest standard so they can be reproduced in a quality format. It is also hoped that they have not appeared in other publications, are of

interest to the reading audience and lend themselves to detailed captions and or linking to narrative.

Just in case you are uncomfortable about providing a submission, or writing a story, or have difficulty writing in an agreed style, the project team has the services of two editors who will weave their magic on your story if necessary.

Indeed, you may not have written a story before – well no matter, there is plenty of guidance and support available. Here is the first important piece of advice – submissions should outline the situation leading to the event (the context); offer a description of the particular event including a description of the involvement of individual(s) (the action); provide an understanding of the equipment, or purely RAEME related aspects, of the portrayed event (an explanation); and lead to a conclusion or outcome of the activity (closing off the story). Try to limit your submissions to approximately 1500 words. More guidelines for the compilation of submissions are detailed below.

Detailed Guidelines for Contributors

This project provides a wonderful opportunity to record individuals' experiences, or those of their mates and colleagues. Therefore you should not be constrained from presenting your stories in your own style, but be aware that the editorial board reserves the right to "standardise" the style of storytelling throughout the publication. In time a template to standardise the format of contributions will be provided on the national Associations and HOC websites, but you should not feel constrained to using it. Writers may chose to draft a complete story, or provide dot points outline from which a story may be created. Collaborations are welcomed. In either event, you will be asked to observe the following broad guidelines:

- **Outline** the broad context of the story:
 - **What** was the operation in which the formation, unit, sub-unit, team, individual(s) or equipment was engaged?
 - **What** were the circumstances leading to the event depicted?
 - **Where** was the broader activity being undertaken?
- **Identify**, describe and explain the situation, action, event or activity depicted in the photograph:
 - **Where** did the activity occur?
 - In **what** operation, exercise or setting did the activity depicted occur?
 - **Provide** the identity of any equipment, (aircraft, vehicle, plant or watercraft) or weapon(s) depicted in the photographs.
 - **Describe** the **degree of danger** and/or **technical and practical difficulty** involved in the situation.
 - **Explain** the outcome of the situation and what happened immediately after the situation depicted in the photograph.
- **Conclude** the description of the event and story and relate it to the photograph:
 - **Outline** the conclusion of the event and the consequences.

- **Sum-up** highlights of the event/experience.
- **Identify** (name and rank) the soldier(s) depicted in the photograph. Also include as much background information on each soldier as possible. For example:
 - **His or her specific role** in the activity shown.
 - **How long** each soldier had been in the Army at the time of the activity depicted.
 - **The soldier's origins** –did he or she start with RAEME as an apprentice, or was he or she an adult trainee, or entered the Corps by another means.
 - **What** happened to them after the depicted situation ended?
 - **Are the individual(s)** still serving, what rank did he or she attain during their service, or what civilian occupation did they go to after discharge/retirement?
 - **Describe** any amusing anecdotes, regarding any of the soldiers depicted, during their time with the unit.
 - **Were** any of the soldiers renown for any particular skill/activity/behaviour (e.g. Service representative in sport, a particular character)? This information should be provided as an addition to the information provided to support the photograph.

Conclusion

The history of the Army is resplendent with stories of the “war fighters” but few if any recognise the contribution of the logistic corps, including RAEME. Our CHP provides an opportunity to address this in a way that also captures the history of the Corps by exploring both personnel and unit experiences in both peace and war.

The format of the publication as a pictorial memoir is intended to widen the appeal and subsequent audience of the publication thereby perpetuating the reputation of RAEME as key contributor to the success of the Australian Army and the Australian Defence Force over the past 70 years.

R.L.G.GRANT AM

PD CHP

12 Jul 12