

# The Horse's Mouth

## RAEME Association WA - NEWSLETTER - Autumn 2014 Edition

**President: Wes Lynch**

Mobile: 0477308475

Email: Wesley.Lynch@kjb.com.au

**Vice President: Mel Whelan**

Mobile :0466021906

Email: mwhelan0@gmail.com

**Secretary: Wade Apps**

Mobile: 0416199187

Email: secretary@wa.raeme.org.au

**Treasurer: Garry (Snow) Whykes**

Home: 92761920

Mobile: 0411810077

Email: treasurer@wa.raeme.org.au

**OUTGOING**

**COLONEL COMMANDANT**

**WESTERN REGION:**

*Colonel Dale Whelan*



**Assist Secretary/Membership Officer:**

Grant Stinson

Mobile: 0477 700 828

Email: secretary@wa.raeme.org.au

**Social Secretary: Phil Pitchers**

Home: 93781586

Mobile: 0403342105

**Web Master: Alex Smithers**

Mobile: 04048625553

Email: wawebmaster@raeme.org.au

**Property Manager: Peter Sills-Ohlsen**

Email: peteresso@iinet.net.au

**INCOMING**

**COLONEL COMMANDANT**

**WESTERN REGION:**

*Colonel David Crocker*

### FURTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

RAEME Association of WA  
C/- 13 CSSB 113 Workshop Coy  
Irwin Barracks  
Stubbs Terrace  
Karrakatta  
WA 6010

**WEBSITE:**

[www.wa.raeme.org.au](http://www.wa.raeme.org.au)

**EDITOR:**

Garry (Snow) Whykes

Email: horsesmouth@wa.raeme.org.au

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**“The Role of the RAEME Association (WA) Is to represent the RAEME family by enabling them to connect through a central hub with personal and professional networks both locally and nationally”**

## Our New Mailing Address

**Please note our new mailing address.**

**RAEME Association of WA  
C/- 13 CSSB 113 Workshop Coy  
Irwin Barracks  
Stubbs Terrace  
Karrakatta  
WA 6010**

**W**elcome to the RAEME Association of WA - or as we like to put it - "The RAEME Family". In this edition you will be given a run down on what is happening here in WA and what the future holds for the Association.

Since the formation of this committee after the last Annual General Meeting, a number of strategy meetings have taken place with the focus on bringing the RAEME Family back together in the West.

Our immediate goal is to make contact with ALL RAEME and ex RAEME members in WA and encourage them back to the Association. We, as a committee, believe that there is so much that can be achieved by being a member.

For example:

Social Events including ANZAC Day, an Annual Dinner, Annual Golf Day, Bruce Rock, The Geraldton Pilgrimage, a Mandurah Dinner and a number of other activities.

Developing a Working Relationship with DVA for the purposes of Pensions, Welfare etc.

Creating a link with local industry so that serving members can see what is available to them after their discharge.

And, most importantly, to keep the comradeship going. This will be enhanced by the new connection with the National Association and links to other states.

The future of our Association is exciting and we want you to be part of it.

#### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:**

There are two ways for you to bring your membership up to date:

Firstly - you can go on-line and fill out the membership details, pay your fees and you will receive a receipt and all is done.

Click on the link: <http://www.wa.raeme.org.au/membership.aspx> If it does not work cut and paste into your browser.

Secondly - if you do not have access to the web, then you can fill out the form at the back of this newsletter and post it in. Please follow the instructions on how to pay your fees.

## **We ask this of you**

Seriously consider your membership to the Association, **then act ASAP**. The assumption that we will make is that if you do not act on this membership request, you are not interested and we will remove your details from our files. **Please consider your membership.**

## **Membership Benefits**

Apart from the list above stating some of the benefits of being a member, members will also receive discounts on all functions. For an example:- ANZAC Day After March Function. Members will have free entry, non members will pay \$5.00.

Some functions will be subsidised, non members will not receive the benefit of these subsidies. So for your \$20.00 fee, you can receive a lot more in benefits. But that is only the financial benefit.

You will keep you informed of all RAEME activities.

- There is much more -

**Take Out or Renew Your Membership NOW  
It's Easy**

## The RAEME Vigil

**O**n Thursday 24 April (ANZAC Eve) a RAEME Vigil is to be held at King's Park to commemorate those RAEME brethren that made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

The vigil is held on the memorial walk where four of our fellow brethren have been remembered. They are located near the Borneo Memorial.

Turn into the Tennis Club driveway located on Kings Park Rd where Outram St intersects. Follow the road around and park in the Car Park next to the club.

Meet Alex Smithers at the south west corner of the car park at 1830 hours.

**ALL Members and family are welcome and encouraged to attend.**



## RAEME Association WA - STRATEGIC PLAN

In response to the RAEME National Association rebuild, the new WA based RAEME committee seized this as an opportunity to review the current state and relevancy of it's local association. Over the last few months, the committee has been meeting regularly and working through a process of strategic planning. That is, we have mapped out what we believe are opportunities for positive change with the intent to transform the WA association and secure it's relevancy both locally and nationally into the future.

A strategic plan determines WHERE an organisation is going to go over the next few years, and outlines HOW it will get there. It's a roadmap that assists it's members to navigate a pathway to a destination.

In the case of the WA RAEME Association, our strategic plan is a PROPOSED Roadmap and five year destination. It outlines a DRAFT of WHERE the new committee members believe the association COULD go over the next five years. It also shows a plan on a page of WHAT we believe the WA RAEME Association stands for, and HOW we as the association committee can best represent you and your interests within the bounds of our mission.

It reflects what we believe are opportunities for change, preservations of the past, and also the commitment the new committee members bring to ensure the relevance of the association into the future. For the committee it's going to help us know where to spend our time. For you, it's going to give you opportunities for social and professional connectedness with your RAEME friends and colleagues, both current and ex serving, as well as with your extended RAEME families. In addition, it could also link you into a new professional network experience, if that's what you want.

However, it's only a plan on a page at this point. It means nothing without the input, support and endorsement from you. The committee will strive, within it's means, to represent what you want. In return we ask you to commit to reading the plan, and providing feedback via the various avenues and forums. **Please complete the survey on the RAEME WA website or on ANZAC Day at the Melbourne Hotel... We want to know what you think about the proposed plan.**

The following page is the Chart of the Strategic Plan.

There is a questionnaire for you to fill out at the end of this newsletter or on the web.

What we stand for	Strategic direction (3-5 years)	Strategies to achieve this (1-3 years)						
<p><b>Purpose</b></p> <p>The Role of the RAEME Association (WA) is to represent the RAEME family by enabling them to connect through a central hub with personal and professional networks both locally and nationally.</p> <p><b>Focus</b></p> <p>We will achieve this by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Participation</b> – Maintaining maximum levels of Association membership</li> <li><b>2. Relevance for Members</b> – Facilitating social and professional networking opportunities and linkages to key service organisations</li> <li><b>3. Sustaining and Upholding</b> – Taking a long term view, and preserving RAEME Corps reputation, traditions, customs and history</li> <li><b>4. Alignment</b> – Working in partnership with the National RAEME Association to maximise the benefits of centralising information resources and national representation of our Corps members</li> </ol> <p><b>Our Values</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>1. Respect</td> <td>4. Connected</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Mateship</td> <td>5. Relevant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Supportive</td> <td>6. Compassionate</td> </tr> </table>	1. Respect	4. Connected	2. Mateship	5. Relevant	3. Supportive	6. Compassionate	<p><b>Over 5 Years We Will</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop and maintain Association sustainability</li> <li>2. Establish strategic partnering relationships relevant to Association members</li> <li>3. Ensure effective and relevant communication platforms and avenues to all parties</li> <li>4. Establish key events and communication networking opportunities both socially and professionally.</li> <li>5. Align WA Association with RAEME National Association</li> <li>6. Increase the financial asset base available to the Association</li> <li>7. Targeting an increase in percentage of the financial members numbers from current contact list to 80%.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Over 3 Years We Will</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish fundamental and robust platforms for Association sustainability             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Understand needs of our membership base by developing a survey monkey and/or other mechanism for feedback.</li> <li>1.2 Review constitution and By-Laws</li> <li>1.3. Define and Develop key processes that are core to membership, event management and Association administration. These will include feedback and review steps.</li> <li>1.4. Define key roles and responsibilities and succession plans for these roles.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Develop an engagement Model to establish relationships with key local and national members, relevant networks, services, and suppliers             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1 Define who the key stakeholders are</li> <li>2.2 Assign relationship managers and establish initial contact</li> <li>2.3. Develop and manage an engagement calendar for key committee members and relationship managers.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Establish relevant and stakeholder specific platforms for communications.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1 Review the options for communications and define appropriate platforms based upon stakeholder groups. i.e. facebook, LinkedIn, Email, letters, website local and national etc.</li> <li>3.2 Implement and manage communication avenues                 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.a.1 Define key events relevant to the association that encourage maximum attendance and participation.</li> <li>4.a.2 Develop and implement a communications plan and assign accountabilities ensuring transparency to members</li> </ol> </li> <li>4.b.1 As per 1.1 develop social and professional network bases based on association feedback. Development of professional development workshops.</li> <li>4.b.2 Assign committee members to manage established networks.                 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5.1 Provide input to the establishment of the RNA website, by maintaining communications and providing feedback during the development phase.</li> <li>5.2 As per 1.2 review of the constitution                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6.1 Reconnect with past association members; as per 3.1, 3.2</li> <li>6.2 Connect with serving members; including visits to units - association presentation. Including 4.b.1</li> <li>6.3 Maintain current members; as per 4.a.1, 4.b.1</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>Priorities 2014</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish fundamental and robust platforms for Association sustainability</li> <li>2. Establish relevant and stakeholder specific platforms for communications.</li> <li>3. Develop an events management strategy</li> </ol>
1. Respect	4. Connected							
2. Mateship	5. Relevant							
3. Supportive	6. Compassionate							

Phase

## Colonel Commandant

**Outgoing COL COMD RAEME Western Region MAJ Dale Whelan.** On behalf of the RAEME Association WA, in particular the committee, I would like to thank Dale for his direction and commitment to the Association for the past three years. Dale has provided guidance and drive to the committee and has been instrumental with the reinvigoration of the association. Dale will remain involved in the association as the WA Representative for the incoming COL COMD RAEME, COL David Crocker. **Wes Lynch President**

## The Decision On Our Banner

**T**he subject of updating our banner has been discussed at length and a lot of work has gone into researching the banner details. With all things considered, the decision was made to keep the banner as it now stands.

The reason for the decision is simple. We march as a corps and not as a unit. Our Association is about RAEME, not Vietnam Veterans, Afghanistan Veterans, Somalian Veterans or whatever.

If for instance we were **1st Independent Armoured Workshop** and had seen service in Vietnam, Iraq, Somalia and Afghanistan, then a banner with those details would be appropriate. But we are the RAEME Association and have been attached to SASR, Infantry, Engineers, Ordnance and most other corps and units.

If you look at the DVA website and attempt to find the AASM where RAEME has served and who they have served with, you will find it an impossible task.

So, with that information, the decision to keep the banner as it exists now (RAEME Veterans), was made. In the future, a banner with specific warlike operations may be produced.

## ANZAC Day 2014

**A**NZAC Day this year is on a Friday and the Committee has been busy organizing events for the day. The following is a schedule of events for Thursday 24th and Friday 25th April 2014.

**RAEME VIGIL** The RAEME Vigil will take place at King's Park on Thursday 24th April. See page 3 for details.

**DAWN SERVICE** The Dawn Service and Gunfire Breakfast will be held at Palmer Barracks, Guildford. This is a very good service and is well attended at the original RAEME home.

**PARADE** The ANZAC Day parade will take place in the City of Perth. For form up and march details, please see the details published in The West Australian Newspaper prior to ANZAC Day.

**AFTER THE MARCH** Once again the After March Function will be held at the Melbourne Hotel. The bar will be open from 1100 hours as we have a special license. Please note that members will have FREE entry, non members will be \$5.00.

**FURTHER DETAILS** For further details, please read the "Can You Help" section of "The West Australian" newspaper the week before ANZAC Day. Or go to the website for details.

## Why Old Diggers Reunite

"I now know why men who have been to war yearn to reunite. Not to tell stories or look at old pictures. Not to laugh or weep. Comrades gather because they long to be with the men who once acted at their best; men who suffered and sacrificed together, who were stripped of their humanity. I did not pick these men. They were delivered by fate and the military. But I know them in a way I know no other men.

I have never given anyone such trust. They were willing to guard something more precious than my life. They would have carried my reputation, the memory of me. It was part of the bargain we all made, the reason we were so willing to die for one another. As long as I have memory, I will think of them all, every day. I am sure that when I leave this world, my last thought will be of my family and my comrades...Such good men."

By an unnamed Soldier

## The Geraldton Pilgrimage

### Tour de Geraldton

On the March long weekend a band of Merry RAEME Men and their families headed to Geraldton. Everyone enjoyed the full agenda and time spent rediscovering the underpinning meaning of our corps motto 'ARTE et MARTE (Twist to Open).

We were joined by some of the RAEME lads from the mid west region at the Geraldton Museum, on the farm and the Geraldton RSL. We all had a great laugh during the spanner throw competition with the launch point from within a huge piston ring. The challenge was set early with everyone trying to beat the ASM - 'Don Phillips'. Don must have been practising for weeks because very few came close to his distance.

In the end the prize went to 'Darryl Phillips'. This certainly started questions on how many weet-bix the 'Phillips family eat for breakfast each day. The Children's Event was won by Callum Thomas (Chris Thomas's son) with some very close contenders.

Some of the highlights for the kids was spotlighting rabbits and kangaroos from the Ute, feeding the horses and swimming at the beach out from the Dome café after Sunday breakfast.

The Adults enjoyed the Museum, HMAS Sydney memorial, Ellendale Pool, Wind Turbines and the many tall stories shared at the farm and the RSL.

Thanks go out to the Geraldton RSL President -Mr Ross Davies, The Birdswood Military Museum President - Mr Barry Stinson and the Staff at the Geraldton Museum.

Thanks also go to Barry and Rita Stinson for having everyone camping in tents and caravans amongst the shady spots at their farm. Most importantly we were all very well fed throughout the weekend so thanks to Kerry Stinson for coordinating all of the catering.

Thankyou to all that joined us over the weekend, it was great to see our RAEME family in the mid west and I hope to see more people in Geraldton next year.





From left: Darby Munroe, Grant Stinson, Don Phillips, Darryl Phillips, Alex Smithers, Collin Strachan, Graham Dulihanty  
See other photos: [http://www.wa.raeme.org.au/Photoalbum\\_contents.aspx?Albumid=16](http://www.wa.raeme.org.au/Photoalbum_contents.aspx?Albumid=16)

Article written: Grant Stinson

## This Explains A Lot

Dumb civilian, I said to myself, but openly I said, "The system is really quite simple."

You see, all people in the Army are soldiers, all privates are soldiers, but not all soldiers are privates. Some are officers who are commissioned, but some are officers who are not commissioned. Obviously if every private was called private it would be confusing, so some privates are called things like trooper, driver, gunner, craftsmen, sapper or signaller. Not all of the drivers actually drive because some of them cook, but we don't call them cooks, for that matter, not all drivers are called drivers – some of them are privates or gunners. Gunners as I'm sure you know are the blokes that fire guns, unless of course they are drivers or signallers in which case we call them gunners rather than drivers or signallers just to make it clearer. All gunners belong to the artillery, except that in the infantry we have gunners who are called privates because they fire a different sort of gun, for the same reason we call our drivers and signallers private as well.

A Lance Corporal is called Corporal, unless he is a Lance Bombardier then we call him Bombardier to distinguish him from a full Bombardier, who is just like a Corporal. All other ranks are called by their rank for the sake of simplicity except that Staff Sergeants are called Staff, but they are not on the staff, some Warrant Officers, who are not officers, are called Sergeant Major although they are not Sergeants or Majors. Some Warrant Officers are called Mister which is the same thing that we call some officers but they are not Warrant Officers. A Lieutenant is also called Mister because they are subalterns, but we always write their rank as Lieutenant or Second Lieutenant, and second comes before first.

When we talk about groups of soldiers there obviously has to be clear distinction. We call them Officers and Soldiers although we know that officers are soldiers too, sometimes we talk about officers and other ranks which is the same as calling them soldiers. I guess it is easiest when we talk about rank and file which is all the troops on parade except the officers and some of the NCOs - - and a few of the privates – and the term is used whether everyone is on parade or not.

A large unit is called a battalion, unless it is a regiment but sometimes a regiment is much bigger than a battalion and then it has nothing to do with the other sort of regiment. Sub units are called companies unless they are squadrons or troops or batteries for that matter. That is not radio batteries and don't confuse this type of troop with the type who are soldiers but not officers.

Mostly the Army is divided into Corps as well as units, not the sort of Corps which is a couple of divisions but the sort which tells you straight away what trade each man performs, whether he is a tradesmen or not. The Infantry Corps has all the infantrymen for example and the Artillery Corps has all the gunners. Both these Corps also have signallers and drivers except those who are in the Signals or Transport Corps. In fact the Signals Corps is not a service at all because it is an Arm. Arms do all the fighting, although Signals don't have to fight too much, rather like the Engineers who are also an Arm but they don't fight too much either

So you see, it's really quite simple



## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO THE RAEME ASSOCIATION OF WA.

I

\_\_\_\_\_

(Full Name)

\_\_\_\_\_

(Surname in BLOCK Letters)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City or Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Bus. Phone No / Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Desire to become an Ordinary/Associate member of the RAEME Association of WA.

Last Servicing Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Medals and Decorations: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a member of a sister Corps of RAEME, which Corps ? \_\_\_\_\_

In the event of my acceptance and admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the Rules of the Association as long as I am a member.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Optional extra details:

Do you have a Facebook Profile? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a Linked-in Profile? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you an RSL member? \_\_\_\_\_

If so which Sub Branch? \_\_\_\_\_

I am also a member of this military club: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note that the subscription fee for membership is \$20.00 per annum and can be paid cheque or preferably directly into the following bank account. Ensure to include your surname in the electronic transaction.**

BSB - 806-015

Acc # - 01521543

Acc Name - RAEME Association WA

This form is to be emailed to [secretary@wa.raeme.org.au](mailto:secretary@wa.raeme.org.au) or forwarded to:

**The Secretary  
RAEME Association of WA  
C/- 13 CSSB 113 Workshop Coy  
Irwin Barrackes  
Stubbs Road  
KARRAKATTA WA 6010**

\* Delete if not applicable



**Introduction**

The RAEME Association Committee is currently reviewing the Association's Constitution. The purpose of the review is to ensure that the Constitution remain current and relevant to the needs of the members.

To enable the committee to make recommendations for the constitution update, information on what the members want from the association is required. This survey has been written to assist the committee in identifying what its members want from the association.

**\*1. What is your preferred method(s) of communication?** Email Post Facebook

Other (please specify)

**\*2. How many functions would you likely commit to per year? (You may select more than one)** Anzac Day Vietnam Day RAEME Birthday Golf Day Social Event - Formal Social Event - Informal

Other (please specify)

**\*3. What are your expectations of the RAEME Association of WA? (You can select more than one)** Purely Social Professional Networks Access to Service Organisations (ie. DVA) Maintain Contact with friends and family Info only - General awareness of activities

Other (please specify)

**4. Have you received the Horses Mouth in the past 6 month?** Received by Post Received by Email Did not receive (Email the Secretary at [secretary@wa.raeme.org.au](mailto:secretary@wa.raeme.org.au) to get back on the list!)