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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”

What the Prez Sez

So here we are dear members, the final run up to the end of our financial year and to our popular Annual General Meeting. First and foremost, I encourage you to attend the AGM so you can hear first-hand how our Association is performing against our 5 year strategy goals and the exciting challenges ahead. We have planned a few entertaining social events to go along with the AGM too.

To save a long winded speech on the day I want to cover a few points with you now:

1. To our RAEME WA Family – Thank you for your commitment to keeping our RAEME Family strong over the past year. Many have fallen upon hard times and many have received critical moral and tangible support from our Association members and affiliates - and that has made all the difference in many cases.
2. In accord with our Constitution, all committee positions will be spilled at the AGM and opened for re-election. It will be more exciting than the AFL and NRL Grand Finals - well, maybe not, but our 2015 committee has set our Association up for success in 2016 and beyond and we look forward to welcoming new members to the committee to continue the journey - so please step forward as it is a great CV builder, it makes you feel awesome, and even the most modest support from any member makes a massive difference to our events.
3. To our financial members - Thankyou to all members who have remained financial - while moral and in-kind support is essential to the success of our Association it is mainly financial resources that allow us to deliver and improve services to the RAEME Family in WA each year.
4. To our committee – Thank you so much for performing so well as a team this past year - I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you. We have achieved many victories to advance our Association, to name a few: 2015 RAEME Birthday at the SAS House, 2015/16 Craftsmen of the year awards ARA and GRes, 2016 ANZAC Day, 2016 AGM, 2016 RAEME Birthday (planned and scheduled), membership of the inaugural WA Services Welfare Forum, influenced the State Government's position on service people, improved our website and Facebook pages, and delivered a balanced budget in tough economic times.

Finally, I have decided to not renominate for a committee position in 2016. I have been privileged to perform both Association Committee and Corps Representative roles in my 12 years in WA, including 6 years as Senior RAEME Corps Representative, 3 years as Colonel Commandant Western Region, 2 years as Welfare Committee Member and 1 year as President - it is now time for new ideas and new energy. I ask that you all consider the personal reward of serving as a committee member. It has been one of the most rewarding experiences for me.

Signing Off - Arte et Marte

Dale Whelan, President RAEME WA

From the Editor

Welcome to the pre AGM Horses Mouth. As I said last edition please feel free to nominate for a position on the committee if you are sick of us stuffing it up. Apart from clogging up your in box worse than the Santa's on Christmas, it is a lot of fun and not a huge call on your time.

Enough of the paid adverts, here is a bit of a summary of what has been going and what is planned.

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To advertise your products and services to a select audience comprising of trade and engineering professionals, simply email the editor (horsesmouth@wa.raeme.org.au). All income goes back to supporting the association members.

Upcoming AGM

The AGM will be held this year on Saturday October 29th at the Lake Monger Recreation Club (the old Bowling Club) 144 Gregory St commencing at 11.00. As has been the case for the past few years, we coincide our AGM with Veterans Health Week. DVA has sponsored our activity to promote this year's theme of "Social Connections". What better activity to promote social connections than a RAEME family and friends get together? After some short formalities, lunch will be provided and you have the opportunity to purchase your own drinks over the bar. The Association and DVA will also subsidise a few ends of Bare Foot Bowls to commence after lunch. For those who have never tried bowls, this is the best way to give it a try in a relaxed and informal environment. It is fun and easy! The agenda is as follows:

1. **Introduction**
2. **Presidents report**
3. **Treasurers report**
4. **Welfare Report**
5. **Life Membership**
6. **New Committee Positions**
7. **Guest speakers**
8. **Close**

The Minutes from the previous AGM can be downloaded from following address:

http://wa.raeme.org.au/index.php/publications/minutes/download-file?path=AGM%2BMINUTES%2B2015_10_17_.pdf

Don't panic if you can't remember your User ID and Password; just use the "Forgot Password" and "Forgot User Name" options and they will be emailed to you!

The Association needs your help to keep going! We are looking for volunteers for key positions on the committee. We keep the administration to a minimum so the committee does not spend hours running the association. Characteristically each committee member invests on average, approximately 2 hours a month supporting the association. There are some times when this gets a little busy around our few events but the effort is well worth it! Your ongoing support as members and potential Committee Members is greatly appreciated and highly valued! We look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

RAEME Birthday



Planning is advanced to hold the RAEME birthday celebration this year at the Army museum in Burt St Fremantle – 113's home for many years. At this stage it will be held on Saturday 26th November and will consist of a BBQ at the old Officers' mess and a look around the museum. No doubt some (Ok ALL) of you will remember working on some of the exhibits when they were in active service (in fact the F1 twin-boom was driven out of Palmer as an operational wrecker and straight into the museum as an exhibit)

More details to follow as we firm up dates and timings. And yes the 3.7" ammo cases and red carpet shelia trap still exists under Cantonment Hill.

Vietnam Veterans Day

On Sunday 14th of August 2016 a number of our Vietnam Veterans proudly marched with our banner for Vietnam Veterans day and commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan, Phuoc Tuy Province, South Vietnam, on the 18th August 1966.



The battle, 105 Australian and 3 New Zealand soldiers, from D company 6 RAR, were confronted by an estimated force of 2500 enemy troops. During the battle 18 Australian Soldier were killed in action and 24 wounded. Following the battle 245 enemy dead lay on the battlefield, with 3 wounded, being taken prisoner. An unknown number of enemy dead and wounded had been removed from the battle area. Due to sustained Australian and New Zealand artillery fire and the arrival of armoured personel carriers, with troops from A company 6 RAR and B company soldiers reaching the battle area on foot, to reinforce D company, forced the NVA and VC enemy to break off the attack and withdraw. This decisive battle and victory, helped the Australian Task Force to establish and enforce its "authority" in the province.

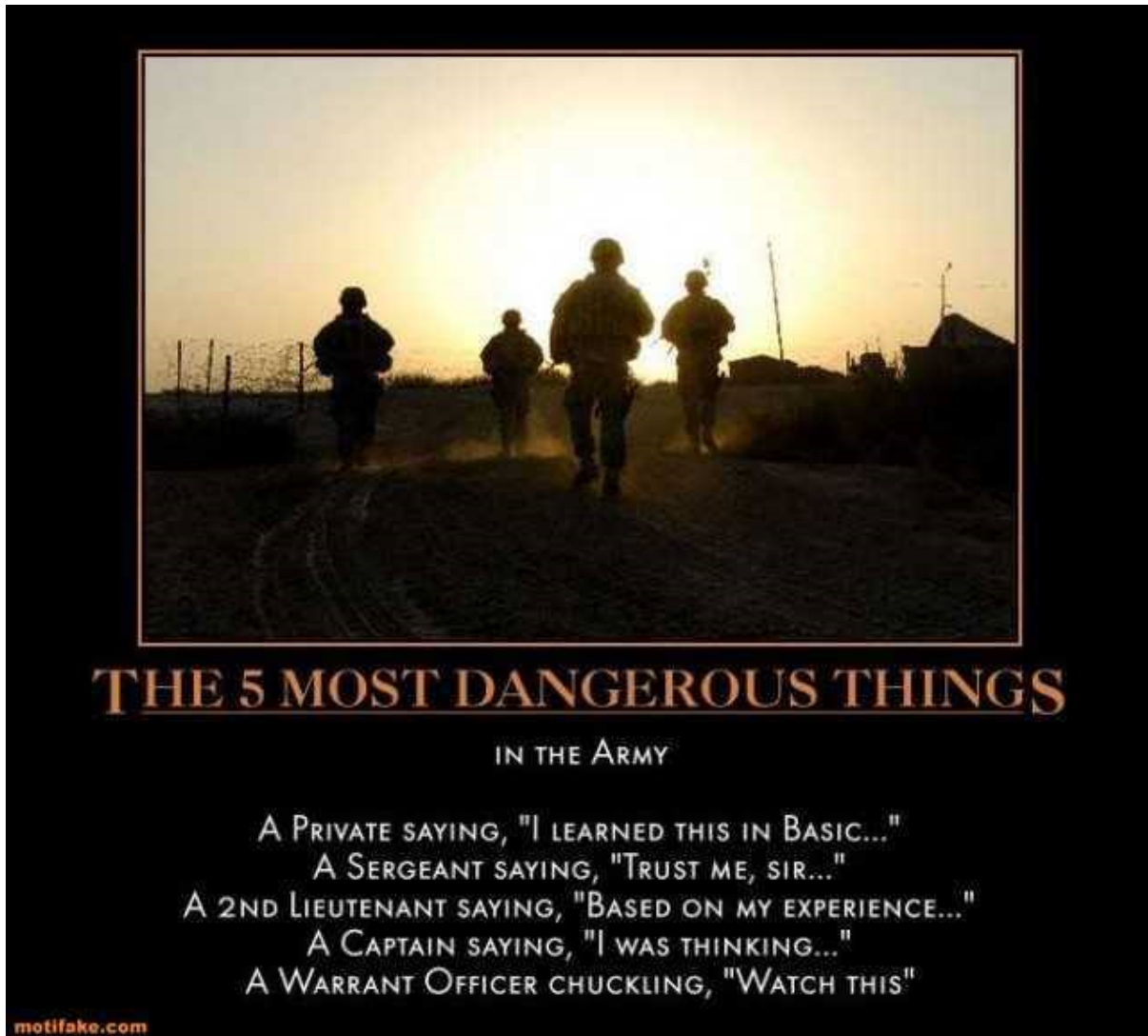


Our Vice President Grant Stinson said that he was very humbled to be asked to represent the association alongside Snow Whykes during the service as they placed poppies and rosemary in a Vietnam issue service trunk. This was a very moving time during the commemoration service for everyone there as we reflected on this significant battle and a war that impacted on many of military careers and families for years to follow.

RSL Events Calendar

- Saturday, 15 October 2016, 7pm – Royal Western Australian Regiment Association dinner. Riverton RSL, 153 High Road, Willetton.
- Sunday, 16 October 2016, 10am – RSLWA Military Roadshow – Part of Perth Heritage weekend. ANZAC House, 28 St George Terrace, Perth.
- Wednesday, 19 October 2016, 12pm – 2/43rd Battalion lunch to commemorate El Alamein. ANZAC House, Perth. RSVP Friday, 14 October.
- Sunday, 23 October 2016, 10am to 3pm – Soldier On Family Day – Veteran Health Week. UWA Sports Park - McGillivray Rd, Floreat.
- Sunday, 23 October 2016, 10.30am to 12.30pm – RSLWA Picnic in the Park - Veterans Health Week. Held at 37 Kings Park Road, West Perth. Contact Wendy Moss to register your interest.
- Saturday, 29 October 2016, 9am - Beersheba Charge 99th Anniversary - Australian Light Horse Association. Bruce Campbell Arena, Royal Agricultural Society Showgrounds, Claremont.
- Saturday, 5 November 2016, 11am - Back to Museum Day - National Vietnam Veterans Museum - 50th Anniversary Battle of Long Tan. National Vietnam Veterans Museum, 25 Veterans Drive, Newhaven.
- Friday, 11 November 2016 – Remembrance Day 2016. Flame of Remembrance, Kings Park.
- Saturday, 12 November 2016, 10am - Rhodesia at War Remembrance Day Service. Flame of Remembrance, Kings Park.

- Saturday, 12 November 2016, 10am to 4pm - Maritime Day. Fremantle Ports' Victoria Quay, Fremantle.
- Saturday, 19 November 2016, 11.00am to 3.00pm - Australian Special Air Service Association - South West Australian Members luncheon. Capel Hotel, Capel.
- Monday, 21 November 2016, 9.30am - The 70th anniversary of The War Widow's Guild of Australia WA Inc. wreath laying service at State War Memorial, Kings Park.
- Tuesday, 29 November 2016 – Sunday, 11 December 2016 – Spirit of ANZAC Centenary Experience. Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.



REME Museum

Having just visited the brand new SME museum at Holsworthy (my only comment... it would make a great RAEME one), I was interested in what our Spanner brothers and sisters in REME have just done with the movement of their museum from Arborfield to the former RAF Lyneham where the existing Officers' Mess has been converted into the new Museum.

Like ours, the REME Museum has over 100,000 items in its collection. This includes over 100 vehicles dating from World War Two, medals awarded to REME soldiers, an extensive weapons collection as well

as uniforms, models, trade test pieces and radios. There is also a large archive which includes letters, pamphlets, photographs, paintings, instruction manuals and vehicle specifications.

The Recce Mechs have been hard at work during the move as they have had primary responsibility for moving the larger items – such as the Scout helicopter below



Visitors will enter the new Museum via a World War Two gallery. As well as vehicles, they will also be displaying items associated with D-Day, Prisoners of War, messages back to loved ones at home and items collected by soldiers whilst on operations.

More vehicles will be displayed in a second, larger vehicle hall to show the range of campaigns and environments where REME men and women have been. All due to open later this month.

REME MUSEUM
PRINCE PHILIP BARRACKS, LYNEHAM,
CHIPPENHAM, SN15 4XX

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REWRITING YOUR LIFE STORY

Julia Mackay-Koelen



While we can't change our past, no matter how much we would like to at times, however, we can change how we *think* about it.

Hindsight Bias, also known as the “**knew-it-all-along effect**” or “**creeping determinism**”, is the tendency to look back on an event without any objective basis and to believe the event was predictable. It can cause “memory distortion”, where the recollection and reconstruction of content regarding an event can lead to a false belief.

This is not the same as reflecting on a past event, analysing what happened, considering what might have worked better etc. and learning from the event. Hindsight bias is an unhelpful process whereby we typically beat ourselves up for doing something that, in hindsight, we think we could have avoided or handled differently.



For example, a husband suspects that his wife is having an affair but he has no clear evidence. Later on, his wife leaves him for the man with whom she was having the affair. The husband berates himself for not knowing sooner and this typically involves quite a few 'should' statements, i.e. *I should have known, I should have said something, I should have picked up on clues* etc. The husband is looking at the past with hindsight bias which isn't helpful.

Another example might be for a woman called Dora, who leaves a reasonable job to take a 'better' job but finds out the new job isn't what she expected. Dora goes on to berate herself for 'knowing' that the job wasn't going to be that great and for leaving her old job when really, at the time, she made the best decision she could with the information she had available.

Research into this area has identified certain factors which fuel our tendency toward hindsight bias: *we selectively recall information that confirms what we know to be true and we create a story (a 'narrative') that makes sense to us from the information we have.* When this story is easy to generate, we interpret this as meaning that the outcome must have been foreseeable.

With Dora, for example, she remembered that there was one aspect of the job about which she had concerns – she had heard that the boss was a 'bit tough' and could be quite stern but she liked bosses who were assertive and displayed strong leadership so she dismissed this because all other aspects of the job looked great and the rumours were not enough to deter her from taking the job. In her mind, at the time, the positive factors outweighed the one negative aspect of the new job. However, when she found out that there were many things wrong with the job and the boss was an absolute nightmare, she focused on the one aspect that was a concern (the rumours about the boss) and she fixates on her belief that she 'should' have known that the job wasn't going to work out because of this one factor.

Research also indicates that we need closure that helps us to see our world as orderly and predictable and therefore, to some extent, controllable. So, ultimately, hindsight bias matters because it gets in the way of learning from our experiences.

By re-writing our story, 're-framing' or 'story editing' we can turn a negative experience into something more positive and helpful. This involves analysing the experience from the past and considering the situation from different perspectives, including patterns of thinking about the situation:

- Are your thoughts facts or opinions?

- What information (evidence) did you have at the time?
- Did you have clear evidence or a hunch?
 - i.e. Dora heard on the grapevine that the boss in the new job was 'tough' versus documented evidence of numerous allegations of bullying and harassment from previous employees
- Saying that you 'always' make wrong decisions – this is an example of 'generalised thinking' and it isn't helpful! Do you really 'always' make the wrong decision or, in this particular case, it didn't turn out as hoped?
- Are you minimising or maximising? Focussing too narrowly on one or two minor points or blowing the whole thing out of proportion?

When making a difficult decision, it sometimes helps to apply a 'percentage rule'. For example, let's assume that Dora has not applied hindsight bias but she has done something more helpful: she had some misgivings about the new job because of a rumour she had heard about the boss being a 'bit tough' but everything else about the job looked fantastic. Dora decided that taking the new job was the right decision by 80% but there was a 20% degree of uncertainty. When the job didn't turn out because she realised that her new boss was incompetent, a bully and impossible to work with, she looked back and agreed that, with the information available at the time, she still made the right decision because she went with the 80% that felt right. Dora's thinking means that she is less likely to apply hindsight bias and she is more likely to re-write her story into a positive one from which she can learn.

So re-writing our stories can be very beneficial. It's not about changing our past but changing how we reflect upon, and learn, from our experiences so that in the future we can make better choices, not make the same mistake again, use it as opportunity to broaden our thinking or just notch it up as a 'life lesson'.

We do not learn from
experience... we learn
from reflecting on
experience.

- John Dewey

???Did You Know???

AUSTRALIAN CARS WHICH ALMOST NEVER WERE

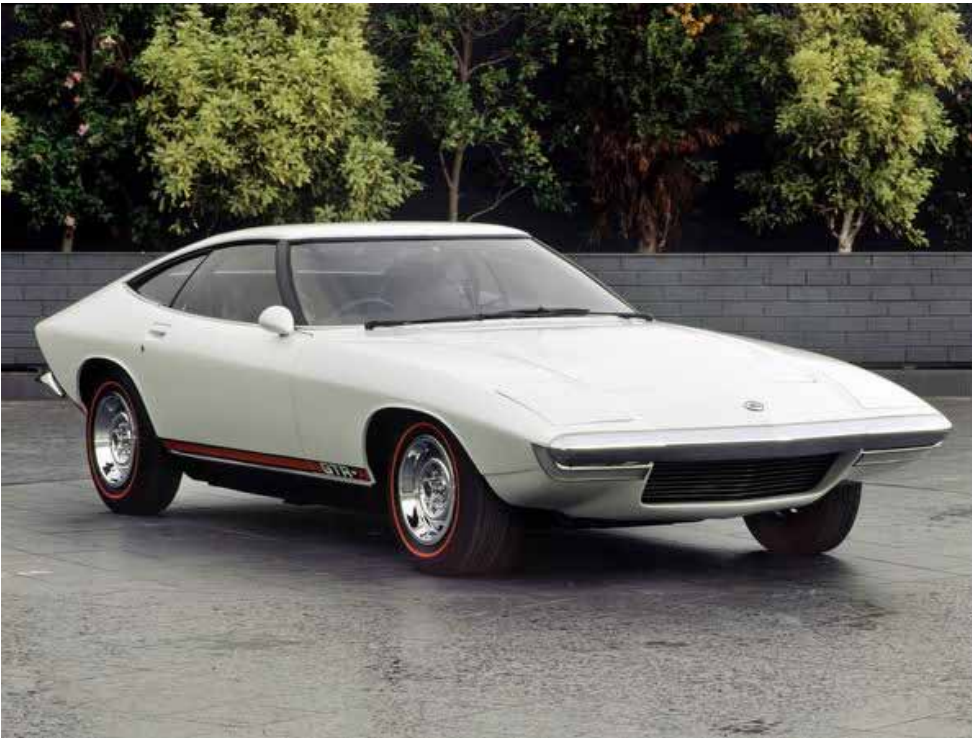
With the demise of local manufacture we can all look back nostalgically on our favourite aussie built car, be it the GTHO, GTR-XU1, or Charger (OK the EJ for Jason), It may now be interesting to review some Australian production cars which were either produced in such small numbers, or never even went past

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the prototype phase that they have achieved almost mythical status. I'll look at three in this article, the Holden Torana GTR-X, the Leyland Force 7 and the Lightburn Zita Sports

Torana GTR-X



The GTR-X was produced by Holden in 1970 and was a three door hatch back coupe with a wedge-shaped fiberglass body. The prototype car had LC Torana GTR XU-1 mechanical components.

The car weighed 1,043 kg (2,299 lb) and has a top speed of 210 km/h (130 mph). If it has gone into production it would have been the first Holden car to be factory fitted with four-wheel disc brakes.

Only two were built, with one being retained by Holden, which has recently been restored to its original appearance. The other preproduction GTR-X is in the hands of a former long-time Holden employee, along with the body mold jig to make more fiberglass bodies. Whether this car will ever be finished is unknown due to the age of the owner. The name and location of the owner is kept secret to prevent possible theft.

Force 7

While the P76 has gone down in Australian history as either ahead of its time or the biggest mistake since sections pneumatic, not many people know of the sports model – the Force 7 coupe. 56 were built, but only 10 were ever released – the rest being crushed at the factory.

It was a five seat hatchback coupe with the 4.4L Rover V8, producing 149kW (200 hp), though all the rest of the running equipment was from the standard P76 (such as the Borg-warner gearbox, power assisted discs and front McPherson struts).



Zita Sports



Many of us have heard of the Zita – a 300cc Australian car produced from 1963-65 by the Lightburn Company, who were better known for their production of cement mixers and washing machines. What you probably don't know was that they had a sports version.

48 of these were produced (of which only 28 were sold) They were a two seater roadster with a 400kg fiberglass body, no doors or bumper bars, and 4 wheel drums on 10 inch wheels. They had a West German ZF Sachs F.M.R. 500 498cc two cylinder, two-stroke engine producing 15.5 kilowatts (21 hp) and were fitted with a 4 speed sequential gearbox in unit with the engine. Performance stats are unavailable



Vale

Lest we forget.....

Full details are on the RAEME Website:

<http://www.wa.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/vale-alt>

Name: Lewis, David
Rank: CFN
Regimental No: 1734759
Trade: Not Provided
Year Joined: Not Provided
Years Served: Not Provided
Date Deceased: 30 Aug 16

Received a note from the QLD Sappers Assoc Qld (via Derek Stevenson) on the Passing of a Nasho CFN 1734759 David Raymond LEWIS on 30 Aug 16 .

David served with 17 Construction Squadron Workshops 23/9/69 – 27/8/70

Rest in Peace –Arte Et Marte.

Sick Parade

Thankfully there is no one recorded for WA. If you know one of our brethren who is not travelling well and would benefit from a visit; email Welfare via the contact us page (<http://wa.raeme.org.au/index.php/contact-us>) with their details.

Check the website for the up to date listing.

<http://wa.raeme.org.au/index.php/notices/sick-parade>

Upcoming Events

For all upcoming events you can visit the Association Website at www.wa.raeme.org.au



[Annual General Meeting](#)

From **October 29, 2016 11:00** until **October 30, 2016 14:00**

At [Lake Monger Recreation Club](#) Categories: [RAEME Association WA](#)

The AGM will be held this year on Saturday October 29th at the Lake Monger Recreation Club (the old Bowling Club) 144 Gregory St commencing at 11.00. Lunch will be provided but you will be required to purchase your own drinks over the bar. The Association will also subsidise a few ends to commence after lunch.



[RAEME Birthday](#)

From **November 26, 2016 12:00** until **November 26, 2016 16:00**

At [Army Museum](#) Categories: [RAEME Association WA](#)

Planning is advanced to hold the RAEME birthday celebration this year at the Army museum in Burt St Fremantle – 113's home for many years. At this stage it will be held on Saturday 26th November and will consist of a BBQ at the old Officers' mess and a look around the museum.