



The word from the
Horse's Mouth

The Newsletter of the RAEME Association of WA

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What the Prez Sez

Welcome to the first Horses Mouth for 2019. It is hard to believe that it is March already. The aim of the association this year is to re-establish contact with as many members as possible. The informal gathering at the Bayswater hotel for RAEME Birthday was a huge success for the association with RAEME personnel who we haven't seen for a long time in attendance. The ANZAC Days activities have had to move to a new venue with details latter. Hope to see you all there.

Dick Fenton, President RAEME WA

From the Editor

Welcome to the pre ANZAC Day Horses Mouth. Unfortunately our post march RV for the last few years - the Howling Bar is no more – but we have found something better – closer to the city, cheaper snacks and mainstream beers – the Hotel IBIS. We will meet there at 1100 and all the relevant details are below. Before we get to that, however here is a bit of a summary of what has been going and what is planned.

AGM

The AGM was held on Saturday October 27th in the 100 yr old Dining Car at the Bassendean Railway Museum with a BBQ following in the modern (1971) Australind Buffett car.

We had free and exclusive access to the museum following and a number of the attendees (particularly the black trades) started suffering having twitches in their tool hands as they



wandered in and through and over the carriages and locomotives stored there. The guide fielded a number of questions of the “reckon-we-could-get-this-going” type.

Numbers were down with only approximately 20 attending but a good time was had by all. Watch out for where we are going for the 2019 AGM!. The following members were elected to the committee:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| President | Dick Fenton |
| Vice President | Peter Collins |
| Treasurer | Peter Sills-Ohlsen |
| Secretary | Perry Beor |
| Webmaster | Alex Smithers |
| Editor Horse's Mouth | Perry Beor |
| Welfare Officer | No longer appointed - Julia Mackay-Koelen is now our POC |
| Merchandise | Peter Sills-Ohlsen |
| Social | Phil Pitchers |
| Committee member | Matthew Simpson |

After the AGM, an opportunity arose to finally present Terry McKay with the Corps Recognition of Service certificate. It took a couple of years in the making to get the stars to align and get everything into place at the one time... It was only a few years after you discharged!



RAEME Birthday

The RAEME Birthday celebration was held at the Bayswater Hotel and was a great success with over 40 people attending. A number of members were quite pleased that having a railway station outside the front door made transport considerably easier, especially after one or two...

At this stage, unless we have any other suggestions we will return in December. Hopefully someone will remember to take some photos this year!

The serving members celebrated the day with obligatory golf day and a few bebies followed by a BBQ. 113 WKSP carried the celebration to maintenance weekend so that the Reservist who could celebrate our Corps birthday.



RAEME Get Together

Grant and Kerry hosted a three day RAEME get together at their place for the March long weekend. Some settled in for the whole weekend and others joined in when they could. The weekend started with dinner on the Friday night at the Pinjarra RSL and continued with field

trips to Dwellingup, BBQs and crabbing at Dick Fenton's Secret Spot. Once the headaches subsided everyone who attended marked it down in their calendar for next year.



RAEME Dining In

The Committee is planning a formal Dining in night in mid-winter. It will be mixed and at this stage will be held at Soprano's on Mill Point Rd (next to the Windsor). More to follow.

For those thinking of having a big night and sleeping in the car/van in the zoo carpark across the road, zoo staff do occasionally take the elephants out for a walk around the streets at dawn – you are not imagining things. Do not ask how I know this

Anzac Day

All RAEME Association of WA members and families are invited to attend the after march function at the IBIS Hotel, 334 Murray St.

Please note a special license will be obtained (subject to approval) to open at 1100 h.

Cost: As per last year - \$20 for members (and to renew) and \$20 for guests

For those that have paid membership / renewed prior to ANZAC Day get an extra ticket for the door prize.

Food will be available.

This year is bound to be even better so make sure you contact all your mates and get them there.

Merchandise



We are ordering a run of RAEME Bullion (cloth) Badges. They will be \$12 each and we should have them in time for ANZAC Day

ARMY Apprentice Association – Remembrance Day Albany 2018

The Army Apprentice Association WA held a reunion weekend, in Albany WA, as part of the commemorations for the Centenary of Armistice of WW1. The weekend commenced with a welcome function on the Thursday that I was unable to attend. On Friday a Dinner was held at the Stirling Club in Albany. A great night was had renewing old acquaintances (My Balcombe Hut CPL I had not seen since 1976).

Saturday was free to visit the sights of Albany including the National ANZAC Centre and Princess Royal Fortress Military Museum. Saturday night entailed a stew and curry night in the Shed at Inside Ian (Frog) French Shed in Albany



On Sunday the 11 Nov 18 the Association members provided the biggest contingent in the Centenary of Armistice Parade which was lead by a contingent from 11/28 RWAR. The march went down York street and formed up for a service on ANZAC Peace Park.





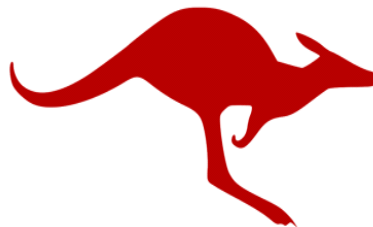
After the March

A big round of thanks need to be given to Bob Coventry, Ina Frence and Andy Sears for the organisation of this great weekend.

Spanner Packs

The Spanner Packs which go to all Sappners serving overseas are greatly appreciated. For those of you who remeber Chris Renall when he was a CFN/LCPL/CPL at 113:

TASK GROUP AFGHANISTAN



RESOLUTE SUPPORT

Camp Qargha, Kabul, Afghanistan
Afghan National Army Sergeant Major Academy
Advisor Team -2
Australian Army

17 January 2019

Dear Raymond,

Thank you very much for your care package. It has arrived safely to us in Camp Qargha. Special thanks to the RAEME Association, for the items that you placed in the care package.

My name is Chris and I am the Logistics Advisor to the Sergeant Major Academy that is part of Marshal Fahim National Defence University.

We are located in Kabul, the capital city of Afghanistan. Our Camp is called Qargha and the Australian soldiers here work in conjunction with other nations such as the British, Danish, Americans, Germans and Turkish. Whilst the food is quite British (baked beans in every meal), we are lucky to have most of the luxuries that most Australians are privileged to have; internet, gym and good company.

Our mission here is to Train, Advise and Assist the Afghan National Army in training and developing its future generation of soldiers and leaders.

My kindest regards to the RAEME Association, your care package is greatly appreciated. I hope everyone is doing well back in Australia. All the goodies you sent are greatly appreciated.

I arrived in Afghanistan October 2018 and will be remaining until late 2019. Whilst it is tough spending this much time away from home, we are lucky to have good company and get along well with the other nations that we reside with. When we arrived here, the temperature wasn't too dissimilar from Townsville summer, where I am based. However by the time my tour has ended, we will be moving through the snow and wearing plenty of cold weather equipment. I visit the RAEME detachment here in camp every week and help them out with some brew gear when I can. It is great to see they are keeping the RAEME spirit alive and well all the way over here in Afghanistan.

Once again thank you very much for the care package, it means a lot. We are doing Australia proud and maintaining the reputation of the Aussie Digger.

My kindest regards,

Warrant Officer First Class, Christopher Renall
Logistics Advisor, ANASMA AT-2
Qargha, Afghanistan

Did you know?

[Google Maps \(Street View\)](#)

Google street view has a number of very interesting features, if you know where to look.

Find the Earl's Court Underground station in London and outside the entrance is a Blue Police Box (Tardis). You can actually go inside. [Google Maps Link](#) (then click on the phone box)



Find the USS North Carolina in Wilmington – you can walk around the main deck



Old Perth Barracks

This section of the newsletter will be devoted to a series of articles on current and former Barracks around Perth, the first of which is the Pensioner Barracks at the head of St George's Tce.

The Pensioner Barracks was completed in 1866 and housed the Enrolled Pensioner Force. This force was made up of 21 yr Army veterans who joined up for six months full time service as guards on the convict ships in return for land grants. At the end of their six months, they remained on call and had to parade a minimum of 12 days a year.

As well as dormitories, the barracks had 21 married quarters. Each family apartment had two rooms, each about 13 by 11 feet with at least one fireplace. Also on site was a separate cookhouse, firing range and gun-room, wash-house, stores and stables, and a fives (squash) court.



Kings Park Guns

The barracks were constructed in conjunction with the Rifle Range in Kings Park (now Fraser Avenue). This range was in use up until 1895.

In 1906 two 7" rifled muzzle loading guns were emplaced in the vicinity of the old butts for defence of the Perth's approaches. These were officially RML, 7 inch, 6.5 ton, Mk1 guns. They fired a 112lb (50.8kg) shell to a range of about 4000 yards (3650m).

These guns dated back to 1866 and when delivered in 1888 were already obsolete. They were dismantled and buried when the War Memorial was constructed in the early 1920's but in the 1960's were dug up and partially restored. After a number of years in the rotunda in the Botanical Gardens they were relocated to HMAS Stirling where they remain to this day.

