



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 Summer edition of the Horse's Mouth.

We all hope you had a Great New Year and are suitably prepared to deal with the current round of COVID restrictions. Almost as bad as being back in the Green isn't it? In the best traditions of the Corps we are going to press on regardless.

In this edition of the Horse's mouth are details of the CSSB Open Day, the Vigil and March on ANZAC Day, a tour for later in the year and some information for the National Committee and a service held earlier this month at the Corps memorial, plus the usual strange and arcane stuff at the end. Read on and we'll see you in the flesh very soon.

## *113 Open Day*

13 CSSB has invited the Association and its members to attend the CSSB's Family Day next month

The purpose of the day is to have a relaxed, fun environment where members can bring family and friends to show them where they work and what they do. The day offers you a chance to have a good sticky beak at all the new kit and a wander round the workshop. We will have a presence with RAEME merchandise on sale.

The key points for now are as follows:

**When:** 12 March, from 1000 - 1330

**At:** Irwin Barracks, 113 Workshops

**Who:** all Association members, 13 CSSB members, their family and friends

**Food:** Sausage sizzle commences at 1130 – gold coin donation

## *RAEME Vigil*

The RAEME Vigil will be held as usual at the Sandukan memorial in Kings Park on ANZAC Eve.

We will meet up in the car park at the back of the tennis club at 1900 and move forward from there, under the direction of our Piper – Rob Reeves.

Remember this is our "RAEME" event commemorating the foundation members of the Corps who were captured at Singapore and perished on Sandukan. The 4 x Craftsmen and 1 x Corporal are the only members of the Corps commemorated with plaques at Kings Park and it is our duty to remember them.

Details of where we will retire to will be available in due course.

## *ANZAC Day - March*

We're still awaiting details but assuming it will be the same as previous years – we will be positioned behind Pay Corps in G line outside 41 St. Georges Tce (opposite St Martin's tower - 50m back from Barrack St) stepping off at 0900. Look for the Banner!

If this changes we will let you know

## *ANZAC Day - Catchup*

All RAEME Association of WA members and families are invited to attend the after march function in the Rubix Bar and Restaurant 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 few years - Free for members (Fees can be paid on the day) and \$20 for guests

Food will be available.

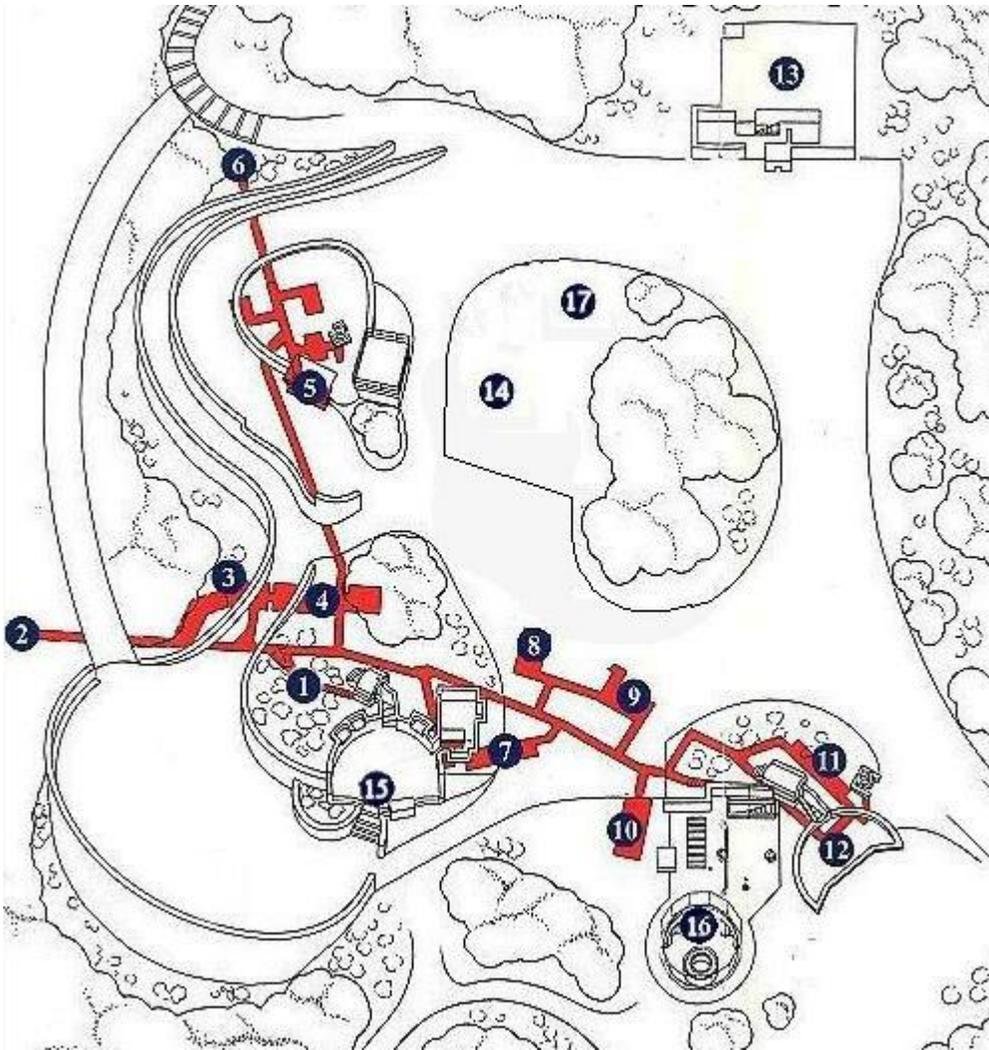
After missing out last two years, make the effort to come along this year - and make sure you contact all your mates and get them there.

The raffle prizes have got even bit bigger this year courtesy of **Chris Irwin** of **Custom Metal Features**

## *Leighton Battery*

Many of you would know that the Concrete Dropshorts have refurbished the old 6" battery (#15) and associated tunnels up at Buckland Hill and tours are run every Sunday Afternoon





Well, they have almost finished fabricating a replica 5.25" turret and installing it over the surviving emplacement (#16) It will look exactly like the photo below and once in place we intend to arrange an exclusive tour for the Association. Watch out for further details.



## *National Committee*

A few things from the National Committee

- We are commissioning a new Corps Painting to complement the Vietnam era 'AFP Repair in the Light Green',
- A Bluebell Trust Foundation/Fund is being established to attract donations and bequests to be used for a specific purpose by the Corps Committee for the benefit of individual Corps members, as an expansion of the current RAEME Bluebell Trust.

## *Romans Go Home*

Only the Brits could turn Monty Python into real life



On 13 March 2010 the 84-mile route of Hadrian's Wall was lit by 500 gas beacons, flares and torches at 250m intervals, to celebrate the 1600th anniversary of the end of Roman rule in Britain.



## *While on the subject of Hadrian's Wall*

There are a few people in this Association who were supposedly posted there as Tech Spt.



## *Or it's Great-grandson, the Maginot Line*

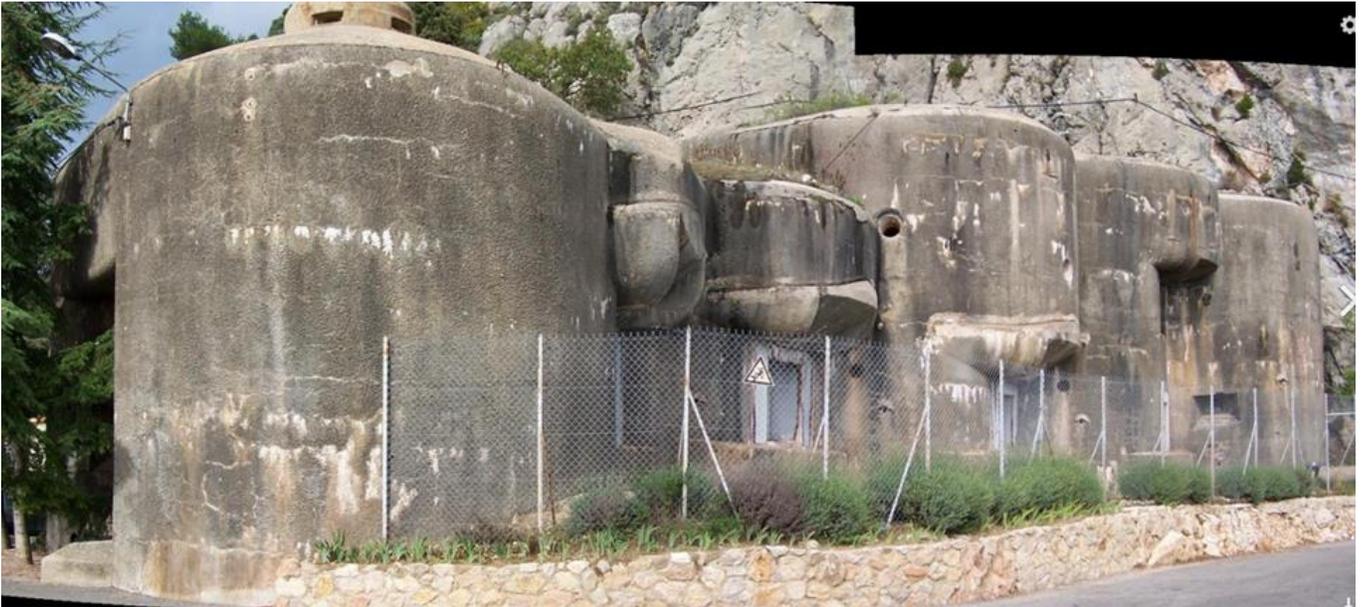
We have all heard of the Maginot Line between France and Germany, but the French also built what they called the Little Maginot Line between them and Italy

The southernmost fort (Ouvrage Sainte-Agnes) on this line overlooks the border town of Menton (from a height of 700m) and held off the Italians for the two weeks of their war in 1940

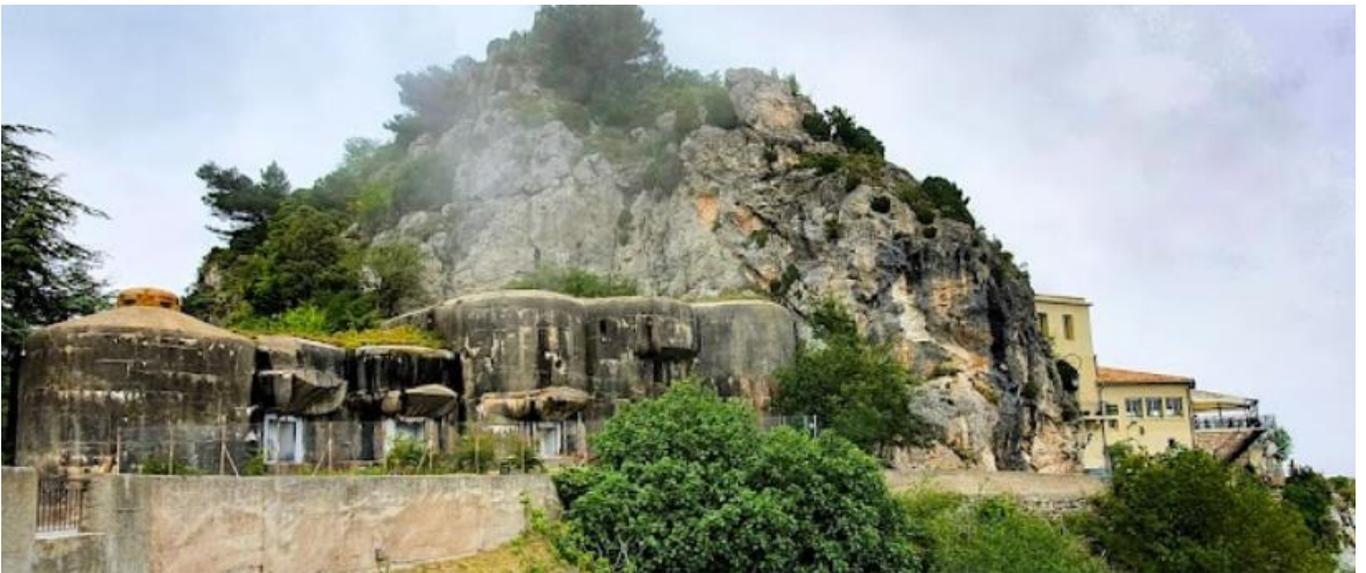


There are a number of different "blocks" in the structure, this one (block 2) was armed with machine guns, 2 x 75mm guns and 3 x 81mm mortars.

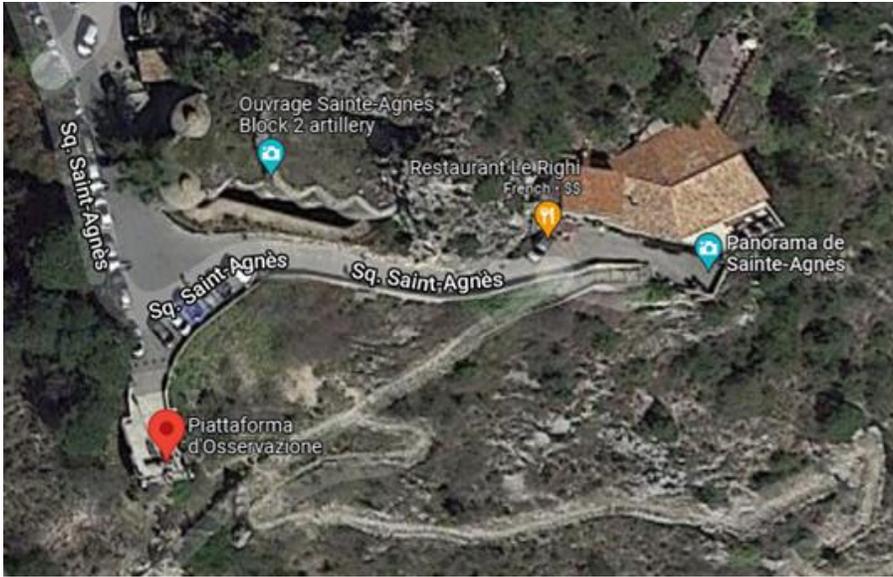
It has been restored and is open to the public



Just a bit further along the ledge is a restaurant (no vehicle access)



Prices aren't bad – great place for a cuppa.



What is not generally known was that the southern French coastal defence lines (including this one) were reactivated in 1961 following the Putsch of the Generals in Algeria as the Government feared a landing.