

RAEME Head of Corps Newsletter



December 2007

(14th Edition)

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**Craftsman Statuette available from Army Museum
Bandiana. \$ 85.00**

DHOC

Now that we are in December, the vast majority of us are probably asking ourselves, 'where did the years go?' I don't exactly know the answer there, but I do know that our Corps has been fully committed across operations and exercises in Australia and other parts of the world. I have heard nothing but praise for our Crafties from Unit Commanders and the senior participants at the 2007 Corps Seminar.

The Corps can be very proud of the individual and collective achievements of our soldiers and officers in 2007. Our mission has remained unchanged in 65 years and once again, in the words of Field Marshall Montgomery, RAEME has proved that it can maintain the 'punch in Army's fist'.

Well done everyone. I wish you and your families a safe and happy Christmas.

Arte et Marte

LTCOL Nick Stanton, DHOC
Nick.stanton@defence.gov.au Ph (02) 6055 4689

SO2 Corps

2007 RAEME Corps Seminar

The 2007 Corps Seminar was conducted 18-19 Oct at the Central Instructional Facility at South Bandiana. The theme for this year was 'Posturing RAEME for the Enhanced Land Force', with emphasis on '*Retention through Development*'. Almost 200 personnel represented the Corps and provided valuable input into issues facing officers and soldiers of the Corps.

A comprehensive action item list was developed from seminar discussions. This list provides guidance for the HOC team to move forward to investigate possible solutions to assist retention and make the Corps stronger for the future. The presentations from the seminar are posted on the Corps website.

Corps Website

The Corps website is undergoing a significant change at present, mainly due to the fine efforts of CPL Craig Mason of ASEME. CPL Mason has volunteered his considerable website designing talents to ensure that we have the best product we can. Request you provide any feedback or improvement suggestions to CPL Mason via the links on the website.

Maintenance Managers Handbook

The Maintenance Management Handbook developed last year has been largely acknowledged as a success. It has had a recent addition of an 'ASM Checklist' provided by the HQ 1 Div EME Cell. This checklist is by no means exhaustive and can be used by maintenance managers at all levels. Updated Handbook is available on the Corps website.

Steyr Optic Tube Replacement

The Steyr optic tube replacement has traditionally been the task of an ECN 421. This has recently been amended to allow suitably qualified ECN 146 to conduct this task. It is intended to commence ECN 146 training during the first Fitter Armament Techniques course (FAMT) in 2008. ECN 146 graduating from this will be qualified to conduct this procedure. Gap training IAW ALTC TMP will be conducted in the future for those personnel requiring this competency.

Recovery Assistant Training

A formal TMP detailing the training required by specified recovery assistants has been developed and authorised by ALTC. This will allow units to conduct basic recovery techniques training for non ECN 226 personnel. This course will **NOT** qualify personnel to conduct or command recovery operations. This will always remain the task of ECN 226 qualified personnel. A pilot of the course has been conducted in 3 Bde. More to follow.

Again, I ask that commanders at all levels pass the Corps newsletter to **all** of our soldiers.

Arte et Marte

MAJ John Haley, SO2 Corps RAEME
john.haley@defence.gov.au Ph (02) 6055 2193

SO2 Heritage

Craftsman Magazine

Hopefully most of you will have had the opportunity to read the 2007 Winter Edition of the Craftsman magazine (Ed: 58). If you have not seen the magazine within your unit please follow it up through your chain of command to make sure 'your' corps magazine makes it to the shop floor. One significant positive change is that the magazine is now produced in full colour cover to cover which has greatly improved the overall quality of the magazine. Unfortunately on the negative side the content was severely lacking making the last edition an unacceptably skinny magazine. We could certainly 'pad it out' at the Head of corps cell with technical and strategic articles. However this would not be consistent with the traditional nature of the magazine which has been characterised by a predominance of articles from units and members of the corps from across the county and overseas telling it like it is, taking pride in what they are doing and often having some fun in the process. So I guess there's the challenge to one and all out there at the coal face.

Corps Subscriptions

It is great to see new members contributing to corps subscriptions and receiving their St Eligius Corps Medallion. Twice a year we conduct a Medallion Number Raffle Draw, usually coinciding with the publication of the Craftsman magazine. For one reason or another mid-year draw did not occur. We will have a double draw at the end of the year with the results published in the 2007 summer edition Craftsman Magazine.

I would also like to acknowledge the donations to the corps funds from the RAEME Association of Queensland and the AEME/RAEME Association of South Australia Inc. It is a significant gesture from the associations who have a limited capacity to generate funds. Similarly earlier this year the RAEME Association of NSW sent care packages to RAEME soldiers serving overseas on operations. There will be further articles on the care package project in the next Craftsman edition.

One of the key activities funded by corps funds is the prizes for the annual corps awards that are available for presentation each year. The 2007 award recipients were announced at the Corps seminar in October. The quality of the nominations was very high and all the award recipients and those nominated are to be congratulated. Award recipients are:

LT Jennings		Artificer of the Year	
LT Merton	ASEME	SGT Hutton	ADFCALS
Regimental Award		Junior Regimental Award	
SGT Williams	3 CSSB	CPL Walkom	3 CSR
Brig Martins Encouragement Award			
CPL Bleeze	1 CSSB		
National Craftsman of the Year			
ARA			
LCPL Brain	10 FSB		
GRes			
CFN Fenton	9 CSSB		
Regional Craftsman of the Year			
VIC/TAS	ARA	WA	ARA
CFN Duniam	3 Rec Coy	CFN Convey	Pilbara Regt
GRes		GRes	
CFN Barthols	3 Rec Coy	CFN Denton	113 Fd Wksp
SQLD	ARA	NT	ARA
CFN Donovan	7 CSSB	CFN Stark	1 Armd Regt
GRes		GRes	
-	-	-	-
SA	ARA	NQLD	ARA
CFN Allen	16 AD Regt	CFN Penprase	5 Avn Regt
GRes		GRes	
-	-	CFN Kennedy	42 RQR

Prince Philip Banner Miniatures

The sale of the second release of the RAEME Prince Philip Banner Miniature continues to go well. At the current rate the limited release will sell out over the 3 – 6 months. Once the existing stocks are extinguished there will not be any more made so if you would like to own one don't leave it too long.

Arte et Marte

MAJ Graham Anderson, SO2 Heritage.

Graham.anderson@defence.gov.au Ph (02)6055 4308

CORPS RSM

All, firstly Hi and allow me to introduce myself. I am Warrant Officer Class One Martin Burgess. I was appointed the Regimental Sergeant Major of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers on the 22 OCT 07 and am honoured to hold the extra Regimental Position of Corps RSM of RAEME. I joined the Army on the 7 Jan 1985 as a 40th Class Apprentice Vehicle Mechanic and over the last 22 years have travelled around the country being employed in both Trade and Regimental positions.

I would like to thank both WO1 Steve Luke, WO1 Mark McLean who have been filled the position of the Corps Warrant Officer this year, they have done an outstanding job ensuring that the representations that you have made to the HOC Cell have been heard and that the Corps has continued to move forward in these ever changing times. The time and effort that they have put in is a credit to them both.

We as a Corps need to take the front foot in regard to selling ourselves to the wider Army community, this I know is being done daily in our workshops both in Australia and overseas as the tempo of operations sees little respite for both man and machine. Our greatest asset in selling the Corps to soldiers who are looking for a change in career is us. The pride that we have in flying the Tricolour at the front of the workshop (see Corps Instruction 03), the Spanner clubs that are held regularly through out the Bdes to the recognition of our soldiers and Officers through the awards that presented annually shows that we care about who we are. With manning shortfalls affecting us all we still turn out the best possible solution to a problem and it is these attributes that make the Corps so sort after. If you have an enquiry about

how to transfer I ask that you take the time and explain all that you know, because you are the best recruiters that we have.

In closing I am deeply honoured and happy to be filling this position and hope to be able to catch with as many of you as possible as I accompany the Deputy HOC on his visits around the country. If you have a question or a point of view that you want to put across don't hesitate in coming up and having a chat.

Arte et Marte
Warrant Officer Class One Marty Burgess - Corps RSM
martin.burgess@defence.gov.au (02) 6055 4031

10 Steps to get the most of Maintenance Support under the DIDS Contract.

By JLG Maintenance Section

There are a number of JLG maintenance workshops run each year, which facilitate issues being raised by units and JLG maintenance staff, about maintenance support under the DIDS contract. It has been found through these workshops that there are a number of activities that Commonwealth staff can do to enhance support under the contract terms. The DIDS Maintenance team have raised the following as areas that the Commonwealth can do to improve on, in order to achieve more effective support.

The following 10 points will help ensure you get the most effective maintenance support from the DIDS contract:

1. Submit a Realistic Date Equipment Required (DER)

Ensuring that the DER you request is a realistic timeframe for the required work, and is based on training, or an operational need, - not just a default 28 days! The JLU (Joint Logistics Unit) negotiates the contractual DER on your behalf utilising the DER provided on the EMEFIX and the Unit priority guidelines provided by Army HQ. Providing realistic DER expectations will reduce delays in negotiating and setting contractual timeframes. Working closely with your JLU maintenance point of contact will ensure you maintenance work will be completed in the quickest possible time and not be delayed in the early stages. In addition, if you submit generic EMEFIXs of 'inspect and repair', then be prepared to expect an extended DER as a TI (Technical Inspection) will be performed to identify all the work required which can lead to perceived 'small' tasks expanding into significantly larger jobs.

2. List All the Maintenance Tasks Required

The DIDS contract is a specified repair contract. Ensure a thorough TI is completed by RAEME staff (if available) identifying all the tasks required. Update the EMEFIX with all maintenance tasks before submitting to the JLU. If it's not on the EMEFIX the contractor will not do it.

3. Staggered Maintenance Program (SMP)

Proactively managing your planned maintenance as a SMP will ensure that not all your equipment is due for TI/Service at the same time. This will reduce peaks and troughs in the DIDS operator's workload making it easier to schedule, and prevents extended DER's for relatively standard jobs. Providing the JLU a copy of your training schedule is an important first step to help them indicate potential peak periods. Submit your planned work as early as possible to achieve the DER you want. Frequently the service date of equipments is known in advance so submit a request for the next one as soon as the service has been completed.

4. Effective Unit Point of Contact

The most effective Unit contact details are for a central area which is always 'manned', e.g. orderly room that can then involve the correct person. That person is to be able to discuss DER, arrange delivery of equipment and also perform SCA transfers. Individual POC have led to delays in requests due to individuals being out of office, on leave, posted, deployed overseas etc. Group email is the best form of contact as it provides written proof of contact and details of the contact can be easily forwarded to individuals.

5. Correctly performing SCA Transfers

If your Unit does not initiate the SCA transfer, then the contractor has the right to refuse the equipment and your work may potentially miss the scheduled slot and a new DER will be allocated. Ensure you perform the transfer as per the DSCM Ref Vol 4, Sect 4, Chap 1.

6. Follow the Call In/ Call Out Procedure

The DIDS Operator will use the POC on the Work Request (EMEFIX) to call in the equipment. Once your unit POC has been contacted twice by the DIDS Operator has fulfilled their obligation. (Group email address is a better form of recordable contact. Deliver the equipment as detailed. Nobody can work on equipment if they do not have it. Remember if you miss your scheduled slot, the work may have to be rescheduled, and you potentially may be assigned a new contractual DER. The Call Out process also has a two attempts format; please collect your equipment in a timely fashion.

7. Inspect Equipment at Collection

As the customer you have the right to expect the work you requested is completed. You should assess the work, including documentation, of the contractor (only the repairs specified) as soon as possible after receiving the equipment, and you should not accept the item if there is a problem. You should immediately approach/contact the Commonwealth JLU staff and initiate customer feedback to the BU.

8. Do the Non Technical Inspection (NTI) Prior to Returning Loan Pool Equipment

Equipment being returned to the loan pool should have had a full NTI completed by the returning Unit. (e.g. EMEI V A029 Para 22a). Returning loan pool equipment without a correctly completed NTI will cause serious delays in identifying potential maintenance on pool equipment and further delays maintenance activities to prepare the equipment for the next user, which maybe your Unit. The DIDS contract does not provide for the Operator to do NTIs on loan pool returns, so leaving it for the DIDS Operator to do it is a waste of time and money and will lead to lower equipment availability.

9. Repair Parts Stores Out Scaling

When a unit out scales surplus RPS and returns it to a Regional Logistic Unit it is essential it is bagged and tagged as serviceable. If it is not clearly identified as Serviceable the warehouse will downgrade the item to Repairable. Inventory staff then see Expense items in RP category and send them to disposal, when in fact the item is still in the OEM packaging and required by a customer.

10. Customer Feedback

Your local Commonwealth JLUs are your point of contact for DIDS contract feedback. It is important that Customer Feedback is continued to be provided on Materiel Maintenance and the DIDS contract. Feedback provided directly to the DIDS Operator will not necessarily make it back into the contract KPIs and therefore have little or no impact to assist improvement in the long term. There are a number of contract requirements and Key Performance Indicator's that the DIDS Operator is subject to and is paid/rewarded against. It is essential that you report issues to Commonwealth personnel at the JLUs so that they can register them into contract reporting systems.

The JLU POC for feedback are:

- **HQ Joint Logistics Group:** Nick Sverdloff, (03) 9282 3935, mo 0427 892054
nicholas.sverdloff@defence.gov.au
- **DNSDC** - WO1 Raymond Holze (02) 8782 4247,
raymond.holze@defence.gov.au. Please CC raymond.allen@defence.gov.au
- **Victoria** -Mr. Peter Townsend (03) 5735 6671, Mo 0418 651 439
peter.townsend@defence.gov.au
- **South Queensland** - Jim Vorrias on (07) 3332 3668,
jim.vorrias@defence.gov.au
- **North Queensland** – Mr Mick O'Brien, (07) 4771 7791, mo 0413 340695,
mike.obrien2@defence.gov.au
- **Northern Territory**- Ms Davena Irish (08) 89235728, Mo 0408 486 223,
davena.irish1@defence.gov.au
- **South Australia** - CAPT Mark Edwards, 08 8259 4819, Mo 0417 880 846
- **West Australia**- Mr Brett Daley, Ph: (08) 9377 8202,
brett.daley@defence.gov.au
- **Tasmania** - Mr Mark Wilson (03) 6237 7472, Mo 0419 272 124,
mark.wilson16@defence.gov.au

RAEME OR VACANCIES as at 30 Sep 07

Ground Trades

ECN	SGT		CPL		LCPL		CFN		Total		% Vac	
	Posn	Vac	Posn	Vac	Posn	Vac	Posn	Vac	Posn	Vac		
146	70	11	99	26	32	11	139	30	340	78	22.94%	Fitter Armament
226	14	0	36	7	7	3	61	21	118	31	26.27%	Recovery Mechanic
229	96	11	159	26	54	8	311	39	620	84	13.55%	Vehicle Mechanic
235	6	1	18	7	2	0	15	5	41	13	31.71%	Metalsmith
418	16	1	47	16	17	14	63	24	143	55	38.46%	Technician Electrical
421	43	4	77	26	12	7	83	26	215	63	29.30%	Technician Electronics
	245	28	436	108	124	43	672	145	1477	324	21.94%	
	11.4%		24.8%		34.7%		21.6%					

RAEME ORs IN TRAINING

ECN	ITT	OJT	Total
146	60	39	99
226	7	0	7
229	103	91	194
418	40	24	64
421	20	11	31
	230	165	395

RAEME OR VACANCIES as at 30 Sep 07

Aircraft Trades

ECN	SGT		CPL		LCPL		CFN		Total		% Vac	
	Posn	Vac	Posn	Vac	Posn	Vac	Posn	Vac	Posn	Vac		
153	4	1	9	2	2	1	14	6	29	10	34.48%	Aircraft Structural Fitter
154	7	2	13	1	2	1	18	5	40	9	22.50%	Aircraft Life Support Fitter
411	58	11	64	22	17	4	95	14	234	51	21.79%	Technician Aircraft
412	37	8	61	20	14	3	77	35	189	66	34.92%	Technician Avionics
	106	22	147	45	35	9	204	60	492	136	27.64%	
	20.8%		30.6%		25.7%		29.4%					

RAEME ORs IN TRAINING

ECN	ITT	OJT	Total
153	6	2	8
154	3	8	11
411	36	63	99
412	30	24	54
			172

TTMO MAILING ADDRESS DETAILS - 2007

Townsville

SGT Justin Radford
TTMO Townsville
C/- LWC (NQ)
Lavarack Barracks
TOWNSVILLE
QLD 4813

Ph: (07) 4771 1305
Fax: (07) 4771 7434
Mob: 0408 295 011

Sydney

WO2 Peter Whiting & SGT Cath Daniel
TTMO Sydney
C/- LWC (NSW)
Steele Barracks
MOOREBANK
NSW 2170

Ph: (02) 8782 4301
Fax: (02) 9601 3767
Mob: 0421 619 642

Brisbane

WO2 Glen Dowling & SGT Matthew Brooks
TTMO Brisbane
C/- LWC (SQ)
Gallipoli Barracks
ENOGGERA
QLD 4052

Ph: (07) 3332 4292
Fax: (07) 3332 4877
Mob: 0408 450 984

Darwin

WO2 Michael Mitchell & SGT Brian Lund
TTMO Darwin
C/- LWC (NT)
Robertson Barracks
PALMERSTON
NT 0830

Ph: (08) 8935 3104
Fax: (08) 8935 3209
Mob: 0419 143 932

RAEME CORPS REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES 2007

	Formation	Appointment	Rank	Name		Address	Region	Phone
1	LHQ	SO1 TRF	LTCOL	Tripley	Tony	LHQ, Vic Bks, Paddington, NSW	NSW	02 93393123
2	DOCM-A	CA - RAEME	MAJ	Millar	Michael	Russell Offices, Russell, ACT	ACT	02 62655777
3	1 CSSB	OC FD WKSP	MAJ	Archer	Nathan	Robertson Bks, Palmerston, NT	Northern Region	08 89859301
4	3 CSSB	OC FD WKSP	MAJ	Jenkinson	Scott	Lavarack Bks, Townsville, QLD	North Queensland	07 47717678
5	7 CSSB	OC 7 CSST	MAJ	Mous	Martin	Gallipoli Bks, Enoggera, QLD	South East Qld	07 33327645
6	16 AD REGT	BC SPT BTY	MAJ	Murray	Pat	Woodside Army Bks, Woodside, SA	Central Region (SA)	08 83890290
7	DTR-A	SO1 TRF Implementation	LTCOL	Buldo	Michael	Defence Plaza, Melbourne, VIC	Southern Region	03 92823074
8	13 CSSB	DQ	MAJ	Whelan	Dale	Karrakatta Bks, Karrakatta, WA	Western Region	08 93836453

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 your pay rep/clerk.

2. Annual lump-sum payment - made out to RAEME Corps funds
 - P'mt fwd to: SO2 Corps – RAEME, HOC Cell, Latchford Bks, BANDIANA, 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 SO2 Heritge – RAEME Latchford Barracks, BANDIANA, Vic, 3688 Email: graham.anderson@defence.gov.au Fax: (02) 6055 2436 Ph: (02) 6055 4308		
		
(*: If Applicable)		