

The RAEME Newsletter



Edition 31, March 2017
Editor: SO2 Corps - MAJ Perri Hobbs

Message from the Head of Corps

Welcome to 2017 and the 75th Anniversary of the founding of our Corps. The Corps was founded to deal with the challenge of the ever increasing technical complexity of military materiel and the maintenance requirements that came from that. While it has been 75 years since the founding, everything has changed, but remained the same.

New equipment and capability such as Land 121, Land 400 and Land 19-7B promise an evolution in the way we deploy and fight. The Army has reorganised its combat Brigades under Plan Beersheba to make best use of this new equipment. The Army's maintenance and logistic systems have been reorganised under the CSS CONOPS using the results from Plans Pelican and Centaur to be more effective.

Whilst the equipment is new, the organisational change is not; 1942 saw the amalgamation of maintenance effort into AEME from the Ordnance Corps and various unit workshops to cope with the sudden influx of technologically advanced equipment required for the war. Civilians and contracting are not a new idea either. The first DGEME, Brig Martins, the founding Head of Corps, noted that in May 1945 there were 139,000 civilians and 345,000 soldiers employed in EME services across the Commonwealth. This mix of a civilian and military workforce has been with us from the beginning.

I am extremely proud of the Corps and how we have adapted, and are adapting, to new technology. RAEME will continue to provide invaluable service now and into the future, as we have in the past.

Haydn Kohl

Brigadier
Head of Corps

DHOC (Ground) Newsletter Address – March 2017

Welcome to the first Corps Newsletter for 2017, the intent is to make this a simple and informal way for Corps members to be provided updates, share ideas and generally keep abreast of HOC issues. As one of two DHOC, I am extremely privileged to not only be selected to Command the Army School of Electrical Engineering (ASEME), but also honoured to be able to serve the Corps as DHOC (Ground) as we commence celebrating our 75th year as a Corps.

The 75th Anniversary year is a fantastic opportunity for us all to reflect on our past achievements, but more importantly to use this reflection to influence the next 25 years of the Corps. The key messages from the 50th anniversary year of the Corps (1992) rings true today; these messages note the rapid pace of change generated by rises in technologically advanced materiel, impact of efficiency reforms and structural reviews within Army (Brigade Administrative Support Battalion trials). The theme we should all take from this is that change is ever present, but through this process, the Corps has evolved and continues to be a vital component to Army's capability.

Presently there are many challenges facing the Corps including Army's structural reform; including supporting initiatives (Plan Centaur & the Army Logistic Review) and the rise in technologically advanced materiel required to maintain Army's combat punch. As a Corps we each must take it upon ourselves to positively engage in debate/supporting these activities to ensure RAEME's functions are well integrated in emerging unit establishments, trade structures and individual/collective training activities. I look forward to hearing your thoughts on the future of the Corps as part of my travels with the Corps RSM during the year.

John Bouloukos

Lieutenant Colonel
Deputy Head of Corps (Ground)

DHOC (Aeroskills) Newsletter Address – March 2017

As always the year has commenced apace. I trust that those of you in our operational Units are hard at work maintaining aircraft to meet your Commanding Officer's intent. This year will have a strong 'review and reform' theme for our Aeroskills trades. Both our trade structures and unit establishments will be subject to review by Army Headquarters. We must also progress Plan PELICAN reforms in order to realise the more flexible aviation maintenance workforce required by Army.

Preparations for the RAEME 75th Birthday are well underway with plans for a Memorial Service (Bandiana, 11-12 August 2017) and Parade (Canberra, 01 December 2017). We will also celebrate the Corps birthday at the Rotary Wing Aircraft Maintenance School (RAMS) with our traditional all-ranks dinner to be held on Friday 24 November 2017, so please 'save the date'. Last year's event was held in our soon-to-be CH-47F training hangar and was enjoyed by all.

Finally, there has been a changing of the guard with Lieutenant Colonel Rob Boughen being farewelled at last year's dinner. I am grateful for the opportunity to carry on his good work as the Commanding Officer/Chief Instructor of RAMS and Deputy Head of Corps (Aeroskills).

Brett Nelson

Lieutenant Colonel
Deputy Head of Corps (Aeroskills)

Corps RSM Report

It is with great pleasure that after conducting the role as Corps RSM RAEME for the last year, I have the first opportunity to write to the Corps.

In this year of the 75th anniversary of the formation of RAEME, the Corps needs to recognise the achievements of our proud history, but more importantly, we need to focus on our future. We have many opportunities and challenges ahead with the introduction of new technologically advanced equipment, the implementation of CSS CONOPS, Plan Centaur and Plan Pelican. As a Corps we need to fully understand the requirements and impacts of these plans to ensure we continue to be a relevant and viable asset to Defence.

It is disappointing to report that although we are a proud Corps, highlighted by our strong *esprit de corps* and strong networking ability, the number of RAEME members contributing to Corps subscriptions is approximately 8% of current serving members. Support to Corps funds is a great representation of the strength of a Corps; the funds are used to provide welfare assistance to the families of our members, and to fund various Corps activities and functions throughout the year. Many RAEME members are not aware that there is a regional RAEME representative in each major base location with an allocation of Corps funds for dispersal on request.

I encourage you to be involved in the HOC and regional RAEME anniversary activities this year as well as supporting Spanner Club functions. The Spanner Clubs are a unique Corps activity that promotes Esprit de Corps and strengthens our networking ability.

I look forward to meeting you and discussing Corps issues when the DHOC (Ground), SO2 Corps and I conduct a tour to all Brigade locations this year.

All the best for a productive and enjoyable year in the Corps.

Robert Turnbull

Warrant Officer Class One
Corps RSM

Arte et Marte

The Head of Corps Cell

The Head of Corps Cell exists to support the Head of Corps the Colonel Commandant, the Deputy Heads of Corps, and the Corps RSM in their Corps business. The HOC Cell also promotes RAEME *esprit-de-corps* through RAEME Corps Funds, supporting Spanner Clubs and other activities.

This is but one of the Newsletters the Head of Corps Cell has planned for 2017. We will use the Newsletter to keep all RAEME personnel, serving or ex-serving, abreast of events and developments within the Corps, or that are likely to affect the Corps. We will publish all the information on the upcoming celebrations for the 75th Anniversary, efforts to modernise the maintenance system, the new equipment and projects that are coming down the pipeline, and anything else of interest.

A pet project of the HOC Cell is revitalising RAEME Professional Military Education. PME is becoming widespread, but is focused on leadership. Over the next two years the HOC Cell will build a RAEME centric PME system. Whether this system is based on the Newsletter, a stand alone publication such as the CAL Smart Soldier series, or as a website like The Cove, a maintenance centric PME is sorely needed. What is certain is that RAEME PME is for you, the reader. What do you want from PME? How would you like to access and contribute to it? What are your suggestions?

I want the Newsletter to be a conversation between the soldiers of the Corps. As well as the main articles, I will add short stories and photos from around the Corps. If you have something to say, or to ask of the senior RAEME soldiers, send us a letter. Letters, and any replies, will be published in the next issue.

I look forward to an interesting year and meeting as many of you as possible.

Perri Hobbs

Major
SO2 Corps

Events of the 75th Anniversary of RAEME

There are a number of official events that will be used to celebrate the formation of the Corps:

11 Aug 17 at 1645 – Memorial Service at the Craftsman Memorial, South Bandiana.

11 Aug 17 at 1730 – Dinner at the Army Museum – Bandiana. RSVP and Cost TBA.

12 Aug 17 at 0800 – ASEME Open Day. RSVP TBA.

01 Dec 17 – Parade at the AWM, Canberra. RSVP TBA.

01 Dec 17 – Dinner at the AWM, Canberra. RSVP and Cost TBA.

Further details will be released between Mar and Apr 17.

Regional events will occur throughout the year. Please contact the Regional RAEME Representatives or the local chapter of the RAEME Association for events in your area.

Corps Fund Membership

The membership of the Corps Funds has not kept pace with the times. Only 8% of serving RAEME personnel are financial members of the Corps Funds. The Corps Funds are run for the benefit of the members and exists to promote RAEME *esprit-de-corps*. If you wish to join, re-contribute, or to find out how much you need to pay in order to reach life membership – 10 years worth of subscriptions – please email the editor at perri.hobbs@defence.gov.au, or return the form located at the end of the newsletter.

A life subscription comes with a silver St Eligius medallion and a framed Corps print with embedded Corps coins.

Employment Category Management & Training

The release of CA Directive 08/16 - Implementation of CSS Force Structure Capability and Sustainability Establishment Review, has brought with it some slight changes within the trade structure for ECN 229. The Production Clerk role has been re-established within Workshops as an ECN 229. This means that the role is no longer RAAOC ECN 298, and is solely a RAEME responsibility.

The Employment Specifications for ECN 229 have already been updated to reflect this, and will be added to all RAEME trades following the Employment Specification review in Q1 2017. This will give greater flexibility to commanders and to DSCM-A to post the most suitable member to that position.

CA Directive 08/16 also directed that ECN 229 posted to 10FSB acquire the basic skill set for weapon systems on the LCM8. This has been in the employment specifications since 2014, with no further remediation required.

Training will continue to be refined particularly as new capabilities roll out. Expect that further streamlining will occur in the Subject 4 CPL (Rec Mech) course, some armoured courses as well as the suite of maritime courses.

Cheers

Barton Smith

Major
SO2 EC&TD

Regional RAEME Representatives

The Regional RAEME Representatives provide advice to the HOC Cell on Corps capability matters as well as controlling the flow of grants and advances from the Corps Fund. These grants and advances are to be used to develop *esprit-de-corps* among former and current RAEME soldiers. Examples include support to RAEME Birthday activities and Spanner Clubs.

Regional RAEME Representatives 2017

Region	Unit	Appointment	Rank	Name	Address	Phone
NSW	6 Avn Regt	OC OP SPT SQN	MAJ	Liam Cunningham	Holsworthy Bks, Holsworthy, NSW	02 8782 7505
ACT	DOCM-A	CA-RAEME	MAJ	Troy Williams	Russell Offices, Russell, ACT	02 6144 7831
North Queensland	3 CSSB	OC 102 FD WKSP COY	MAJ	Michael Fry	Lavarack Bks, Townsville, QLD	07 4411 7678
South Queensland	7 CSSB	OC 106 FD WKSP COY	MAJ	Julian Fleming	Gallipoli Bks, Enoggera, QLD	07 3332 9266
Northern Territory	1 CSSB	OC 101 FD WKSP COY	MAJ	Paul Bellas	Robertson Bks, Palmerston, NT	08 8925 9101
Darling Downs	RAMS	CO	LTCOL	Brett Nelson	Army Avn Centre, Oakey, QLD	07 4577 7801
South Australia	16 ALR	BC CSS BTY	MAJ	Daniel Irwin	Woodside Bks, Woodside, SA	08 8389 0290
Victoria	ALTC	SO2 ECM RAEME	MAJ	Bart Smith	Latchford Bks, Bonegilla, VIC	02 6055 4053
Western Australia	JLU-W	OPSO	CAPT	Ben Oakes	Palmer Bks, Barker Rd, Guildford	08 9377 8205

2017 RAEME Corps Port

The 2017 RAEME Port will celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Corps by providing an additional option over previous years. Members will be able to purchase bottles of RAEME Port at the usual price; however, in addition will have the opportunity to purchase a collectors edition, incorporating an older vintage port, showcased in an enhanced package. This option is being developed, and further detail will be released shortly.

In order to ensure that all members receive their Port in a timely manner, the following key dates are being implemented:

- End of April: Final detail on the two options with estimated cost will be promulgated.
- End of May: Member's submit orders.
- End of Jul: Cost confirmed.
- End of Aug: Payment received.
- End of Sep: All orders mailed.

Further detail and any questions can be sent to the SO2 Corps.

Andrew Barker

Captain
ASLO

The Corps History Project Book

The Head of Corps Cell still has copies of the limited (leather bound) and standard editions of the CHP Book. This book covers the history of RAEME, including Afghanistan and Iraq. It makes an ideal gift for a (ex)RAEME soldier interested in Corps history. If you are interested in ordering copies, please fill out the attached form and return to the editor.

Payment

Please use the following account details for payment of all monies into the RAEME Corps Funds. Please ensure that you include your PMKeys number, name and initials in the payment details that you can refer to in an accompanying email. Without your details in the bank statement and an accompanying email, we will not be able to match your payment with your request/purchase.

Account Name:	RAEME Corps Funds
BSB:	803-205
Account Number:	20509705



Clockwise from Top Left: RAMS All Ranks Dining In night; CO RAMS, LTCOL Boughen, farewelled from the unit; GGO training with an M88 at CATW ASEME; SCDT Gregg presented with the RAEME Prize by the HOC, BRIG Kohl; CFN Hudson and CFN McMahon, VTW ASEME, are instructed on engine coolant systems by Bill Cherry, SMA; CO ASEME pays his respects at the Rutherglen RSL dedication ceremony.



RAEME CORPS SUBSCRIPTIONS CONTRIBUTIONS		
(Retirement) Rank	Yearly Subscription	Life Subscription
CFN – SGT	\$26	\$260
WO2 – CAPT	\$39	\$390
MAJ+	\$52	\$520
Name:		Initials: Rank:
PMKEYS Number:*		
Appointment:*		
Unit:*		
Address:		
Suburb:	State:	Postcode:
Email:		
Method of Payment:		
Amount of Contribution: \$		
<p>Forward this form to: SO2 Corps – RAEME Latchford Barracks, BANDIANA, Vic, 3691 Email: perri.hobbs@defence.gov.au Ph: (02) 6055 4325</p>		
		
(*: If Applicable)		

RAEME CORPS HISTORY PROJECT BOOK		
Book	Unit Cost	Number Ordered
Standard	\$80	
Limited Edition	\$120	
Name:	Initials:	Rank:
Unit:*		
Address:		
Suburb:	State:	Postcode:
Email:		
Method of Payment:		
Total Payment: \$		
Forward this form to: SO2 Corps – RAEME Latchford Barracks, BANDIANA, Vic, 3691 Email: perri.hobbs@defence.gov.au Ph: (02) 6055 4325 (*: If Applicable)		