

RAEME ASSOCIATION NSW INC.
NEWSLETTER

ISSUE # 124 DECEMBER- 2010



HAPPY CHRISTMAS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ATTENTION MEMBERS

This is just to remind you of the Annual General Meeting 2011

**The Meeting will be held at:
The Burwood RSL Club
Shaftsbury Rd. Burwood
Saturday 26th February 2011
10.00hrs. For a 10.30 Start**

Nomination forms for positions on the Committee of Management will accompany this newsletter.

Please come along and support your Association. Ed.

Patron

Brigadier George Yacoub
(02) 62865489 (hm)

President

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(02) 47542907 (hm)

Vice President

Steve Hreszczuk
(02) 96056080 (hm)

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(02) 98345026 (hm)
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**** Vacant ****

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(02) 62916871 (hm)
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Father Rod Bray
(02) 96372526 (ph)
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Memorabilia Custodian

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DISCLAIMER

The thoughts and opinions expressed in the articles in this Newsletter are those held by the individual *Writers and Contributors*, and they are **NOT** necessarily those of the Patron, the President, the Committee, the Association Members, or the Editor. The spelling of names, groups and places are as given to the editor, and the editor apologizes if they are in any way incorrect.



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

This is the final Newsletter for 2010. As the Festive Season approaches our thoughts turn to our families and the families of our soldiers who are serving far from home.

We will have the opportunity to celebrate the message of Christmas in many ways, in the company of family and friends. No doubt for many, the Christmas table will be adorned with abundant good fare and fine liquid refreshments. Hopefully, for those who will celebrate Christmas in lands far away, the WO Caterer and some good old aussie ingenuity will ensure the fare is the best available.

May all our RAEME soldiers get the opportunity to communicate with their loved ones and enjoy a time of peace (no matter how limited) at Christmas.

Our AGM is scheduled for Saturday, February 26th 2011. Your attendance to hear the reports for 2010 would be welcomed. Your committee has been reduced by the loss of several committee members during 2010. I would ask that anyone who would like to contribute to the organisation and progress of your association, to put your name forward to our Secretary, Paul Martyn-Jones by way of the nomination form which can be found on our web-site. Or, simply phone Paul for a nomination form.

Suggestions and proposals have already been tabled for the 2011 committee towards gaining greater interaction between the association and other RAEME organizations; especially serving personnel.

2011 will also bring some new challenges. Not the least being the calendar for April which will see Anzac Day fall on Easter Monday for the first time in many a year. We may need to generate a survey of members to determine whether this overlap of Public Holiday dates will impact on our forecast of numbers for the post Anzac march re-union.

On behalf of all your committee, may I wish every member and their families a safe, happy and healthy Christmas. May the New Year be an opportunity to create new challenges, new adventures, hobbies or pastimes.

Best Regards

Brendan Robertson

Arte et Marte





From the Secretary's Desk

Dear Members It has been a bit of a sad year this year as we have lost some very good people, age and ill health has taken its toll on some and they have passed on.

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that the Association is very aware of the loss of these fine people and does wish in all cases to extend our deep sympathies to the family and friends of those who have lost loved ones.

I had a sad letter from our own Chaplain C.P.J. "Barney" Bahnerth GradDipMaintEng, GradCert Mgmt, GradDip Th, MTh, PhD, MACS(Sen.) who has been an Association member and one of our Chaplains for many years.

"Barney" is not enjoying the best of health of late and he has regrettably decided to retire as full time Chaplain for the Association, he has, however offered to remain in the roll of Chaplain Emeritus, which will mean that he can still tend to the spiritual needs of our members but will have to accomplish this by email or phone as he is unable to travel long distances as he used to.

We wish you all the best in the future "Barney" and thank you for your contributions to the Association over so many years.

To all our members I wish you

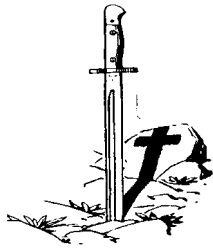


***A Very Merry Christmas
And a
Happy, Prosperous and Healthy New Year***

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Have to keep Bob happy



VALE



Lawrence Frederick HARDACRE

27/09/1941 - 27/10/2010

Service Number: 2412148

Categories of Service: Regular Army Special Reserve (O): 12 June 1963 to 11 June 1966
ARA Supplement (O): 12 June 1966 to 1 July 1983

Rank on Discharge: Warrant Officer Class Two

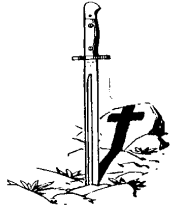
Overseas Service: New Guinea: 13 November 1965 to 1 December 1965
Singapore / Malaysia: 30 June 1966 to 3 June 1969
Vietnam: 10 February 1970 to 25 February 1971
New Guinea: 4 December 1973 to February 1976

Principal Units: Infantry Centre (Training Strength)
5 Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment
110 Light Aid Detachment Battery
7 Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment
1 Watercraft Workshop
Papua New Guinea Workshop
Australian Defence Assistance Group Papua New Guinea
1 Field Engineer Workshop
2 Base Workshop Battalion
3/4 Cavalry Regiment

Awards: Australian Active Service Medal 1945-75 with clasp Vietnam
Vietnam Medal
Australian Service Medal 1945-75 with clasp PNG
Defence Force Service Medal with First Clasp
National Medal
Australian Defence Medal
Vietnamese Campaign Medal
Pingat Jasa Malaysia Medal
Returned from Active Service Badge.

Lest We Forget





VALE



Neryl Dawn SCHOFIELD

Service Numbers: NF461923, F278

Categories of Service: Australian Women's Army Service 15 June 1943 to 24 April 1946
Australian Regular Army 6 July 1951 to 29 March 1974

Rank on Discharge: Captain

Overseas Service: Nil

Principal Units: 8th Australian Advance Workshop
101st Company RAASC
Army Headquarters
Headquarters Eastern Command

Awards: War Medal 1939-75
Australia Service Medal 1939-45
Australian Defence Medal
General Service Badge



Lest We Forget

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**Postal Address RAEME Association NSW Inc. PO Box 369
ST CLAIR NSW 2759
RAEME Association NSW Inc. Website - www.raemensw.com**

The 1st of December 1942 is generally acknowledged as the Corps Birthday because this was the date of the Order declaring the creation of AEME.

So to all RAEME brethren, Happy Birthday

Above a lightning flash a horse forcene gorged with a coronet of four fleur-delis, a chain reflexed over its back and standing on a globe. Above, a crown upon a scroll bearing the inscription RAEME.

The horse forcene and chain are symbolic of power under control and the lightening flash, of the electrical engineering.

The horse forcene also forms part of the crest of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and, together with the flash, is intended to mark the close relationship which exists between the electrical and mechanical engineers in both civil and military life. The globe is indicative of the impact of engineering on the world.

GRO 0573, issued 20 November 1942, promulgated full instructions regarding the formation of the new corps, the reorganisation to be effected in two phases. Phase One - Transfer to AEME of personnel of the Mechanical Engineering Branch of AAOC, to take effect on 1 December 1942. Phase Two -Transfer to AEME of unit maintenance tradesmen (with certain exceptions) whose duties are solely or predominantly the maintenance of mechanical equipment. After further investigation of personnel problems, Phase two took effect on 1 May 1943 (GRO 0290/43).

In recognition of the services performed by AEME units in World War Two, the Corps was granted the title of 'Royal' on 10 November 1948 by King George VI and became the Royal corps of Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, the only 'Royal Corps' in the Australian Army.

Referring to the war service Field Marshall the Viscount Montgomery said: "They exist to keep the punch in the Army's fist. They are a new Corps born in the late war and they have done magnificently and have won their spurs in battle".

'ARTE et MARTE' 'With Skill and Fighting'

ARTE ET MARTE



**RAEME Association NSW Inc. Postal Address
PO Box 369
ST CLAIR NSW 2759**



HELLO EVERYONE,
HAVE A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR.

CHEERS
GARY

GARY GARFIELD HODGES
PRESIDENT
101 WKSP ASSOCIATION
0415764069





THE ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION



The above is a picture of the Australian Army Apprentices Memorial, located in the memorial garden opposite the Army Museum at Bandiana Victoria. As you can see from the picture, the Apprentices Association has done a fine job in creating this memorial. A great deal of time and effort was put in by the Association Committee however it would not have happened without the extraordinary generosity of tradesmen who gave freely of their time and materials to make this wonderful structure. Many of these tradesmen are ex-Army Apprentices who, now having left the service, have their own businesses.

The memorial area is not as yet complete and there is a sub-Committee working on the construction of a memorial wall, which will stand behind the existing structure and will be available for the interment of the ashes of Deceased Army Apprentices and their partners, should that be their wish.

This Memorial is built in the likeness of the Marine Gates, at the entrance to Balcombe camp which were built by the American Marines during WW2 in appreciation of the hospitality shown to them by the Australian Army and the local population. The Association is working with the Mornington Council to develop a heritage environ about the Marine gates to recognise the Military significance of the Balcombe/ Mt Martha/ Mornington area and the units that have passed through there since federation.

The association is involved in many activities which include the collection of memorabilia of all kinds relating to the Army Apprentices School, both at Balcombe and later at Bonagilla. This includes the preservation and cataloguing of all these items and the installation of them in the Army Museum at Bandiana, as you can imagine this has been a huge project that is now largely complete and is the result of countless hours of voluntary work by Ex-Appy's.

This is but a part of the activities of the Appy Association which also encompasses welfare, reunions etc.etc. more on these later as space permits. I have included this photo (below) of the RAEME Craftsman memorial which is located adjacent to the Appy memorial at Bandiana and is a must see if you are down that way

Paul Martyn-Jones
12th class Veh. Mech



Laughter is still the best Medicine

The Water Closet

In the days when you couldn't count on a public toilet facility, an English woman was planning a trip to India. She was registered to stay in a small guest house owned by the local schoolmaster. She was concerned as to whether the guest house contained a WC. In England, a bathroom is commonly called a WC which stands for "Water Closet".

She wrote to the schoolmaster inquiring of the facilities about the WC. The school master, not fluent in English, asked the local priest if he knew the meaning of WC. Together they pondered possible meanings of the letters and concluded that the lady wanted to know if there was a "Wayside Chapel" near the house . . . a bathroom never entered their minds.

So the schoolmaster wrote the following reply:

Dear Madam,

I take great pleasure in informing you that the WC is located 9 miles from the house. It is located in the middle of a grove of pine trees, surrounded by lovely grounds. It is capable of holding 229 people and is open on Sundays and Thursdays. As there are many people expected in the summer months, I suggest you arrive early. There is, however, plenty of standing room. This is an unfortunate situation especially if you are in the habit of going regularly.

It may be of some interest to you that my daughter was married in the WC as it was there that she met her husband. It was a wonderful event. There were 10 people in every seat. It was wonderful to see the expressions on their faces. We can take photos in different angle.

My wife, sadly, has been ill and unable to go recently. It has been almost! a year since she went last, which pains her greatly. You will be pleased to know that many people bring their lunch and make a day of it. Others prefer to wait till the last minute and arrive just in time. I would recommend your ladyship plan to go on a Thursday as there is an organ accompaniment. The acoustics are excellent and even the most delicate sounds can be heard everywhere.

The newest addition is a bell which rings every time a person enters. We are holding a bazaar to provide plush seats for all since many feel it is long needed. I look forward to escorting you there myself and seating you in a place where you can be seen by all.

With deepest regards,

The Schoolmaster

The Woman fainted reading the reply..... and she never visited India!!!!



Grannie knows best

Little Tony was 9 years old and was staying with his grandmother for a few days. He'd been playing outside with the other kids for a while when he came into the house and asked her, 'Grandma, what's that called when two people sleep in the same room and one is on top of the other?'

She was a little taken aback, but she decided to tell him the truth. 'It's called sexual intercourse, darling.'

Little Tony said, 'Oh, OK,' and went back outside to play with the other kids.

A few minutes later he came back in and said angrily, 'Grandma, it isn't called sexual intercourse. It's called Bunk Beds. And Jimmy's mum wants to talk to you.'

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An oldie but still a goodie

An elderly Italian lived alone in New Jersey.

He wanted to plant his annual tomato garden, but it was very difficult work, as the ground was hard. His only son, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and described his predicament:

Dear Vincent,

I am feeling pretty sad, because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know if you were here my troubles would be over..? I know you would be happy to dig the plot for me, like in the old days.

Love, Papa

A few days later he received a letter from his son.

Dear Pop,

Don't dig up that garden. That's where the bodies are buried.

Love, Vinnie

At 4 a.m. the next morning, FBI agents and local police arrived and dug up the entire area, but without finding any bodies. They apologized to the old man and left.

The next day the old man received another letter from his son.

Dear Pop,

Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now. That's the best I could do under the circumstances.

Love you,

Vinnie.

Ooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo



John was sitting outside his local pub one day, enjoying a quiet pint and generally feeling good about himself, when a nun suddenly appears at his table and starts decrying the evils of drink.

"You should be ashamed of yourself young man! Drinking is a Sin! Alcohol is the blood of the devil!"

Now John gets pretty annoyed about this, and goes on the offensive.

"How do you know this, Sister?"

"My Mother Superior told me so."

"But have you ever had a drink yourself? How can you be sure that what you are saying is right?"

"Don't be ridiculous--of course I have never taken alcohol myself"

"Then let me buy you a drink - if you still believe afterwards that it is evil I will give up drink for life"

"How could I, a Nun, sit outside this public house drinking?!"

"I'll get the barman to put it in a teacup for you, then no one will ever know."

The Nun reluctantly agrees, so John goes inside to the bar.

"Another pint for me, and a triple vodka on the rocks", then he lowers his voice and says to the barman "and could you put the vodka in a teacup?"

"Oh no! It's not that Nun again is it?"

oooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

I just couldn't leave this out

Tired of constantly being broke & stuck in an unhappy marriage, a young husband decided to solve both problems by taking out a large insurance policy on his wife with himself as the beneficiary, and then arranging to have her killed.

A 'friend of a friend' put him in touch with a nefarious dark-side underworld figure who went by the name of 'Artie.'

Artie then explained to the husband that his going price for snuffing out a spouse was \$5,000.

The husband said he was willing to pay that amount, but that he wouldn't have any cash on hand until he could collect his wife's insurance money.

Artie insisted on being paid at least something up front, so the man opened his wallet, displaying the single dollar bill that rested inside. Artie sighed, rolled his eyes, & reluctantly agreed to accept the dollar as down payment for the dirty deed.

A few days later, Artie followed the man's wife to the local Woolworths store. There, he surprised her in the produce department & proceeded to strangle her with his gloved hands & as the poor unsuspecting woman drew her last breath & slumped to the floor.....

The manager of the produce department stumbled unexpectedly onto the murder scene. Unwilling to leave any living witnesses behind, ol' Artie had no choice but to strangle the produce manager as well.

However, unknown to Artie, the entire proceedings were captured by the hidden security cameras & observed by the store's security guard, who immediately called the police. Artie was caught & arrested before he could even leave the store.

Under intense questioning at the police station, Artie revealed the whole sordid plan, including his unusual financial arrangements with the hapless husband who was also quickly arrested.

The next day in the newspaper, the headline declared ...

(You're going to hate me for this ...)

' ARTIE CHOKES 2 for \$1.00 AT WOOLWORTHS ! '