



# The RAEME Association Tasmania Newsletter

**April 2020**

**Issue 20**

The RAEME Association (Tasmania) Inc.

**President:** Mark Wilson  
**Secretary:** Paul Grey  
**Treasurer:** Shane Rollins

**Welfare:** Dave Cantley

**Webmaster:** Shane Rollins  
**Editor:** Russell Clark

**Sub-Committee**  
**Historian:** John Lennox  
**Veterans:** Vacant  
**Membership:** Mark Wilson  
**Apprentices:** Vacant  
**Merchandise Officer:** Mick Moran  
**Social:** Russell Clark  
**Social:** Vacant

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## Welcome

Welcome RATs to the 20<sup>th</sup> edition of your newsletter.

Well what unusual times we are currently living in with the Covid-19 pandemic that's causing havoc in our world. We are lucky to be living here in Australia and, in particular Tasmania where it appears not to have had an adverse effect, unlike other countries.

It has however caused your Committee to rethink what we can do as an Association, this is explained in more detail in "The Presidents report".

As with the last edition I have continued with Bios of Committee members for your information.

This ANZAC day I encourage all members to commemorate this important day, unlike other years, by standing at the front of

your driveway at 0600 with a candle and take time to reflect on our forefathers and fallen comrades – Lest we forget.

In the meantime stay safe, and please, continue communicating with your families and friends.

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### Presidents report – Mark Wilson

If I reflect back to some of the conversations I was having with the committee in early January and February discussing what



success would look like for the RATs in 2020 not once did it cross my mind at that point, just to maintain our members should be considered a huge success, but here we are!

Whilst as a committee we have agreed to cancel all events until further notice, for the ex Army Apprentices there was a small gathering at Mienna at the Great Lake, Steve Bramich a 23rd Intake C&J, is the co-ordinator and RAE representative, I am representing RAEME and I am hopeful that Danny Jonson will be the RASigs Representative, if anyone knows of any Band Apprentices can you please let me know. I will keep everyone posted of the next event.

With a ANZAC day events cancelled all over Australia, I urge you all to take some time on the 25th April to remember our forefathers that served in all branches of the Services. I know that I am proud of each and every one of them.

One thing that I must ask of each and everyone of you is to stay safe, don't undertake any unnecessary travel,

maintain your social distance and maintain high levels of personal hygiene, particularly your hands.

Keep an eye on your emails and our facebook site and we will be in touch with you all when things normalise.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/298829660299171>



Ex-Army Apprentices at Mienna Great Lakes



Post Lunch Banter – Ex Corps RSM Craig Jones on the left



Mick Moran keeping the stories honest

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**From the COL COMDT-COL Andrew Herbert**

To my RAEME brethren in Tasmania, it is unfortunate, but necessary, that ANZAC Day Services have been cancelled this year. Hopefully the RATs will be able to gather at other



commemorations later in the year, or at the very least for a bumper RAEME Birthday bash. In the meantime, please take care of yourselves and your loved ones.

I remain available to take forward any Corps matters you might be interested in or concerned about, so please drop me a line to [andrew.herbert@defence.gov.au](mailto:andrew.herbert@defence.gov.au) if you have anything for me.

Regards,

Andrew Herbert  
COL Commandant RAEME  
TAS/SA

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**Treasurer's report – Rolly**

Rolly reports that our bank balance as at 22 April 2020 \$1146.71  
Cash on hand Nil  
Stock on hand \$270.00

Net Position **\$1,416.71**

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**Treasurer- Shane Rollins (Bio)**

Your Treasurer is Shane Rollins, (Rolly), enlisting in the Army in 1972.

**1972-1973** Army Apprentice School Balcombe 27th Motor Mechanic



**1974 – Sep 1978** Puckapunyal Workshop Company Vehicle Mechanic

(Sep 77 – Mar 78 Melbourne Workshop Coy ANARE LARC Det)

**Sep 78 – Jan 79** 3 Field Engineer Regiment Townsville.

**Jan 79 – Mar 80** Secondment to AAD Mawson Station

**Mar 80 – Aug 81** 11 Supply BN Meeandah Brisbane

**Aug 81 – Mar 83** Secondment to AAD Davis Station

**Mar 83 – Sep 86** I Base Workshop Bn. Cpl VM

**Sep 86 – Dec 88** 2/3 Field Engineer Regt Holsworthy Sgt VM

**Dec 88 – Dec 89** P&EE Port Wakefield SA - Sgt VM

**Dec 89 – Dec 93** B Sqn 1st ARMD Regt Puckapunyal Vic -WO2 ASM

**Dec 93 – Feb 95** Perth Log BN WO2

**Feb 95 – Jun 06** LSF WKSP – 2FSB ARES

**Feb 95 – Sep 99** APS Vehicle Inspector Hobart Log Platoon

**Sep 99 – Nov 03** Transport Inspector TAS State Gov

**Nov 03 – May 06** TAS Police Fleet Manager

**May 06-** JLU V Hobart currently Maintenance Manager

Rolly is married to Sandra and they have two children Dean and Kelly

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**Historian – John Lennox (Bio)**

John Lennox (JL) has been your Associations historian enlisting in the Army in 1968

**1965-1967**

Australian Army Cadets





**1968** – Army Apprentices School, 23 Class Fitter and Machinist

**1971** - 4 Base Workshop, Bandiana

**1972** – 2 Advanced Ordnance Depot, Bandiana

**1973 – 1977** Hobart Workshop Platoon, Dowsings Point

**1977** – Tasmania Police, Hobart, 1982- Bridgewater, 2000 - Bellerive

**1977 - 1980** 16<sup>th</sup> Field Battery, LAD (ARes)

**2007** – Consultancy JLD Restorative Practices

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### 6LSC Jottings – LCPL Matt Jorden

6LSC has recently recruited new members to the unit details are as follows:-

#### Barnaby Matton Johnson

Trade: 421 Technician Electronic Systems Boffin

AGE 32

Previous Units- 8/12, &CSR

No Deployments or interesting stuff

#### Jimmy Sewell

Age: 24

Trade: 229- VM

Previous Units: Trade School & 3CSSB

Has moved down with CPL Brooks in Q Store.

### 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020- FRT- Recover KIA REO from TAS Fire Service in Cambridge

2 x G Wagons

HRV & 20 T Trailer





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### **New generation RAEME support vehicles**

You may recall in the last edition I provided advice on the new GMM. “How much fuel did the new GMM use to travel from Devonport to Derwent Barracks?” – It used 110 lts



6x6 Mercedes G Wagon GMM

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### **Mates 4 Mates**

“The Power of Mateship”. Mates4Mates is a not-for-profit organisation committed to

providing holistic welfare and treatment programs that give direct support to current and ex-serving Australian Defence Force (ADF) members who have suffered physical or psychological wounds, injuries and illnesses as a result of their service, either in Australia, or overseas. Integral to supporting our brave mates is the provision of support to their families.

**Mates4Mates** provides a wide range of services including psychological counselling, career coaching programs, wellbeing workshops, family support meetings, physical rehabilitation and conditioning programs including individual recovery plans and physical training sessions for adventure challenges. For help or to support our wounded, injured and ill ADF mates, visit [www.mates4mates.org](http://www.mates4mates.org) or call **13004 MATES (62837)**.

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### **Valuable links you may be interested in**

**RAEME National Website, RNA and RATs Web Site.**

Just put ‘RAEME’ on your browser, select ‘RAEME National’, go to the map of Australia and select a State or Territory on the right of the home page.

On the National site [www.raeme.org.au](http://www.raeme.org.au) go to ‘Join the Social Network’ on right of Home page. This is where all the RAEME family (YOU) can log in. You may join for free and you can find mates present and past with their email contact. This Social Network will grow to be a very useful tool for you and your friends.

The latest ‘**Craftsmen**’ magazine can be found at:

<http://www.raeme.org.au/index.php/publications/raeme-craftman-mag>

The latest **Australian Army Apprentices Association Newsletter** can be accessed at:

<http://austarmyapprentice.org/>

**Veteran's Link:**

<https://www.army.gov.au/army-life/veterans>

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### Defence Force Welfare Association



No report from the Welfare Officer this edition.

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### Sick list

**Brian Parker** – Brian recently suffered a medical condition and is recuperating well, however it saw the need for him to move into Fairway Rise at Lindisfarne. Please feel free to contact Brian to say “Gday”.

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### Merchandise Officer

Mick reports the following merchandise is available for purchase:-

- Polo shirts (available by order)
- Stubby holders - \$5
- RAEME ties - \$25
- RAEME cap - \$10
- RAEME decals - \$2
- RAT cap - \$20
- Spanner cap - \$10
- RAT decals - \$2

All our merchandise is available at RAT functions, or alternatively feel free to give Mick a call on 6227 1050 to purchase any of the merchandise listed above.

An order form is attached the newsletter.

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### Veteran card

As an outcome of the Australian Defence Veteran's Covenant the Prime Minister and

the Minister of Veterans' Affairs jointly announced in November 2019 the introduction of the Veteran Card.

The card is available to all serving and ex-service personnel as a practical demonstration of the respect and recognition of their service.

Eligibility for the card is straight forward; if you have served in the Defence force on full time service for more than a day, and that includes Reservists, you're eligible.

Receipt of the card will provide access to more than 10,000 offers from 500 businesses (and growing), both over the counter and online. Partnering businesses have formed the Australian Partners of Defence, APOD, and individual companies will provide discounts from 2.2 to 40% on production of the Veteran Card. Specific information on the discounts available can be found on [www.APOD.com.au](http://www.APOD.com.au)



The Veteran Card will, overtime, replace the current DVA health cards retaining the colour coding. Thus, if you have qualified for a DVA White card, your Veteran card will be similarly coloured, so too with a Gold card. It's pretty easy to get the Veteran Card; logon to My Service at <https://www.dva.gov.au/my-service/#/>

If you haven't got an account you will need to apply on line, and then, once the account is set up (it might take a day or so) go to the DVA portal and follow the



prompts to apply for your copy of the covenant, a lapel pin, and the Veteran Card.

<https://recognition.dva.gov.au/veteran-card>

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### **Army Apprentice's Report.**



The Australian Army Apprentices Association (AAAA) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Canberra on 19 Oct 19. Two important things came out of this meeting:

- Planning for 2020 reunion at the Maroochy RSL on 23-25 Oct 20 is well underway. Details will be on the AAAA website shortly.
- Recognition of a "50th Intake" of the Army Apprentices scheme was agreed unanimously. This gives long overdue recognition to those young men and women recruited into the Army as Apprentices on 16 Jan 95 as an intake in their own right – the last Intake!

Most people were unaware there was a 50th Intake, given the untimely demise of the Army Apprentices scheme, but after much research it was confirmed that it was recruited – it could be described as a "ghost intake".

For the information of readers, Army's recruitment program for the 1995 Army Apprentices Intake commenced in June 1994. Subsequently, 112 young men and women enlisted with the rank of Apprentice arriving at Army College of TAFE (ACOT) Bonegilla on 16 Jan 95 and were allocated to Alpha Company.

Upon completion of a recruit training course conducted at ACOT, these new Apprentices were allocated to several corps. Those who were 17 years old were designated as Signallers, Sappers or Craftsman respectively. Those who had not reached the age of 17 years retained the rank of App.

They remained as Alpha Company ACOT until ALTC came into being on 1 Dec 95 and all were reallocated to the trade wings. Clearly it was the Army's intent that the January 1995 Intake of Apprentices would be subject to a different training regime to those of previous Intakes, however, as evidence shows, this was poorly communicated to those affected, and belatedly in some cases, to departments within the Army's structure.

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### **With Skill and Fighting Craftsmen of the Australian Army 1942-2014".**

Just a reminder for those yet to buy the Corps memoir, here is detail on how to obtain a copy. It may also be a great Christmas gift for someone who has served in the Corps. The Corps RSM, WO1 Richard Colefax, and the acting SO2 Corps Heritage, WO1 Reinhold Dekrell, are managing sales, so the best way to secure a copy is to go to:

<http://www.raeme.org.au> click on "Shop" and then click on the photo of the book's cover.

To purchase a book, you will need to make a deposit of \$40.00 by electronic transfer to the following account:

**RAEME Corps Fund**  
**BSB-833205**  
**Acct-20509705**

Once payment is made, please send an email to:

[RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au](mailto:RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au)

and add the CC address of WO1 Dekrell, [reinhold.dekrell1@defence.gov.au](mailto:reinhold.dekrell1@defence.gov.au)

together with proof of payment (a scanned receipt of deposit), point of contact details and an up to date delivery address. The HOC Cell will distribute the book upon confirmation of payment.'

Note: In the electronic transfer and proof of payment reference field, please include your surname and phone number. Please retain a copy of the deposit transaction, or ask your bank for a receipt, and then send a scanned copy to: [RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au](mailto:RAEME.HOCCell@defence.gov.au).

In the email, please ensure you include your name, delivery address and contact phone number. Should you have any queries, please contact the HOC Cell directly on (02) 6055 2274, prior to ordering. Books should be despatched within 28 days of ordering and every effort will be made to inform you of despatch details.

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## OTHER HAPPENINGS

### RAT dinner 2019

Saturday 7 December 2019 saw 29 RAT members and partners assemble for the Annual RAT dinner to celebrate the RAEME birthday at the Balmoral Motel. It was disappointing to see that numbers were down, having said that everyone enjoyed the night and some tales got better than last year!!!!!!.

Prior to the dinner the AGM was held which saw all current committee members re-

elected for a further 12 months. Your committee members are listed on the front cover of the newsletter FYI.

The COLCOMDT Tas Region, COL Andrew Herbert provided members with an update of happenings within the Corp.

At this stage it is proposed to hold this year's dinner at the same venue on the 30 Nov 2020 however this is subject to the current Covid 19 Virus pandemic. Please lock this date in. It will hopefully give us a

chance to gather to reacquaint friendship, but more importantly celebrate the Corp birthday.



Members and partners assembled



Col Comdt addressing the dinner





A selection of Corp port for the night



Drinks please

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### Photos from the past

In coming newsletters, I propose to include photos from the past of members. Please feel free to send in old photos to include in future newsletters? Don't be shy.



Wayne Cubit (Bruv) & Russell Clark (Shirley)



A few tales being told



ANZAC Day 2009



Cpl Russell Clark Huonville High School Cadets holding the Lord Rowallen Trophy 1971



A young LCpl Mark Wilson competing in 3 Bgde Military Skills competition



Sgt Rollns -Award of Australian Antarctic Medal



Elizabeth High School Cadets 1967 John Lennox 3<sup>rd</sup> from left

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### Calendar of events till December 2020

Following on from the Presidents report all proposed events at this stage have been cancelled with the exception of the RAT dinner, which is tentative at this stage:-



| <b>Date</b>    | <b>Timings</b> | <b>Remarks</b>  |
|----------------|----------------|---|
| 30 Nov<br>2020 | 1800-1830      | Semi-Formal<br>dinner and AGM<br>Balmoral Motel<br>(Tentative at this<br>stage) |

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### **Conclusion**

On a final note please stay healthy and stay safe.

If you have any photos or reports for the next newsletter please forward them to the editor NLT 31 September 2020.



