



*The Role Of RAEME Is To :-*

*" Provide Maintenance Engineering , Materiel Maintenance ,  
Modifications , and Recovery Support to the Army."*

*The Horse's Mouth*  
*The Newsletter of the*  
**RAEME Association**  
**of WA (Inc.)**  
**Spring 2011**

This newsletter is the official journal of the **ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF WA (INC.)**. Meetings are now held bi monthly at the 113 Workshops, Karrakatta Barracks. Membership or other enquiries may be made to any of the committee members. A list is printed on Page 2 of this journal.

**The RAEME Association of WA (Inc.)**  
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**DEADLINE**

All contributions for the next edition of THE HORSE'S MOUTH must be with the editor no later than the 22nd of NOV 2011.

**DISCLAIMER**

Thoughts expressed in articles in THE HORSE'S MOUTH are those held by the writer/ contributors and not necessarily those of the Association.

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**EDITORS NOTE**

Welcome to the Spring edition of THE HORSE'S MOUTH. Again we are on the hunt for some new blood to help keep the REME Assoc of WA going. Do you have a few moments spare each month to help out. Do you have a few ideas on where we can go from here? Well

if you do nominate yourself for a place on the committee or better yet if you have a few computer skills, take over as Ed of this great magazine. All inquires please contact either Darby or Al.

Thanks. Ed.

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### EMAIL ADDRESSES

HELLO TO ALL, I AM REQUESTING ANYONE WITH AN EMAIL ADDRESS WHO WISHES TO PASS IT ONTO THE RAEME ASSOCIATION OF W.A. .

THIS WAY , AS IF YOU ARE A FINANCIAL MEMBER , I CAN SET YOU UP INTO OUR WEB SITE AND ALSO CORRESPOND MORE EASILY AND READILY .  
LOOK FORWARD IN HEARING FROM YOU.

REPLY [wasecretary@raeme.org.au](mailto:wasecretary@raeme.org.au)  
SECRETARY OF RAEME ASSOC. OF W.A.  
ALAN STONER

### MEMBERSHIP 2011

On behalf of the RAEME Assoc WA I would like to thank those who have renewed thier memberships this year to support the association.

We have had an overwhelming response with almost 200 relies.

All members are entiteled to receive a RAEME badge (valued \$10) included in thier membership. These can be collected during the meetings at the Bayswater Hotel. The RAEME website also allows more features and accessibility for members with user names and passwords being forwarded to mambers once set up.

See you at the next meeting.

Al.

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### **The RAEME WA Association is conducting a BBQ/MEAL and visits to two private vehicle collections.**

The date is Sunday 11 Sep 2011.

The costs

BBQ/MEAL - Nil

The second of the collections A Gold coin

Drinks - BYO. Cool room is available.

The BBQ will be held at Mr Ross Maggs home in Cardup.

There is some transport available from Karrakatta, at 9:00 am

There is parking at Cardup.

The vehicle collections are 1. International Trucks at Byford (nil defence)

2. Buick collection at Bedfordale.

The ASSN NEEDS returns from interested people attending, to assist in catering and transport.

The returns are required by 2400 hrs 15 Aug 2011, to the secretary/ committee, by mail, e mail, word of mouth, phone, or any other form of communication.

It would help if people from Rockingham and Mandurah areas travel in own transport to Cardup.

The address is 43 Alice Street Cardup  
look for the flag, arriving at 9:45 am

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## **WHY MEN SHOULD NOT WRITE ADVICE COLUMNS**

Dear John,

I hope you can help me. The other day, I set off for work, leaving my husband in the house watching TV. My car stalled, and then it broke down about a mile down the road, and I had to walk back to get my husband's help. When I got home, I couldn't believe my eyes. He was in our bedroom with our neighbour's daughter!

I am 32, my husband is 34 and the neighbour's daughter is 19. We have been married for 10 years. When I confronted him, he broke down and admitted they had been having an affair for the past six months. He won't go to counseling, and I'm afraid I am a wreck and need advice urgently. Can you please help?

Sincerely, Shelia.

Dear Shelia,

A car stalling after being driven a short distance can be caused by a variety of faults with the engine. Start by checking that there is no debris in the fuel line. If it is clear, check the vacuum pipes and hoses on the intake manifold and also check all grounding wires. If none of these approaches solves the problem, it could be that fuel pump itself is faulty, causing low delivery pressure to the injectors.

I hope this helps,  
John.

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### **Army celebrates leadership**

The distinguished leader of the Australian Army, Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie AC DSM CSM officially handed over the command of the Army at a parade in Canberra today.

After 43 years of service including peacekeeping roles in East Timor and the Solomon Islands and combat and training missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Gillespie handed over the reigns of command to Lieutenant General David Morrison AO.

Host of the parade and Deputy Chief of Army, Major-General Paul Symon thanked and farewelled Lieutenant General Gillespie on behalf of the Army.

"Lieutenant General Gillespie's care for Army and its people was absolute," Major-General Symon said.

"He has shared our success and always ensured accolades went to our most precious asset – our soldiers."

Lieutenant General Gillespie expressed his gratitude to his colleagues, friends and family for keeping his feet on the ground during his illustrious career after joining the Army at the young age of 15 as an apprentice.

“As I hand over command of this wonderful institution, I want to say that it has been an honour serving with you and a unique privilege to lead the talented men and women, military and civilian, of the Army,” said Lieutenant General Gillespie.

“I have no doubt at all, that we do have the best small Army in the world, we enjoy great international standing and respect.”

Lieutenant General Gillespie’s successor, Lieutenant General Morrison brings wide ranging command experience, having served as the Head of Military Strategic Commitments and Deputy Chief of Army. Most recently he served as Army’s first Forces Commander.

The parade was attended by current Chief of Defence Force, Air Marshal Angus Houston; the incoming Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General David Hurley; Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal Mark Binskin; Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Ray Griggs and New Zealand Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant General Richard Rhys Jones.

Imagery is available on the Department of Defence website at:

<http://images.defence.gov.au/fotoweb/Grid.fwx?archiveId=5003&search=20113160>

### **Awarding of US Air Medals to Australian Veterans of Korean and Vietnam wars**

The Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, Warren Snowdon, congratulated the 11 veterans of the Korean War who were awarded the United States Air Medal for service in Korea.

The awards were presented by the United States Ambassador, His Excellency Jeffrey L Bleich, in Canberra today.

Mr Snowdon said he was pleased the airmen receive this medal for their outstanding efforts.

“The United States Air Medal for service in Korea recognises the valiant efforts and dedication that these men portrayed in their support of the United States Air Force during the Korean War,” Mr Snowdon said.

“It is wonderful to see our servicemen being recognised for their efforts in supporting the United States Air Force in such conflicts.”

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank the United States Government for their work to recognise the contribution made by the Australians that assisted them during the Korean War.”

The medals have been awarded to 11 veterans, from the Royal Australian Air Force’s Number 77 Squadron, who flew in support of the 5th United States Air Force during the Korean War.

Authorised by President Roosevelt in 1942, the US Air Medal is awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity in or with the armed forces of the United States, shall have distinguished himself by meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight.

## **More Vietnam War helicopters to be preserved**

Minister for Defence Materiel Jason Clare today announced that six additional Iroquois helicopters will be reserved for sale to historical organisations.

“The helicopters will be available to organisations in Australia that have strong historic connections with the aircraft and can maintain the aircraft as static displays,” Mr Clare said.

“The Iroquois helicopters have served in the Australian Defence Force for nearly half a century. It is important that we preserve them to ensure their contribution to our military heritage is not forgotten.

“They were affectionately known as Hueys.

“During the Vietnam War, the helicopters provided vital support to troops on the ground. They were used for casualty evacuations, patrols and resupply.”

Mr Clare said the Iroquois helicopters featured prominently in the battle of Long Tan.

“Last year, Flight Lieutenant Cliff Dohle was posthumously awarded a Distinguished Service Medal for his courage as captain of an Iroquois during the battle of Long Tan,” Mr Clare said.

“Cliff Dohle showed incredible bravery and skill when he dropped off desperately needed ammunition to troops under enemy fire. Not only did he risk being fired upon, he had to navigate the helicopter through torrential rain.

“Without the supply of ammunition, the troops on the ground would have been overrun by the Viet Cong.

“Cliff Dohle’s efforts that night saved the lives of Australian soldiers.”

Following their service in Vietnam, the Iroquois went on to serve on many peacekeeping and humanitarian missions.

“The Iroquois’ final deployment was to Sumatra in Indonesia to provide assistance following the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami,” Mr Clare said.

“The helicopters flew from dawn to last light every day, delivering food, water, medical supplies and aid workers to affected areas.

“Air and ground crews worked tirelessly in Banda Aceh for six weeks. By the time they were withdrawn in late February, they had completed approximately 300 missions and delivered 150 tonnes of vital supplies.

“The helicopters evacuated close to 500 people who had lost their homes to the tsunami.”

Iroquois helicopters were withdrawn from service in December 2007.

Locations where the helicopters have previously been based include:

- RAAF Williamtown, NSW
- RAAF Fairbairn, ACT
- HMAS Albatross, Nowra, NSW
- RAAF Amberley, QLD
- RAAF Townsville, QLD
- 1st Aviation Regiment, Oakey, QLD

As the helicopters were procured from the United States, the sale is conditional upon approval from the United States Government. The helicopters will have to be demilitarised and prepared for display. The cost of this work will be the responsibility of the recipients. Costs are estimated to be up to \$100,000 per aircraft. Announcements regarding the tender and sale will be made in the coming months. Eleven Iroquois helicopters have already been allocated to Defence bases around Australia and the Australian War Memorial in Canberra for static display.

Those bases are:

- RAAF Base Townsville;
- Point Cook in Victoria;
- Darwin;
- Holsworthy;
- Oakey;
- Enoggera; and
- Bandiana.

Another five Iroquois helicopters will be kept by the Australian Defence Force as training aids and another two have been offered for sale to national returned service organisations.

Organisations wishing to receive notification when the tender is released can register their interest with the Defence Disposals Agency, by emailing [disposals@defence.gov.au](mailto:disposals@defence.gov.au) or phone 02 9393 2914.

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**Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal Report – Inquiry into recognition for members of Rifle Company Butterworth for service in Malaysia between 1970 and 1989**

The Government's response to the recommendations of the independent Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal inquiry into recognition for members of Rifle Company Butterworth for service in Malaysia between 1970 and 1989 was released today.

The independent Tribunal recommended that:

Recommendation 1: No change be made to the medallic entitlements which currently attach to service with Rifle Company Butterworth in the period 1970 to 1989.

Recommendation 2: No change be made to the medallic entitlements which currently attach to service with any other unit of the Australian Defence Force at Butterworth in the period 1970 to 1989 or since 1989.

The Australian Government has accepted the independent Tribunal's findings. The inquiry into this matter and the Tribunal's report demonstrates the Government's commitment to the independent review of Defence honours and awards issues.

The Tribunal's full report is available at [www.defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au](http://www.defence-honours-tribunal.gov.au). Further information on Defence honours and awards is available at [www.defence.gov.au/medals](http://www.defence.gov.au/medals).

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## **Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011 successfully concludes**

The largest combined Australian and United States military training exercise, Talisman Sabre 2011 (TS11), concluded with a closing ceremony at Camp Rocky, Rockhampton on Thursday.

The ceremony featured a media briefing with Australian spokesperson Brigadier Bob Brown and activities for the U.S. and Australian troops involved in the Exercise.

Talisman Sabre is a biennial military exercise that trains Australian and U.S. forces to plan and conduct combined task force operations to improve combat readiness and interoperability on a variety of missions, from conventional conflict to peacekeeping and humanitarian assistance efforts.

“This exercise has been two years in the planning, and we have had a highly successful outcome,” said Brigadier Bob Brown.

Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011 featured 14,000 U.S. and 8,500 Australian personnel across six defence training areas in Queensland and the Northern Territory. Maritime forces exercised in the Coral, Timor and Arafura Seas.

“Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011 is an excellent opportunity for us to conduct operations in a combined and joint environment, which will increase the U.S. and Australian capabilities to both respond to crises in this region and provide humanitarian assistance when called upon,” said Colonel Andrew MacMannis, commanding officer of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU).

“We look forward to training with our Australian counterparts and reinforcing our security responsibilities in the Pacific region.”

The 31st MEU took part in an amphibious landing on Freshwater Beach, Queensland on July 19, which involved more than 15 amphibious assault vehicles and 350 Marines and sailors.

In addition to the amphibious landing, training operations during Talisman Sabre included urban operations, strategic forced insertion by a parachute drop, refugee camp simulations and air-to-air combat operations.

Several military and humanitarian assistance scenarios were also conducted with U.S. and Australian interagency participation.

“We have worked, eaten and trained alongside each other at sea, on the ground and in the air,” said Brigadier Bob Brown .

“In doing so we have developed new and lasting friendships between us and our U.S. counterparts. The deep and enduring bond between the people of our armed forces has only been enhanced by the successful conduct of Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011.”



In addition to the 22,500 troops, Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011 involved an estimated 18 sea vessels, 25 aircraft and 1,500 road vehicles.

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### **Soldiers head home from Solomon Islands rotation**

After a successful four-month deployment on Operation ANODE in Solomon Islands, more than 80 Australian soldiers are preparing to return home this week.

Primarily from 13 Brigade in Western Australia, the soldiers have been deployed as the 24<sup>th</sup> rotation of the Australian Defence Force's (ADF) contribution to the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI).

A Transfer of Authority ceremony was held yesterday where Rotation 24 was officially replaced by Rotation 25, which comprises around 115 soldiers from NSW based 5th Brigade.

During the ceremony, the outgoing Commander of Combined Task Force 635 Lieutenant Colonel (LTCOL) Paul Landford handed over command to LTCOL Campbell Smith.

LTCOL Landford said during their deployment the soldiers had successfully engaged with the local people, gaining their trust and confidence.

"The Regional Assistance Mission is evolving and the highlight of my 12-month tenure has been to oversee the incremental shift from security to local capacity development," LTCOL Landford said.

RAMSI's mission is to assist the Solomon Islands Government in maintaining security, law and justice, economic governance and improving the machinery of government.

Trooper Sam Woods, from the 10th Light Horse Regiment in Karrakatta, WA, deployed to Solomon Islands as part of an infantry platoon in March.

"I joined the Army Reserve as soon as I finished school and to have the opportunity to deploy has been great," Trooper Woods said.

"I will always remember my time in Solomon Islands; the people are really friendly and they always wave at us and smile.

"I know we are definitely having a positive impact by just being here."

A homecoming parade will be held for Rotation 24 on 6 August at Irwin Barracks, Karrakatta.

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**Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal Report – inquiry into recognition for Defence force personnel who served as peacekeepers from 1947 onwards**

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The Government has today accepted the recommendations of the independent Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal inquiry into recognition for Australian Defence Force personnel who served as peacekeepers from 1947 onwards.

The independent Tribunal recommended that:

Recommendation 1: No change be made in the present practice of an award of the Australian Service Medal or Australian Active Service Medal being the appropriate form of recognition for participation by ADF personnel in peacekeeping operations.

Recommendation 2: The Australian Government should not establish a new medal for general or specific recognition of peacekeeping service, to be awarded to ADF personnel who have taken part, or in the future take part, in peacekeeping operations.

Recommendation 3: No action be taken by the Australian Government to recognise the award of the 1988 Nobel Peace Prize to UN peacekeepers.

The inquiry into this matter and the Tribunal's report demonstrates the Government's commitment to the independent review of Defence honours and awards issues.

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Jason and Michelle Cowie recently received some challenging news about their son David and will be participating in the RIDE FOR SOMEONE WHO CAN'T 2011 event on 17 Sep 2011.

Jason was posted to 113 Workshop as an ARA VM CPL then attached again for a while as a WO2 before a stint at JLU (W) prior to discharge early last year.

To those that remember Jason and Michelle please check out the web link below and donate to their cause if you're in the position to do so. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

[http://www.everydayhero.com.au/michele\\_cowie](http://www.everydayhero.com.au/michele_cowie)

Join us on our Journey of discovery and help support our little man and all individuals within the wider community affected by muscular dystrophy

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## **APPRENTICES AND BETTER SKILLS FOR DEFENCE INDUSTRY**

Minister for Defence Materiel Jason Clare today announced 109 companies would share in almost \$14 million for more than 4,000 training places to boost the skills of the Defence industry workforce.

This includes up to \$1.4 million to support approximately 250 apprentices in trades like aerospace skills, engineering fabrication and electro technology.

“Like a lot of sectors in the economy, Defence companies are competing with the mining industry for skilled workers,” Mr Clare said.

“As we replace more Defence equipment over the next decade, we will need skilled workers to help build and sustain that equipment.

“That’s why the Australian Government is investing in boosting the skills of Defence industry workers.”

Mr Clare visited Australian shipbuilding company Austal in Perth today to make the announcement.

Defence has committed up to \$588,000 to Austal for training places covering apprentices and further skills development for qualified technical and professional staff as part of the Skilling Australia’s Defence Industry program.

Since 2005 the program has funded more than 24,000 training places, including more than 2,200 apprentices.

“Over the next decade we will invest \$138 million to boost skills and improve training in the Defence industry,” Mr Clare said.

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## **VEHICLE SIMULATORS TO HELP TRAIN OUR TROOPS**

Minister for Defence Materiel Jason Clare today announced that Defence has signed a contract worth \$25 million with Thales Australia to deliver nine additional vehicle training simulators for Australian Army crews operating the Australian Light Armoured Vehicle (ASLAV).

The Crew Procedural Trainer simulator provides troops who operate the ASLAV with realistic training across a range of environments, without the need to incur the full costs of ASLAV operations.

“These simulators are used by ASLAV crews to refine their procedures before they deploy on operations,” Mr Clare said.

“Simulation is an increasingly important method of training for Defence personnel as combat systems become more complex. It also increases the safety of our troops and reduces fuel usage.”

The simulators will be assembled at the company’s facility in Rydalmere, NSW, before being delivered to Army units throughout 2013. The nine additional simulators will take the total number ordered by Defence to 18.

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The average age of the military man is 19 years. He is a short haired, tight-muscled kid who, under normal circumstances is considered by society as half man, half boy. Not yet dry behind the ears, just old enough to buy a beer, but old enough to die for his country. He never really cared much for work and he would rather wax his own car than wash his father's, but he has never collected unemployment either.

He's a recently left High School; he was probably an average student, pursued some form of sport activities, drives a ten year old car, and has a steady girlfriend that either broke up with him when he left, or swears to be waiting when he returns from half a world away. He listens to rock and roll or hip-hop or rap or jazz or swing and a 155mm howitzer.

He is 10 or 15 pounds lighter now than when he was at home because he is working or fighting from before dawn to well after dusk. He has trouble spelling, thus letter writing is a pain for him, but he can field strip a rifle in 30 seconds and reassemble it in less time in the dark. He can recite to you the nomenclature of a machine gun or grenade launcher and use either one effectively if he must.

He digs foxholes and latrines and can apply first aid like a professional.

He can march until he is told to stop, or stop until he is told to march.

He obeys orders instantly and without hesitation, but he is not without spirit or individual dignity.

He is self-sufficient.

He has two sets of fatigues: he washes one and wears the other. He keeps his canteens full and his feet dry.

He sometimes forgets to brush his teeth, but never to clean his rifle. He can cook his own meals, mend his own clothes, and fix his own hurts.

If you're thirsty, he'll share his water with you; if you are hungry, his food. He'll even split his ammunition with you in the midst of battle when you run low.

He has learned to use his hands like weapons and weapons like they were his hands.  
He can save your life - or take it, because that is his job.

He will often do twice the work of a civilian, draw half the pay, and still find ironic humor in it all.

He has seen more suffering and death than he should have in his short lifetime.

He has wept in public and in private, for friends who have fallen in combat and is unashamed.

He feels every note of the National Anthem vibrate through his body while at rigid attention, while tempering the burning desire to 'square-away' those around him who haven't bothered to stand, remove their hat, or even stop talking.

In an odd twist, day in and day out, far from home, he defends their right to be disrespectful.

Just as did his Father, Grandfather, and Great-grandfather, he is paying the price for our freedom. Beardless or not, he is not a boy. He is the AUSTRALIAN Fighting Man that has kept this country free for over 200 years.

He has asked nothing in return, except our friendship and understanding.

Remember him, always, for he has earned our respect and admiration with his blood.

And now we even have women over there in danger, doing their part in this tradition of going to War when our nation calls us to do so.

As you go to bed tonight, remember this shot. . .

A short lull, a little shade and a picture of loved ones in their helmets.