



The word from the **Horse's Mouth**

The Newsletter of the RAEME Association of WA

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What the Prez Sez

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Horse's Mouth. If you can get to the Birthday celebration at 113 Fd Wksp please do as it's a great opportunity to see how the current crop of tradies do things."

Spanner Moot (AGM)

Numbers were down a bit this year at the AGM but everyone who rolled up enjoyed themselves and the use of the President's card. Welcome back Julia MacKay-Kohlen on the committee. Anyone else who is interested in joining us is welcome to let us know.



RAEME Birthday – at 113

As one of the largest, yet most distributed Corps within the Australian Army, it is important for current and ex-serving members to congregate and celebrate the Corp's birthday. 13 CSSB, will act as the host for the regional 2025 celebrations being held on 28 Nov 25. All regional current, and ex-serving members of the Corps and associated personnel are invited to participate in the birthday celebrations held within 113 Workshop Company, Irwin Barracks. This annual event boasts a great opportunity for all past and present regional RAEME members to gather in a social setting, whilst promoting esprit-de-corps and allowing the opportunity for the presentation of RAEME specific awards.

Date and time: Friday, 28 November 2025, 1100-1500

Location: 113 Field Workshop.

Who: 13 BDE and local units, SAS-R Workshops, JLU-W including Ventia members, WA RAEME Association and all serving and ex-serving members within the region.

What: Our intent is to open the workshop for activities from 1100 that day. We'll have several traditional activities ready to go including a Spanner Throw, Heave competition and a mini-golf challenge, all with prizes to be won. Business vendors, Various Tool vendors, Blackwoods/Wurths all on display. The BBQ will be cooking from 1200 and the Bar will open at the same time. There will be a traditional raffle as well as a door prize.

RAEME Birthday – Dinner on the Day

It is time for the RAEME Birthday to go north of the river again (we alternate)

See you all at the Bayswater Hotel on **Monday 1 December from 1800**. It has been newly done up but the food is still great.

Official New Badges



Corps Funds

The new form to be filled out is at the end of this newsletter

Nungarin

A few of us are heading up to Nungarin 14-16 Nov to try to get the Staghound running. If you are interested contact Alex Smithers.



Vale

Name: Trevor-Hunt, Geoffrey Francis Rank: WO1 Regimental No: 18663 Trade: Vehicle Mechanic – 14th Intake Year Joined: 06 Jan 59 Date Deceased: 19 Oct 25 1st Field Regiment from 25 May 1966 to 7 May 1967.	Name: BANDY, Robert Charles Seymour 'Bob' Rank: Sergeant Regimental No: 58846 Trade: Vehicle Mechanic – 20th Intake Year Joined: 01 Jan 65 Date Deceased: 16 Oct 25 1st Field Squadron Workshop: 26 May 1971 to 05 Nov 1971 5 Company RAASC Workshop: 06 Nov 1971 to 24 Feb 1972
Name: Tonkin, Eric Keith 'Ric' Rank: SGT Regimental No: 518909 Date Deceased: 27 Sep 25 Born in Kalgoorlie, Ric first served with RAInf before transferring to RAEME. As a soldier in 1 RAR, he served in Vietnam from 27 March 1968 to 18 February 1969 and was at the Battle of Coral.	

??Did You Know???

28 Bn Photo

Spoiler alert – if you enjoy all the legends associated with this photo do not read on!



Myth:

There is a dead soldier up near the top of the pyramid, and he is held up by his mates.

Actual:

There is no record of any 11th Battalion soldier having died in the days prior to the photo being taken. The soldier has been identified as CPL Frederick Edwin MURPHY (# 504) He was wounded at Gallipoli, went on to serve in France and discharged in Perth in 1918 having attained the rank of Lieutenant.

Standing behind CPL Murphy with his hands joined across his groin behind CPL Murphy's head is LCPL Samuel James WEEKS. He is not holding on to CPL Murphy by his webbing.



Myth:

The men standing in the second row with arms linked are a father and his three/four sons who were all killed in action on the next day / at Gallipoli.

Actual:

The photo was taken on Jan 10 1915 and the battalion did not see action at Gallipoli until April 25th. The nominal rolls do not show a father and three or four sons in the original enlistments. At least one of these men returned to Australia and raised a family (*3rd from the left*, PTE James Frederick RULE, and was unrelated to the others



Myth:

The two soldiers with their hands above their heads were under arrest and handcuffed and released for the day

Actual:

There is no evidence available to support this myth. The soldier on the left PTE James Joseph RYAN (# 258), and the man on the right is PTE Patrick George (Peachy) GREEN (# 907). Both of these young men were from Broomehill, in the south-west of WA. Mates, they joined hands to stand out in the photo. PTE Ryan has a watch on his left wrist which has contributed to the myth of handcuffs.

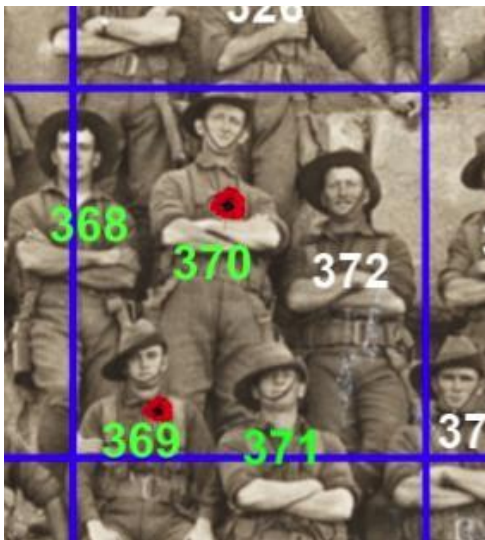


Myth:

Soldiers with their arms crossed were married, those without were single

Actual:

Of all the soldiers who have been identified and cross-referencing with their records, there is no evidence of this being the case.



“Matchbox” Holden Hurricane?

The Holden Hurricane is a two-seat concept car built by Holden in 1969.

The Hurricane stood at just 990 mm (39 in) tall and was powered by a mid-mounted high-compression 253 cubic inch Holden V8 engine, the prototype 253, producing 193 kW (259 hp).

The Hurricane did not feature conventional doors; instead, a hydraulically powered canopy swung forwards over the front wheels and the seats rose up and tilted forward. Other features included Pathfinder, which used magnetic signals built into the road to guide the driver. It also contained digital instrument displays, automatic temperature control air conditioning called Comfortron, an auto-see radio function and a rear-view camera, which consisted of a wide angle camera in the rear bumper connected to a closed-circuit television (CCTV) screen in the centre console. Pretty swish for 1969!



In 1971 Matchbox released it's "Hairy Hustler" model. Is it just my imagination....



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