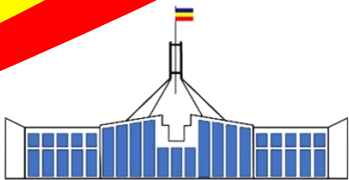


RAEME in ACTION

The Newsletter of the RAEME Association of the Australian Capital Territory (ACT)



Edition: 31
July 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings All,

The last months have provided many opportunities for reflection, from a service, global and personal perspective. I have had the chance to attend two reunions (AAS and OCS), the presentation of a 40-year medal (unfortunately I missed Russ Cliffe's presentation, a true legend), a farewell from Army for a 45-year service legend from RASigs (Lew Coyle) and a memorial for my father.

Current conflicts around the globe suggest that whatever previous and/or currently serving personnel, particularly Spanners, trained and subsequently deployed to support, they are unlikely to be the last to do so. Given my recent experience of spending time with those I grew up and served with over many years, now more than ever, I hope that those in training for the current and next fights are able to enjoy the same level of camaraderie that I have and continue to do. As captured by Cookie in his article on his great mate, Peter Shefford, "dream as if you'll live forever, but live today as if there is no tomorrow".

Say safe and well. I look forward to catching up in the near future.

Cheers APA



CFN Naylor Symons in action with support from PTE Aaron Moses at the ADF Touch Association inter-service competition
Army News, 12 Jun 25

THE NEXT THREE MONTHS Legend

Spanner Club	Mixed Lunch	Informal Drinks	Significant Event																	
JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

RAEME MEMBERS RECOGNISED WITH KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Warrant Officer Class One Tony Croft – Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM), Military Division

For meritorious service in support of Australian Army Aviation.

Warrant Officer Class One Croft has provided dedicated service in a range of technical and maintenance roles, and capability sustainment functions, for more than 40 years. He has consistently demonstrated technical mastery, initiative, leadership and adaptability in enhancing Army Aviation operational capability. His sustained meritorious service has ensured the highest levels of maintenance and sustainment support to numerous Defence rotary and fixed wing combat systems.



Major David Bernard Melandri (Retd) – Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM), General Division

For service to veterans and their families, and to the community of Toowoomba.

Major David Melandri (Retd), of Highfields QLD, has been awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (General Division) for service to veterans and their families, and to the Toowoomba community. A RAEME veteran who served from 1966 to 2004, Major Melandri has continued to serve long after his military career ended, notably through Toowoomba Legacy and the Salvation Army. His leadership across multiple terms as Legacy President, and his ongoing roles as pensions officer, youth mentor and community volunteer exemplify selfless service.



Warrant Officer Class Two Andrew John Harvey – Commendation for Distinguished Service

For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as a CH-47D Chinook Aircrewman Technician in Medium Lift Helicopter Troop, Rotary Wing Group - Six, Task Group 633.7, Operation SLIPPER on 30 May 2011.

Warrant Officer Class Two Harvey, when faced with the catastrophic events surrounding the aircraft accident of Chinook A15-102 on 30 May 2011, acted without orders or regard to his own safety to protect fellow Australians. Warrant Officer Class Two Harvey's leadership and distinguished acts are in accordance with the finest traditions of the Australian Army.



Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Anthony King – Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC)

For outstanding achievement as the Staff Officer Grade One Sustainment, Army Headquarters.

Lieutenant Colonel King is an outstanding officer who made a conspicuous contribution in maximising capability outcomes for Defence. Displaying superior leadership and outstanding interpersonal skills, he developed options to treat Army's funding pressures, contributed to funding solutions that enhance capability across Defence and ensured the continued sustainment of land capability without compromise. His initiative and diligence to duty has improved sustainment and governance across Defence.



CONGRATULATIONS TO WO1 RUSS CLIFFE FOR 52 YEARS OF SERVICE

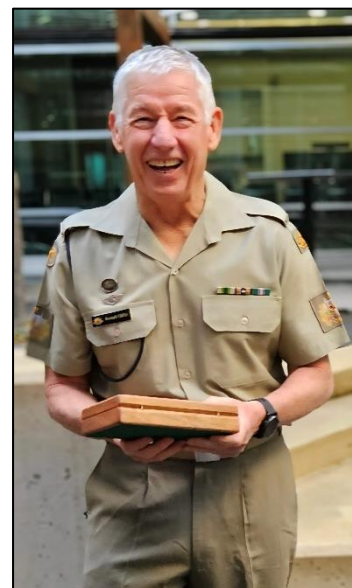
On 23 Jun, Corps (and MILIS) Legend, was presented with his third Federation Star by Major General Richard Vagg. By this presentation, WO1 Cliffe had served for an amazing 52 years. WO1 Cliffe was a 28th intake apprentice vehicle mechanic, enlisting on 15 Jan 1973.

MAJGEN Vagg recognised that for 52 years, WO1 Cliffe had put his service before himself; missing birthdays, Christmases and other significant life events.

With his typical humble approach, WO1 Cliffe responded by saying that his 52 years were not about himself but about the Army as a team. He noted to the large audience of over 50 serving and retired members, which in itself was testament to the impact he has had throughout his career, that it was those with whom he served that should be thanked for allowing him to serve.

In addition to the Federation Star, WO1 Cliffe was also presented with an engraved medal box from LTCOL Geoff Orton, in recognition for his humble service to the Corps.

Following the presentation, WO1 Cliffe was joined by several members for dinner at Ainslie Football Club. The much more relaxed environment provided a great opportunity for all to personally congratulate Russ. Well Done!



WO1 Cliffe, Russell Offices

FAREWELL TO A GENTLEMAN OF OUR CORPS

On 23 May 2025, we lost retired-Craftsman Peter Shefford, or Sheff as he was known to just about everyone. Sheff left us at age 55 after living with terminal cancer.

Sheff is survived by his loving wife, Carol, his adult-sons Ayden and Connor and the newest love of his life, 18-month-old grandson, Jackson Peter.



Sheff with his beloved family

Sheff joined RAEME as part of the 1/88 Adult Tradesman Electronic Technician (ATET) course run at Electrical Wing of RAEME Training Centre but his association with the Corps started years earlier. As an Albury local, Sheff played rugby with the mighty Albury Roos. Many of his team mates were Crafties and Apprentices, including 41st intake appies. Sheff was still a schoolboy at the time but he developed quite a bond with the Corps from early on. With this early connection to the Corps, Sheff was at home during the course.

After qualifying as a Radio Mechanic, Sheff was posted to 5th Avn Regt, maintaining Blackhawk and Iroquois helicopters.

Quickly becoming a valued member of the 5th Aviation Regt Wksp and the C Sqn TST, Sheff earned a reputation as a hard-working larrikin and talented sportsman, particularly with rugby league and touch football, where he represented 5 Avn Regt and Army as a player, coach, selector and referee.

Sheff's lasting legacy to C Sqn TST though is the sub-unit's logo of the caveman maintainer, that he drew, to represent the cavemen that maintained the dinosaur helicopters of C Sqn.



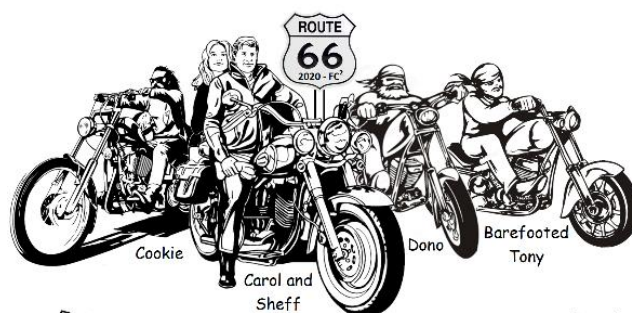
"The Cave" on the wall at C Sqn TST, 5 Avn Regt

With an initial diagnosis in 2019, Sheff's prognosis was of only having 6-12 months to live. He defied the odds and stayed with us for over 5 years, having lived through over 110 chemo cycles. Sheff didn't die from cancer, he lived with it. That positive approach was an active choice Sheff made.

Shortly after his diagnosis, Sheff and a few ex-RAEME mates planned a farewell tour across America along the iconic Route 66. To Sheff, Route 66, represented the "mother road" which elicited images of the open road, of freedom, of prosperity (historically), and of a relaxed care-free attitude towards life as one hurls down the highway with reckless abandon.

Sheff said: "It's about going forward; being free; travel; time with family/friends; a journey (like life) with many twists and turns and experiences; enjoyment etc ... all aspects linked to my life philosophies! It's a trip I will also look to link with a real purpose and an outcome, not just Pete Sheff throwing away some cash on (another!) dream holiday."

Commencing in Chicago and finishing in Santa Monica a couple of weeks later, the group experienced some highlights that will be difficult to repeat. It was virtually the greatest road trip ever!



*Determined ✖ Unstoppable ✖ Forever Brothers
The logo the boys printed on T-shirts to mark the trip*

Touch footy was a big part of Sheff's life both in service and in retirement. This month's cover image was chosen in recognition of Sheff's leadership in ADF and veteran touch over the years. Sheff played competitively in master's competitions and even coached at international level over six World Cups for at least three different nations, including [Canada](#) in 2024.



Sheff with "Gruff" in Canada

Thirty years ago, Sheff instigated and ran a Trans-Tasman series for Victorian Touch. Harnessing the sporting rivalry between the two nations, he planned and ran a 3-game series in Open Men's & Women's divisions. Sadly, upon Sheff's move interstate, the event ceased to run. Fast forward to

2025 and the hard-working crew who coordinate the “Masters in Melbourne” series resurrected the concept, playing Masters Mixed matches to reunite the passion for one’s ‘motherland’, alongside the camaraderie that the sporting arena provides.

On ANZAC Day this year, three games kept a large crowd of spectators on the edge of their seats: Masters, Seniors & Opens – with all games played in great spirit and with some scintillating Touch on display.

At the brief but moving presentation preceding the games, it was also announced that moving forward, the series would be known as the “Pete Shefford Memorial ANZAC Day Clash.”

The event organisers commented:

“We proudly name this day and shield in honour of Pete Shefford, in recognition and deep appreciation of his many years of outstanding and dedicated service to Touch in Victoria. Pete’s unwavering commitment, leadership, and passion for the sport were instrumental in shaping the ANZAC Day Clash into the meaningful and successful event it is today.

As a proud member of the Australian Defence Force, Pete embodied the ANZAC spirit — selflessness, camaraderie, and a deep sense of service — values that resonate both on and off the sporting field. A true friend to all, this event stands as a lasting tribute to his legacy and the profound impact he has made on our community.”



Sheff with two players proudly displaying the Peter Shefford Memorial ANZAC Day Clash trophy

Whilst Sheff initially stopped teaching after his diagnosis, he chose to return to work. He also travelled extensively, both domestically and internationally. Beyond just ticking off countless bucket-list activities, like visiting Disneyland in Paris, running with the bulls in Pamplona, racing sailing boats in Portugal, flying over Antarctica, seeing the Northern Lights, meeting Santa or enjoying snowball fights in Switzerland, Sheff turned his attentions to his community. He undertook various fundraising activities, including walking from Townsville to Airlie Beach (about 300km) with a couple of mates.



Sheff and team on conclusion of the charity walk

For his services to his community, Sheff was recognised with awards including the Townsville Community Volunteer Award (2021) and Citizen of the Year (2023). The veteran-led Charity, [Eyes Front](#), also introduced the “Pete Shefford Enduring Spirit Award” (and associated fund) to give selected terminally or chronically ill community-minded veterans a helping hand to create memories with their families while they can.

Wanting others to learn from his positive outlook when dealing with significant life events, Sheff authored and published three powerful self-help books: “[Shit Things Happen to Good People](#)”, “[Cracking the Code](#)” and “[Road to Kokoda](#)”. One chapter in his “Shit book” was called *Stop Putting Shit Off – Do it Now!* His message to readers was to “*Dream as if you’ll live forever, but live today as if there is no tomorrow.*” He certainly lived by that.

Closer to home, Sheff was also one of the co-authors of RAEME’s humour books, [Straight from the Horse’s Mouth](#), editions 1 and 2. The first edition was initiated, compiled and published within months of Sheff’s diagnosis to ensure that he would be present to witness its release. The second edition was an unexpected bonus release. Whilst the names were changed to protect the innocent (or the not-so-innocent), Sheff was actually the protagonist in several of the stories in both books. Whilst Sheff won’t see the third edition released, we will continue to build on it in his memory. For those who read Edition 2, there is a hidden message in it that was encoded by Sheff with the expectation that a keen-eyed reader would find it, decode it and follow the instructions it provided, but alas, no-one did. The inclusion of this code was known only to the editors until now. Perhaps someone will find it one day.

Was Sheff perfect?
No, few of us could attempt to claim that title but he was a Spanner and he was a bloody good mate. That is how he will be remembered.

RIP Sheff.
Lest we forget.



CORPS STATUS REPORT

Adapted from email from Corps RSM dated 09 Jun 2025

Mental health reminder

Everyone has stages within the career (serving or not) where issues become overwhelming (workload, ability, time, etc)

Everyone deals with depression, fatigue and/or difficulty concentrating differently

For anyone attempting to traverse the myriad of information relating to Mental health and Depression see below:

- [24/7 Support for Anxiety, Depression and Suicide Prevention. - Beyond Blue](#)
- [Defence Network Page - Mental Health](#)
- [Defence Network Page - Mental Health - Home](#)

At the lowest level, it is as easy as going to your local Medical Centre and asking to speak to a Mental Health professional.

Corps Gatherings

Please attempt to get to Corps gatherings within your respective locations, it helps support the RAEME Associations.

Matt Stone Racing

We have received great feedback from the members who have been detached to MSR over the last month, this remains

a fantastic opportunity and we all should be striving to get our CFN involved.

Corps Conference

The Corps Conference (light) will be held in Bandiana this year. I will need to confirm with the HOC and DHOC's the focus this year (noting the light should be the precursor to the heavy the following year). If anyone has suggestions, please email myself.

Thoughts include:

- What do ECNs look like in the future (dual ECN)?
- What does a CFN look like in a contested environment?

St Eligius Competition

The St Eligius Competition planning has begun. We will release a basic schedule before the end of June, our intent is to open the competition up to all Brigades. As such if any Brigade is interested in attending, may they please notify myself asap (we won't lock you in)?

Regards

Jon

Warrant Officer Class One Jon Tynan
Corps Regimental Sergeant Major

VETERANS GRANTS – HELPING MAKE AN IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

There is so much gratitude felt from our Canberra community for veterans. In the leadup to ANZAC Day this year, Canberra Legacy hosted a concert and afternoon tea for 300 veterans and their families. It's heart-warming when you consider how much these individuals have given in service for Australia.

Chris from Canberra Legacy said "A great afternoon of jazz, classical and song was had by all. On learning who their audience was, the performers generously waived their fees. Legacy was able to deliver this terrific event with their support, the Canberra Southern Cross Club Woden (which also waived the venue fee) and the valued assistance of the ACT Government's Veterans Grant program."

The next round of Veterans Grants will open in August. If you have an idea for an event or project that could support or bring together veterans and their families, watch this space and apply!



DVA ANZAC PORTAL – SHARING OUR MILITARY AND SERVICE HISTORY

Uncover experiences of Australians who served in wars, conflicts and peace operations. The hardship of active service extends to the family and friends they leave behind. We commemorate their service and sacrifice.

DVA maintain a website known as the ANZAC Portal that provides a wide range of general information of current and

historical relevance. This includes information as simple as a glossary and extends to information relating to each conflict or period of conflicts.

If you wish to learn more about the service provided by our nation or the stories of those who served, please visit the Portal at: <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/>

IT'S TAX TIME

Disclaimer: The following information is not financial advice. You should verify its currency and applicability to you. Don't blame us if you stuff up your tax!

Source: [ATO Website](#) – *Australian Defence Force members – income and work-related deductions* of 13 May 2025

Australian Defence Force (ADF) members guide to income, allowances and claiming deductions for work-related expenses.



Income and allowance amounts you need to include in your tax return and amounts you don't include.

Amounts you do and don't include

You must include all the income you receive during the income year as an Australian Defence Force member in your tax return, this includes:

- salary and wages, including cash or bonus payments
- allowances
- compensation and insurance payments – for example, payments made under an income protection insurance policy to replace salary and wages.

Don't include as income any [reimbursements](#) you receive.

Your income statement or a payment summary will show your salary, wages and allowances for the income year.

If you work overseas, your salary and wages may not be taxable, but in some circumstances, you still include them in your tax return.

Eligible duty in a specified area outside Australia

Your pay and allowances are exempt from tax if you have a certificate from the Chief of the Defence Force stating that you are on eligible duty:

- with a specified organisation
- in a specified area outside Australia.

Your income statement or payment summary will list [Section 23AD](#) as an exemption and the number of days it applies. You don't include this income in your tax return.

Foreign deployment as a member of a disciplined force

Your [foreign employment income may be exempt](#) from Australian income tax if you satisfy all of the following conditions:

- you are an Australian resident for tax purposes
- you are engaged in foreign service for a continuous period of 91 days or more
- your foreign service is directly attributable to your deployment outside Australia as a member of a disciplined force by the Commonwealth, a State or Territory, or an authority of the Commonwealth, a State or Territory.

When we say 'disciplined force', we mean the Australian Defence Force, Australian Federal Police, and the State and Territory police forces, including a peacekeeping force.

Your foreign employment income includes salary, wages and allowances.

However, your foreign employment income isn't exempt from Australian income tax if it's exempt from income tax in the country where you earn that income because:

- a tax treaty applies, or a law of the foreign country applies to give effect to a tax treaty
- the foreign country doesn't impose tax on employment income
- an international agreement applies that deals with diplomatic or consular privileges or immunities, or privileges and immunities of persons connected with international organisations
- the foreign country has a law that corresponds to the International Organisations (Privileges and Immunities) Act 1963.

For more information, see Non-exemption conditions in [Exempt income from foreign service](#).

If your employer knows you satisfy the conditions, your income statement or payment summary will list Section 23AG as an exemption and the number of days it applies for. You include this income as exempt foreign employment income in your tax return. You are not taxed on this income but it's included in the calculation to work out how much tax you pay on your other income.

Allowances

As a member of the ADF or an ADF employee, you may be paid an allowance in recognition of your duties and additional expenses you incur to perform your duties. As a general rule:

- you need to include [allowances on your income statement](#) or payment summary in your tax return
- allowances that are not taxable will not be on your income statement or payment summary.

Allowances on your income statement or payment summary

You must include all [allowances](#) your employer reports on your income statement or payment summary as income in your tax return.

If you receive an allowance from your employer, you can't always claim a deduction – it depends on the situation.

ADF members and employees receive assessable allowances:

- to help pay for a work expense
- for work that is considered special or dangerous
- in recognition of holding special skills
- to compensate for working conditions.

The following assessable allowances are received by ADF members and employees to recognise expenses you may incur while doing your job:

- protective clothing allowance
- language proficiency allowance
- tool allowance
- overtime meal allowance
- motor vehicle allowance.

Depending on your individual circumstances, you may be able to claim a [deduction for the expenses](#) these allowances cover.

You must include the following allowances as income in your tax return, however you can't claim a deduction:

- arduous conditions instructor allowance
- clearance diver allowance
- district allowance
- diving allowance
- field allowance
- first aid allowance
- flying disability allowance
- paratrooper allowance
- locality allowance
- duty at sea allowance
- separation allowance
- submarine escape disability allowance
- unpredictable explosives allowance.

This is not a complete list of allowances that may fall into this category. There may be other similar allowances you receive as an ADF member or employee.

Your employer may not include some allowances on your income statement or payment summary. Find out about declaring income and claiming deductions for [Allowances not on your income statement](#) or payment summary.

Example: allowance for working conditions

Mark is a member of the Navy. During the income year, Mark receives an allowance for each hour he spends carrying out his employment duties in a confined space.

His employer reports the allowance on his income statement at the end of the income year.

Mark must include the amount of the allowance in his tax return, but he can't claim a deduction for any expenses against the allowance.

The allowance compensates Mark for working in unpleasant conditions. It isn't to cover any expenses he might incur.

Example: allowance assessable, deduction allowable

Ronaldo is a metal trades employee in the Army. Ronaldo's employer doesn't provide him with tools, so he receives a tool allowance each week.

The total amount of the tool allowance is reported on Ronaldo's income statement at the end of the income year. During the income year, Ronaldo buys a number of tools to carry out his employment duties. He uses the tools solely for work purposes.

Ronaldo must declare the tool allowance as income in his tax return. He can also claim a deduction for the decline in value of the tools he bought during the income year.

Allowances not on your income statement or payment summary

If you receive an allowance from your employer, it does not automatically mean you can claim a deduction.

Your employer may not include some allowances on your income statement or payment summary, you will find these amounts on your payslips. You don't need to declare these allowances as income in your tax return, unless you are claiming a deduction. Examples include travel allowances and overtime meal allowances.

If you spend the allowance amount on work expenses, you:

- don't include it as income in your tax return
- can't claim any deductions for the work expenses the allowance covers.

If you're not claiming a deduction, you don't need to keep any records of the amounts you spend.

If you spend your allowance on a deductible work-related expense, to claim a deduction you:

- include the allowance as income in your tax return
- include a claim for the work expenses you incur in your tax return
- must have records of your expenses.

If you can claim a deduction, the amount of the deduction is not usually the same amount as the allowance you receive.

Reimbursements

If your employer pays you the exact amount for expenses you incur (either before or after you incur them), the payment is a [reimbursement](#).

A reimbursement isn't an allowance.

If your employer reimburses you for expenses you incur:

- you don't include the reimbursement as income in your tax return
- you can't claim a deduction for the expenses.

Example: reimbursement for expenses

Edwina is a ground crew officer in the Air Force. Edwina's employer provides her with the safety equipment she requires for her job, however she finds the hearing protection uncomfortable for her ears.

Edwina buys hearing protection which is more comfortable for her with the same specifications as the ones her employer provides. Edwina puts in a reimbursement claim and receives the full cost of the hearing protection from her employer.

Edwina can't claim a deduction for the cost of the hearing protection because she receives a full reimbursement from her employer for the amount spent.

Edwina doesn't have to include the amount of the reimbursement in her tax return as income.

Offsets for ADF members

ADF members and employees may be eligible to receive:

- a [zone tax offset](#), when you live in an isolated or remote part of Australia (excluding an offshore oil or gas rig)
- an [overseas forces tax offset](#), when you serve as a member of the Defence Force at an overseas locality (excluding at an attaché at an Australian embassy or Legation).

To help you work out your eligibility for an offset use the [Zone or overseas forces tax offset calculator](#).

Deductions for work expenses

Deductions you can and can't claim for expenses you incur to earn your income.

For a summary of common expenses, see [Australian Defence Force member deductions](#) (PDF, 569KB).

To claim a deduction for a work-related expense you must meet the 3 golden rules:

- You must have spent the money and you weren't reimbursed.
- The expense must directly relate to earning your income.
- You must have a [record](#) to prove it (usually a receipt).

If the expense was incurred for both work and private purposes, you can only claim a deduction for the work-related portion of the expense.

We consider you to be an ADF member if you are a member of the:

- Australian Army (Army)
- Royal Australian Navy (Navy)
- Royal Australian Air Force (Air Force).

This guide may also apply to you as either:

- an ADF reserves member (where you pay tax on your salary and allowances as a reserves member)
- a civilian working for the ADF performing ADF-related work.

Click on the links below to review if you may be able to claim certain deductions as an ADF member.

- [Car expenses](#)
- [Child care](#)
- [Clothing and uniform expenses](#) (including footwear)
- [Drivers licence](#)
- [Entertainment and social functions](#)
- [Extra regimental duties \(ERD\)](#)
- [Fines and penalties](#)
- [Glasses, contact lenses and anti-glare glasses](#)
- [Grooming expenses](#)
- [Laundry and maintenance](#)
- [Meal and snack expenses](#)
- [Mess fees and functions](#)
- [Music streaming services, CDs, audio books or podcasts](#)
- [Newspapers and other news services, magazines and professional publications](#)

- [Overtime meal expenses](#)
- [Parking fees and tolls](#)
- [Phone, data and internet expenses](#)
- [Physical training and fitness expenses](#)
- [Removal and relocation expenses](#)
- [Rifles, ammunition, related equipment and cleaning](#)
- [Self-education expenses](#)
- [Seminars, conferences and training courses](#)
- [Sunglasses, sunhats and sunscreen](#)
- [Taxi, ride-share, public transport and car hire](#)
- [Tools and equipment](#)
- [Travel expenses](#)
- [Union and professional association fees](#)
- [Watches and smart watches](#)
- [Weight loss expenses](#)
- [Working from home expenses](#)

You can't claim a deduction if:

- you don't keep records of your work-related expenses
- someone else (such as an employer) pays for the expense or reimburses you for it.

You can use the [myDeductions](#) tool in the ATO app to store records and help keep track of your:

- work-related expenses (such as vehicle trips)
- general expenses (such as gifts and donations).

You can upload these records or share them with a registered tax agent at tax time to make lodging your tax return easier.

ATO App

The ATO app is a simple and easy way you can access and manage your tax and super on the go. The ATO app is free to download and use.

As an individual or sole trader, you can quickly access your personal tax and super information in one place. There are also several helpful features and tools you can use.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the ATO App and its features.



To use the ATO app, download it from [Google Play](#) or the Apple [App Store](#). You don't need to log in to use basic features.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME ACT

Coming Events

Our next gathering will be a mixed lunch on Fri 04 Jul at Ainslie Football Club from 1230h. Open Arms representatives are likely to attend. Details may be found by [clicking here](#).

Following that, we have informal drinks at Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club from 1930 on Tues 29 Jul. Details may be found by [clicking here](#)

Other regional activities

My Aged Care, DVA, Harwell Home Care Presentation

What: All veterans and their families are invited to attend a presentation on the changes and ramifications of the new MyAgedCare Act and its effect on the veteran community.

Where: LDK Greenway Auditorium, 206 Soward Way, Greenway

When: 02 July 2025 from 1030h

Note: Morning team will follow the presentation

21 Hearts: Vivian Bullwinkel and the nurses of the Vyner Brooke

What: Live Theatre Performance by THEATRE 180 who relay the story of the 22 nurses who, during WW2, were forced to march into the sea where they were callously machine gunned. Vivian Bullwinkel was the sole survivor. She was also the wife of a RAEME Officer.

Where: Theatre, Australian War Memorial

When: 24 July 2025 – 3 August 2025

Details: [Click here for more details](#)

Note: Tickets are selling quickly so book your place soon

Australian War Memorial Preview ANZAC Hall

What: Join Memorial historians and curators for an exclusive preview of the upcoming exhibitions set to go on display in the new Anzac Hall.

Where: Theatre, Australian War Memorial

When: 15 Aug 2025 from 1400h

Tickets: [Click here for more details](#)

Greater Love: Second World War Memorial Concert

What: An unforgettable memorial concert featuring wartime music, powerful stories and projected visuals. Don't miss this moving tribute performed by the Canberra Symphony Orchestra.

Where: Llewellyn Hall, ANU School of Music

When: Friday 15 August, 7.00 pm

Tickets: [Click here for more details](#)

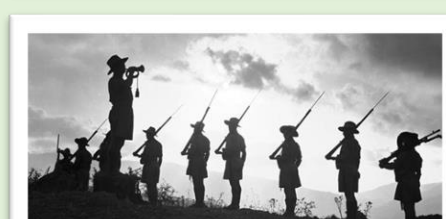
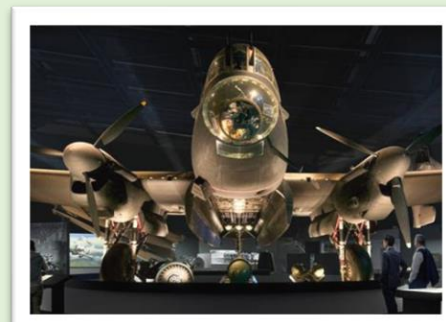
Last Post Ceremony

What: Each evening, the Memorial farewells visitors with its moving Last Post Ceremony. Each night the ceremony shares the story behind one of the names on the Roll of Honour.

Where: Australian War Memorial, Commemorative Courtyard

When: Commencing daily at 4.30 pm AEDT

Details: [Click here for more details](#)



NEWS FROM THE ACT GOVERNMENT

Where to get the influenza vaccine

Annual influenza vaccination is your best protection against [influenza](#). Each year the influenza vaccine changes to match the strains of flu expected to be circulating that year, so it is important to be vaccinated every year.

Influenza is a highly contagious viral illness that can affect people of all ages. It is spread from person to person by virus-containing respiratory droplets produced during coughing or sneezing.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide

The Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide (the Commission) recommended the establishment of a Wellbeing Agency (Recommendation 87) and a national Peak Body for ex-service organisations (ESOs) (Recommendation 89).

In March 2025, a Taskforce for the Wellbeing Agency and Peak Body was established. Its core focus is to work with the veteran community to co-design these new agencies.

The work of the Taskforce has been divided into three phases: discovery and insights; co-design; and blueprint and business case. It is currently in the discovery phase, with consultations sessions having taken place in every state and territory.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Veteran and Family Hub

The RSL LifeCare Queanbeyan Veteran and Family Hub opened on Tuesday 15 April 2025. The site offers services such as wellbeing support, DVA claims & advocacy, employment assistance and homelessness & housing support.

An RSL LifeCare site for veteran services is due to open in the coming weeks in the ACT. Operating in partnership with the Queanbeyan Veteran and Family Hub, the ACT site will be located at 26 Archibald Street, Lyneham.

RSL LifeCare is working with the ACT Government and local veteran community to ensure services meet the local veteran community needs.

Ahead of the opening of the new ACT site, ACT residents can access services at the Queanbeyan Hub (located at 251 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan).

[Click here for more information about the Queanbeyan site.](#)

[Click here for more information about the Canberra site.](#)

Access Canberra

Customers can scan a QR code with their own device and connect with an Auslan interpreter at no cost.

You can talk with us by calling 13 22 81

Public Transport for Veterans

Department of Veterans' Affairs TPI or EDA Gold Card holders are eligible for free travel at all times (including their companion).

Department of Veterans Affairs Gold Card holders are entitled to free off-peak travel. To travel during peak hours, you will need to pay a discounted concession fare.

All concession holders must carry their proof of concession while travelling on public transport.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Grants and funding opportunities

The ACT Government provides a wide range of grants and funding opportunities to financially support individuals, groups, and organisations that benefit Canberrans and the Canberra community.

Note: Recipients of the ACT's Government Veteran Grants for FY2024/25 included:

- **The Legacy Club of Canberra Incorporated** - \$14,645 - 2025 Legacy Concert: A concert to allow Legacy families to enjoy a relaxed afternoon of live musical performances by local artists while enjoying the company of family and friends.
- **The Cuppacumbalong Foundation Limited** - \$14,400 - Blacksmithing for Defence Families: Hands-on blacksmithing courses aimed at supporting the mental well-being of defence families in the Canberra region.
- **Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch Inc** - \$12,601 - Woden Valley RSL Sub-Branch Annual Primary Schools ANZAC and Peace Ceremony: A ceremony fostering appreciation for the ANZAC spirit and peace, attended by up to 500 students from 23 schools.
- **ACT Table Tennis Association Incorporated** - \$15,000 - Improving Wellbeing Through Table Tennis: A table tennis program providing positive health benefits through physical activity, wellbeing, and social engagement for veterans in partnership with Soldier On.
- **Australian Outward Bound Development Fund Pty Limited** - \$8,477 - Outward Bound's Veterans and Families Connection Weekend: A facilitated overnight camping adventure with high-ropes, climbing, and abseiling adventures, mixed with bushcraft and time to talk around a fire and reconnect with other veterans and their families.
- **42 Casts Limited** - \$8,500 - Veteran's Fishing Day: A fishing and barbeque catch-up for veterans in the ACT and surrounds.
- **Dogs Canberra Limited** - \$6,377 - Pilot Program: A program aiming to improve mental health and rehabilitate rescue dogs by matching them with veteran families and supporting their care.

[Click here for more information.](#)

PLANNED GATHERINGS NATIONWIDE

Planned RAEME gatherings across Australia for the next month or two are summarised below. For further details on any events scheduled in:

- **Canberra:** Visit our [events listing website](#) and click on individual events.
- **Queensland:** Contact the [Functions Officer](#) or visit the [events listing website](#)
- **Other:** Please reach out to the contacts listed below or the relevant State/Territory Associations as required.

Where the event title below contains a hyperlink, this will take you to the event entry on the Association website.

For ACT Association members, each event also includes a link to allow you to add the event to your calendar. Please note that this will just add the event; you may still need to RSVP if one is required.

Month	Date	Region	Event
July	Wed 2 nd	S-Qld	RAQ Monthly Meeting Kedron Wavell Services Club
		Wagga	Spanner Club Ten pin bowling
	Fri 4 th	ACT	Mixed Lunch Ainslie Football Club from 1230h RSVP NLT 01 Jul via our website or via email if you need someone to sign you in to the Club
	Fri 11 th	Victoria	Spanner Club Ladida, 577 Little Bourke St, Melbourne
	Sun 20 th	NSW	Christmas in July Luncheon Ingleburn RSL Club
	Sun 27 th	S-Qld	RAQ Sunshine Coast Gathering Maroochydore RSL
	Tues 29 th	ACT	Mixed Drinks Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club from 1930h RSVP via email if you need someone to sign you in to the Club.
	TBC	ACT	RMC Lanyard Presentation RMC Golf Club – Details to follow when received
August	Fri 1 st	ACT	Spanner Club and Sausage Sizzle RMC Golf Club For catering purposes and to assist RMC Staff planning, please RSVP NLT 29 Jul via the event link or via email .
	Wed 6 th	S-Qld	RAQ Monthly Meeting Kedron Wavell Services Club
	Fri 8 th	Victoria	Spanner Club Ladida, 577 Little Bourke St, Melbourne
	Sun 17 th	S-Qld	RAEME Reserve/CMF Reunion Brisbane 2025 Sherwood/Indooroopilly RSL Sub Branch
			RAQ Darling Downs Luncheon – Vietnam Veteran’s Day Toowoomba
		Tasmania	Mixed Lunch/Meet and Greet- Southern, Northern, North-West members Ross Hotel, Main Rd Ross, 1200 for 1230h RSVP NLT 14 Aug via email rclark-7@hotmail.com
	Sat 23 rd	S-Qld	RAQ Gold Coast Luncheon Mermaid Beach AEME SLSC

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME NSW

Smarter than the average bear

When 17 Const Sqn – who were based at Holsworthy at the time – was on the Army Aboriginal Community Assistance Programme (AACAP) between '05 and '07 up near Fitzroy Crossing, there was a bit of Plant Troop vs RAEME mischief going on.

After various flag stealing and other pranks on both sides over the 6 months, one Wksp member was left responsible with the ANF and unit flag just prior to returning home. On being told to return the flags and opening his bag in front of the SSM to hand them back, the unit flag wasn't there. It was somehow missing. The SSM was furious and blamed RAEME of course. The Wksp explained that it couldn't be the RAEME lads and convinced him that it was the Plant Troop set us up. We didn't get in trouble for it; Plant Troop got blamed.

That posting brings back both good and terrible memories, but ultimately RAEME came out in front.



Christmas in July

The NSW RAEME Association is hosting a Christmas in July function at Ingleburn RSL. All current serving and past members of the Corps and friends of the Corps and their partners are most welcome to attend.

When: Sun 20 Jul, 1130 for 1200h

Where: Ingleburn RSL

Cost: \$50 per person

Dress: Smart Casual

RSVP: No later than Fri 11 Jul. For details, please contact Treasurer@nsw.raeme.org.au

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME SE-QLD

Veterans finding their tribe – RAEMUS Rover

A key role of our weekly Wednesday open Workshop days is to allow the veteran community a soft entry method into the veteran support space. Engaging in key conversations whilst having a brew, and looking over or maybe helping working on our race cars, we reconnect with our ex-military brethren.

Mateship, Teamwork and Compassion are key elements to running a great veteran group.

Raemus Rover's workshop is located at 25 Blear St Yamanto, near Ipswich, the facility is funded by HomeFront Australia and is open 40 weeks per year, only closing for Xmas and race weeks.

Since opening the Yamanto workshop we have seen hundreds of veterans visit and enjoy the comradery of the team whilst learning new skills with cars.



The weekly workshop days are open from 9am until 2:30pm, so veterans with kids can still do the school pick up and drop off.

Image and Information courtesy of [RAEMUS Rover](https://www.raemusrover.com.au) through the RAQ.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME SE-QLD continued

RAQ RAEME Sunshine Coast Gathering – 27 July 2025

The next RAQ [RAEME Sunshine Coast get-together](#) is scheduled for Sunday, 27 July 2025, once again at the Alex Surf Club, kicking off around 1200 hrs (midday).

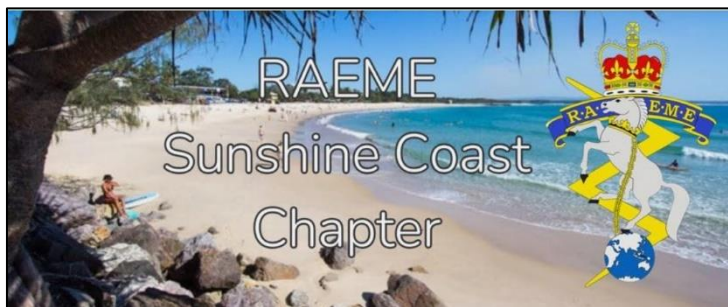
The April gathering was a great success, with a healthy turnout of around 50 people. It was fantastic to catch up with old mates and welcome some new faces. While some of our April attendees may be travelling at this time, we hope to see others who couldn't make it last time, join us in July. Either way, we're looking forward to another great afternoon.

Please let me know if you're able to attend so we can arrange the appropriate booking.

Also, a reminder that our Annual Luncheon at the Maroochydore RSL is coming up on Saturday, 13 September 2025. Further details will be shared closer to the event.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Terry & Tom (Event organisers)



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME N-QLD

RAEME in the Field

The North Queensland Warfighter 2025 is part of Army's Advanced Collective Training program. The exercise was conducted between 13 May and 13 June.

Army's warfighting exercises are a key opportunity to work with partners from across the region and around the globe. The exercise will incorporate forces from the militaries of allies and regional partners, including the USA, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea.

The exercise included up to 3,000 personnel, mostly from Army's 3rd Brigade (based in Townsville), and a range of equipment, including tanks, armoured personnel carriers, towed artillery, landing craft and various helicopters.

Pictured: 17 Const Sqn deployed on North-Queensland Warfighter to provide Divisional Engineering reinforcement to 3 Bde and 3 CER. Sitting on the Japanese Ground Self-Defence Force Fixed-Modular Bridge, 17 Const Sqn have completed the North-Queensland Warfighter and will return home for a few weeks before heading on Ex Talisman Sabre



RAQ NQ Regional Gathering

A great Townsville winter's afternoon at the Avenues Hotel on Sat 21 Jun for the latest RAQ-NQ gathering, good people food and banter. Bert Greenfield won the \$100 member draw. Bear Mitchell won the \$80 meat tray and Phil Javens won the RAEME rum. Next gathering Sat 20 Sep 25.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME VICTORIA

Bloody good job!!!

Last month, the men and women from Electrical and Electronics Systems Wing, Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (ASEME) rolled up their sleeves and got to saving lives. They did so by donating precious blood to the Red Cross as part of its regional drive.

You too can always roll up your sleeve and save a life. Book today at:

<https://www.lifeblood.com.au/donors/blood-plasma-platelets>



Time to see red



This is part of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Field Training Exercise 1 - Soldier Skills Block, where trainees conduct live night-firing shooting as part of their two-day range package.

Over the seven-day block, Army and RAAF trainees will complete a bullring of defensive operations, digging in, offensive patrols, actively hunting enemy and live fire shooting rehearsals.

This kind of training is true to the Australian Army Land Domain Training System, which builds on foundation war fighting skills, preparing soldiers today for the war of tomorrow.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME WA

Matt Stone Racing

CPL Drabble and CFN Cowan from 13 CSSB Workshop recently had the opportunity to support both Mick Percat and Cameron Hill's Supercar teams in the pits over the weekend.

Both members spoke highly of the event and were highly appreciative of the outstanding support and hospitality provided by Matt Stone Racing.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME NT

Recognition of enduring service to our Corps

WO1 Marcellin Chee, ASM 101 Fd Wksp, was recently recognised for his 35 years of dedicated service to Army and our Corps.

The announcement of this award on the RAEME Facebook group drew over a hundred comments of support and a couple of hints of some stories to be told over a beer.

Congratulations, Cheeta!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RAEME TASMANIA

RSL Gathering

RAEME Tas get together and dinner at the Lenah Valley RSL 14 June 25 and by all accounts, it was a very well-received event.



New Merch

The RATs recently received their newest products, baseball caps and wide-brim hats.

The hats are black and available in Sizes 55cm (limited number), 57cm, 59cm and 61cm (limited number). Price is \$30.00 each



The caps are black with a gold band. The price is \$20.00 each.



Both have the RAEME Tasmania RAT printed logo on the front and the RAEME Flag with Tasmania printed on the rear.

To order your hat, please visit the [RATs webpage](#) or reach out to the Association via email.

Alternatively, you can find the [RATs on Facebook](#).

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH RAEME APPRENTICES

Annual South East Qld Army Apprentice reunion

On Saturday 7th June 2025, approx. 80 Army Apprentices from the 2nd to the 44th enjoyed the company of many other apprentices at the annual South East Qld. Reunion at the

Bulimba Bowls Club. Many faces were familiar, and others not so familiar. It was a great turn out and a fantastic atmosphere, all in all, a great day. The highlight was Keith



Fox, who came over from Macleay Island in Moreton Bay. Keith is a 2nd Intake Vehicle Mechanic, and although on a 'walker' he manages very well, and he enjoyed the day immensely. He also confirmed that he is a member of the Apprentices Assn, but he has experienced trouble getting onto the Apprentices site, as he is not that computer literate. At 96 years young, that is pretty understandable!! We are looking at assisting him with this problem.



The 32nd Intake were the most represented on the day.

The Bulimba Bowls Club is a top venue. Brian and Barb Daley continue to organise and run this event, but on a much lower commitment. This year we took the easy way out to feed the troops – 60 pizzas were enjoyed by those in attendance.

The final act for the day is a photo of Blip Hendricks, lowering the Apprentices Flag at the end of the day.

Brian Daley 14th VM



RAEME IN ARMY NEWS

Award leaves linguist lost for words

Capt Cody Tsaousis

CPL Hyun Kim was promoted from cfn to cpl and presented with an Army Silver Commendation during Exercise Freedom Shield in South Korea earlier this year.

Cpl Kim received the award for achievement as a linguist with 1 Div during the Exercise Freedom Shield series in South Korea between March 2022 and August 2024.

He provided translation and communication support to the Australian contingent, UN Command and other foreign militaries, enhancing operational interoperability and helping build a stronger relationship between the ADF and the South Korean Army.

Joining as a technician electrician in 2014, Cpl Kim transitioned to the Reserves in 2022, posting to HQ 1 Div in 2024.

Cmdr 1 Div Maj-Gen Ash Collingburn conferred the promotion and commendation at Camp Yongin near Seoul.



Maj-Gen Ash Collingburn presents an Army Silver Commendation to Cpl Hyun Kim.

Cpl Kim was born in South Korea and immigrated to Australia with his parents when he was 14. "When I enlisted, I couldn't imagine providing linguistic support with my poor English skills, but now I feel quite confident," he said.

"I enjoy every opportunity to be deployed as a linguist.

"Every deployment increased my skills in providing suitable support for the exercises. Over the multiple exercises, I learnt that my

relationship-building in Korea is critical for supporting our contingent."

Cpl Kim said across the five iterations of Exercise Freedom Shield that he had been part of, he had noticed a more colloquial and friendly tone in communication between the two nations.

He said it was an honour to receive a commendation and promotion to cpl, even if he didn't know it was coming.

"I was told there would be an award during our division commander's visit to our contingent. So, I organised a location and photographer support from the ROK military for an award for an unannounced member," Cpl Kim said.

"On the day, everyone gathered around and waited for an announcement. I heard my name called out.

"It was a tremendous honour and an unforgettable moment to receive a promotion and commendation from the division commander."

Role a heavy responsibility

Recovery technician

ARMoured vehicles are seriously heavy, and when they get bogged, an entrenching tool won't cut it. Even a snatch strap and a tow from another vehicle can fall short.

Sometimes, you need a professional.

Wherever you find Army's armoured vehicles, you'll find a recovery technician. And a cavalry squadron won't go anywhere without one.

Whether sunk in mud, rolled on its side or stuck in a creek, they are on-call.

Cfn Alex Cronin, of 2 Cav Regt, once recovered an M113AS4 APC after it hit washout while crossing a creek line and floated downstream.

"I walked five metres through knee-high water before it suddenly dropped away 1.7 metres straight down. That was the washout that took the carrier," he said.

"I ducked down, hooked up a bow shackle and a chain, then chained it to the winch rope and pulled it out."

He winched it 50 metres from his recovery vehicle.

Once the carrier was back on land, they found it completely dry inside. A testament to the seals.

A recovery technician's main tool is the winch and Cfn Cronin's ASLAV-R (recovery) vehicle is fitted with one that delivers an extra 3.3 tonnes of pulling power compared to the standard ASLAV.

But it's the stabiliser spades metal arms that dig into the ground to anchor the vehicle that give it real muscle during a recovery.

Winch cables operate under extreme tension, and if they snap, they can whip back at deadly speed, causing serious injury.

That's why, whenever a recovery technician is at work, they'll direct you to stay behind cover.

While he acknowledges that a stuck vehicle is a nuisance for its crew, Cfn Cronin admits he gets a bit excited when he's called to a job.

"I like helping people out, and there's real satisfaction in getting the task done. But I also enjoy the hands-on aspect of the work," he said.

Vehicle crews are always appreciative, with Cfn Cronin noting a simple thumbs-up as they drive away.

What he doesn't always hear are the words heard from one grateful crew: "Legend."



Recovery technician Cpl Alex Cronin, of 2 Cav Regt, carries a winch cable towards a bogged ASLAV during Ex Eagle March at the Townsville Field Training Area. Photos: Sgt Matthew Bickerton

The wizards who keep our armour moving

Vehicle technician

Vehicles are crucial to the land force, as are the soldiers who keep them in the fight.

Sgt Matthew Bickerton spoke with two of them.

PUTTING a spanner in the works usually means trouble but for a vehicle technician, it just means getting the job done.

Whether it's routine maintenance or getting an ASLAV back in the fight, Army mechanics are the machine wizards who keep armour moving.

Cpl Jacob Sofia, of 2 Cav Regt, said his favourite auto repair was a pack swap, which involves replacing a vehicle's core components, such as the engine or transmission.

"It's rewarding to see a vehicle that was performing poorly get new life in it," he said.

Having spent most of his 12 years in the Army working on Mack trucks, Cpl Sofia now maintains ASLAVs, one of Army's most familiar platforms with more than 30 years of operation.

Working on such a seasoned fleet gives mechanics like Cpl Sofia a range of repairs to tackle, some expected and easy to fix, while others require sweat and tears.

More common issues include air, fuel and oil leaks. But recently, alternators have been requiring attention.

In the field, replacing one is time-consuming because of its weight and cramped position in the engine bay.

"Because parts on multiple vehicles are often replaced around the same time, they tend to fail



Vehicle technician Cpl Jacob Sofia inspects the engine of an ASLAV during Exercise Eagle March.

together toward the end of their life cycle," Cpl Sofia said.

He said his most challenging field repair was fixing a starter motor.

Typically, this involves lifting the engine out, which can be done in the field, but rarely is. Instead, they have to find other ways to access the part and service it.

One solution is getting their smallest mechanic to snake their way deep into the engine bay to access the bolts.

Getting the motor out requires a precise series of movements, and the assembly sequence must be perfect. If it's not, you have to go back and redo steps.

The team members were once up until 1.30 am performing that

repair on the CO's vehicle.

"That's probably the most difficult job to do on an ASLAV out in the field," Cpl Sofia said.

Sometimes a vehicle presents a problem that stumps the team, particularly when it involves the electrical system.

Because the ASLAVs are older and the newer mechanics are trained on modern systems, they have to take a step back and use a multi-meter instead of relying on diagnostic computers.

"Sometimes we all just hit a brick wall and have to sleep on it. When we've been struggling, a good night's rest almost always helps us solve it in the morning," Cpl Sofia said.

The V Centre Veteran Empowerment Program

Your tax deductible donation supports homeless veterans with safe accommodation and personalised support.

Find out more:



VASEY
RSL Care

V CENTRE
Empowering Veterans

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN REME UK

The Craftsman Magazine

REME recently released their latest monthly Corps magazine, The Craftsman. This edition opens with an interesting piece that shares REME's Chief Engineer's reflections on the Corps' professionalisation of its personnel.

Another interesting story is one that discusses a Trade Development Course run over a 5-week period where selected Craftsman were given the opportunities to undertake a series of trade activities they may not have access to within units due to a possible lack of equipment, tooling or facilities.

Feel free to take a look at: <https://remeconnect.org/craftsman-magazine/>



A milestone birthday

27 May was a very special day as REME's oldest founding member, Hugh Bruce Powell, celebrated his 107th birthday.

Hugh (who goes by the name of Bruce) spent the day celebrating with family and friends, who had flown over from the UK to New Zealand especially for the occasion.

We join the whole REME Family in sending our fondest regards and wish Bruce a very happy 107th Birthday!

Arte et Marte.



Welcome to the Corps

On 6 Jun 25, MAJ Watson and WO2 (CSM) Metters had the privilege of watching the recruits of Jackson Company, Army Training Centre Pirbright, complete their pass off parade in front of their friends and families. Throughout their time at Basic Training the recruits demonstrated incredible commitment and fortitude, and the Corps looks forward to welcoming them to Initial Trade Training.

Special mention goes to those who won platoon awards: CFN Laugly (Best Endeavour), CFN Lessing (Best Shot), CFN Allen and Putman (Best at Physical Training) and CFN Clements (Soldier's Soldier).



King's Birthday Honours and Awards

Many congratulations to the 22 REME Serving Personnel recognised on His Majesty The King's Birthday Honours List 2025 🇬🇧

OBE – COL Rich NEWLAND

MBE – LTCOLs Katy BADHAM-THORNHILL & Steve CANDLIN, MAJs Paul YOUNG & Will COOK, CAPT Michael EYNON VR and SSGT Emmanuel OPPONG

King's Commendation for Valuable Service – MAJ Paul WOOSTER

MSM – WO1s Daniel BENTON, Jonathon FARISH, James HALLIWELL & Benjamin SMITH, WO2s Adam CROSER & Thomas EATOUGH, and SSGT Michael BLOWER

CGS (4*) Commendation – WO1 Ian REASON

CFA (3*) Commendation – CAPT Paula CHRISTIE, WO1 Martin LOVERIDGE, WO2 Sean RAVENSCROFT, and SSGT James COPE

Joint Commander Commendation – MAJ Darren KING and WO2 Ben LOCKYER



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RCEME CANADA

New RCEME Director – COL Daniel Fontaine

Our Canadian brethren were recently pleased to announce an important change in the governance of their Corps.

On 13 June 2025, COL Daniel R. Fontaine officially assumed the role of Director of the RCEME Corps (DRCEME), succeeding COL Angie B. Lapointe.

The Corps extended their sincere thanks to COL Lapointe for her outstanding leadership, dedication, and service to the RCEME Corps. Her contributions have left a lasting impact, and we wish her continued success in her future endeavours.

As RCEME welcomes Col Fontaine, they look forward to the experience, vision, and leadership he brings to this role. His guidance will be instrumental in shaping the future of the Corps, and they are excited to begin this new chapter under his direction.

Please join RCEME in thanking COL Lapointe and congratulating COL Fontaine. Together, they will continue to strengthen and advance the RCEME Corps.

A message on behalf of the new Corps Director:

I am extremely proud and deeply honoured to assume the role of Director RCEME. As we embark on this new chapter together, my vision is focused on the future — a future where we build upon the proud traditions and strengths of our Corps, while embracing innovation and new ways of doing business.

The demands of the 21st century Canadian Army and Canadian Armed Forces continue to evolve, and so must we. Together, we will review how we operate, identify opportunities to modernize our practices, and ensure that the RCEME Corps remains agile, resilient, and fully prepared to meet the operational challenges of today and tomorrow.

I would also like to sincerely thank Col Angie Lapointe for her outstanding leadership and unwavering dedication as Director RCEME. Her contributions have laid a strong foundation upon which we will continue to build.

With the collective expertise, commitment, and professionalism of our exceptional RCEME members, I am confident that we will continue to deliver world-class support to the Canadian Armed Forces while shaping a modernized Corps that reflects the excellence and adaptability that define us.

Arte et Marte! COL Daniel Fontaine

Trade Skills Challenge

From April 11–13, 2025, 39 Service Battalion hosted Exercise SALISH SKILLS which pulsed with the energy of excellence, teamwork, and tradecraft — a dynamic skills competition that brought together the best of Royal Canadian Logistics Service and Corps of RCEME.

Soldiers from across the Combat Service Support (CSS) community including 32 Service Battalion of Canada and 41 Service Battalion engaged in a series of trade-focused challenges designed to sharpen technical skills and foster teamwork. While junior members competed in hands-on tasks, senior NCOs and officers participated in a professional development session through the visit to the Kruger Paper Factory which added a real-world perspective on supply chain operations, tying together theory and practice in a meaningful way. The event not only reinforced core competencies but also strengthened bonds across Combat Service Support units.



RAEME'S FIRST YEAR

Below is the Army newspaper from 01 Jul 1943, being the first year since RAEME's establishment. This can be reviewed on the National Library of Australia's Trove Database at: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/3351300>

ARMY NEWS

Issued Free To All Services In The Northern Territory

Vol. 1—No. 228 DARWIN, THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1943 'Phone Larr. 42

Federal Poll August 21

The Federal elections will be held on August 21.

Writs will be issued on July 8.

Nominations will close on July 18.

[Points from Federal Election Press—Page 2.]

CHURCHILL'S REVIEW OF WAR

Predicts Heavy Fighting Before Autumn In The Mediterranean

In a fighting speech in London yesterday, Mr. Churchill said: "It is very probable that there will be heavy fighting in the Mediterranean and elsewhere before the leaves of autumn fall."

He announced remarkable success in the sea war in May and June and promised that the tremendous air offensive would continue and expand.

He repeated the promise he made in America that, if Germany and Italy were beaten first, Britain would send every available man, ship and plane to fight Japan until she gave in.

Mr. Churchill spoke in the Guildhall at a ceremony in which he had conferred on him the Freedom of the City of London.

Australian airmen gave him the thumbs-up sign as he drove to the Guildhall and in his speech he mentioned that "that distinguished Australian, Dr. Evatt," was in London.

PRIDE FOR EMPIRE

Mr. Churchill said that some people liked the word "Commonwealth." Others, as he was one of them, were not at all ashamed of the word "Empire."

Therefore he thought that the expression "British Commonwealth and Empire" might be found the most convenient means of describing "this unique association of races and religions, built up partly by conquest and largely by consent, but unconsciously without design and within the embracing golden circle of the Crown."

He said that the British Commonwealth—except Southern Ireland—had failed to respond to the trumpet call of supreme crisis.

Each one of the countries was an outstanding example of the triumph of mind over matter and of the human heart over fear and short-sighted self-interest.

IMPORTANCE OF USA

Mr. Churchill said that upon the association of the United States and Britain depended more than anything else the immediate future of the world.

"If they march together, all will be well," he said, "if they fall apart, there is no end to the misery and confusion which await modern civilization."

"It is the hard, cold, unadorned truth. Yet there are many light and wayward spirits in the countries who share through the unshakable of this fundamental fact."

Mr. Churchill said it was a fact in no way derogatory to other nations.

"We nourish the spirit of friendship towards the valiant free nations with whom we have made a 20-year treaty of friendship and mutual aid."

He said amid applause.

Britain and America, he said, had been fighting as one army, one navy, and one air force.

"So we must continue," he declared, "until the unconditional surrender of all our foes has been achieved."

WAR ON JAPAN

"Should Hitler's Germany and Mussolini's Italy collapse under the final thrusts of the not inconsiderable exertions of the British and American armies in the Mediterranean and elsewhere," he continued, "and should the war industries of Germany be blasted out of existence by the British and American air power, and the victory be achieved before Japan has been laid low, I stand here to tell you today, as I told the Congress of the United States in your name, that every man, every ship and every aeroplane in the King's service that can be moved to the Pacific will be sent and will be maintained in action by the British Commonwealth, in priority over all other interests, for as many flaming years as are needed to make the Japanese submit or bite the dust." (Cheers)

SUCCESS IN SEA WAR

Mr. Churchill said that the general progress of the war was satisfactory. In May two great battles had been won—in Tunisia and over the U-boats.

"In May," he said, "the Germans made serious mistakes in the movement to Great Britain of enormous convoys of food and war materials from the United States. Long lines of U-boats were spread to intercept these convoys and peace."

of 15 or 20 U-boats were found concentrated.

"To meet this, British, American and Canadian sea and air forces hurled their strength upon the U-boats. The fighting was mainly around the convoys."

"It ended in the total defeat of the U-boat attack. More than 30 U-boats were certainly destroyed in May, foundering in many cases with their crews."

STAGGERED BY LOSSES

"Staggered by these deadly losses, the U-boats have been recalled to lick their wounds. The convoys came safely through."

"Now, as a result of the May victory, and the massacre of the U-boats, we have had in June the best month from several points of view that we have ever known in the whole of the war."

"The prodigious ship-building exertions of the United States and the considerable contribution of Britain and Canada have produced an output of new ships between seven and 10 times as large as our losses from enemy action in June."

"Since the middle of May scarcely a single merchant ship has been sunk in the whole of the North Atlantic."

"In general, also, although the convoys are not being seriously attacked at present, U-boat losses have been most mild and unimportant. Great improvement will be maintained or that bad patches do not lie ahead."

"Encouraged by the growing success of our methods, we must redouble our efforts and ingenuity."

[Continued on Page Four]

HEAVY TOLL OF U-BOATS

At least 14 U-boats have been sunk in the last fortnight.

The Germans admit that sinkings by U-boats in June were the lowest yet recorded, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Stockholm newspaper Tidningen.

Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, British High Commissioner in Canada, was announced the last fortnight's toll of U-boats, said in Ottawa that the tables had been completely turned.

The success, he said, was a necessary prelude to an Allied invasion of Europe.

—Y—

RUSSIAN GAIN WEST OF MOSCOW

Yesterday's Moscow communique reports that in a short, hard battle west of Moscow, the Russians occupied a strongly-fortified hill.

They killed more than 200 Germans and took arms and equipment. Russian bombers attacked Tarnopol, a supply base for the Kuban, and targets in the Orul bulge.

—Y—

[MR. STIMSON ON RUSSIA—P. 5]

Tram Wrecker

An attempt to wreck a tram by placing a steel plate in a point of the line was made in Macquarie Avenue, Manly, Sydney, on Tuesday night.

The plate was two and a half feet long and six inches wide. The plate penetrated the floor of the tram, damaging part of the undercarriage and struck a woman as she alighted.

—Y—

RECORD COAL OUTPUT

Australia produced a record quantity of coal—nearly 15,000,000 tons—last year, compared with 13,500,000 tons in 1939, 11,750,000 tons in 1938 and 11,250,000 tons in 1937.

Marriage Stopped (From Page 2)

How the operation of the checking system introduced recently enabled police to prevent a married soldier, who posed as a bachelor, marrying a girl aged 18 was told in the Criminal Court when William Hall Duggan, 25, was sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Duggan met the girl at Ipswich, stayed at her parents' home and proposed marriage.

By means of the checking system, it was discovered that Duggan had a wife and child.

On April 21 police arrived at the girl's home and found her assisting her parents to decorate the breakfast room for the wedding.

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT HOME – VICTORIA (From Page 2)

Soldier Wounded. More than eight shots were fired, and an Allied serviceman received a bullet wound in the foot following a disturbance at a railway siding at Port Melbourne.

CPL William Wright was shot during a disturbance, and was admitted to a military hospital. -he was reported yesterday to be making satisfactory progress. Detectives investigating the shooting discovered eight spent bullet cases from a heavy calibre revolver, and learned that the shots had been fired after three men had assaulted the corporal.

CHURCHILL'S REVIEW OF WAR

Predicts Heavy Fighting Before Autumn in the Mediterranean

In a fighting speech in London yesterday, Mr. Churchill said: "It is very probable that there will be heavy fighting in the Mediterranean and elsewhere before the leaves of autumn fall."

He announced remarkable success in the sea war in May and June and promised that the tremendous air offensive would continue and expand.

He repeated the promise he made in America that, if Germany and Italy were beaten first, Britain would send every available man, ship and plane to fight Japan until she gave in.

Mr. Churchill spoke in the Guild Hall at a ceremony in which he had conferred on him the Freedom of the City of London.

Australian airmen gave him the thumbs-up sign as he drove to the Guild Hall and in his speech, he mentioned that "that distinguished Australian, Dr. Evatt" was in London....

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE UPDATE

The following Determination has been signed and is effective on 17 July 2025.

[Defence Determination, Conditions of service \(Living-in accommodation, housing contributions and allowances, and disturbance allowances\) Determination \(No. 7\) 2025](#)

This Determination has the following purposes.

- **Live-in accommodation contributions.** Amend the rates of contribution that members must make for their living-in accommodation. Living-in accommodation is a type of military accommodation that is provided for some single members, or members who do not have their families with them.
- **Allowance and contribution review.** Implement the annual review of allowances that members may receive for, and the contributions they are required to make towards, the cost of their accommodation, meals and utilities.
- **Disturbance allowance.** Amend the rate of disturbance allowance provided to eligible members and to the additional payment resulting from their child changing schools following a removal.

The following Determination has been signed and are effective on 5 June 2025.

[Defence Determination, Conditions of Service Amendment Determination 2025 \(No. 8\).](#)

This Determination has the following purposes.

- **Transition absence.** Clarify the requirements a member must satisfy to access transition absence days to be able to attend Defence Force transition program activities, employment-related activities, career transition training, education courses, or transition-related administrative activities.
- **Furniture storage.** Extend storage benefits to a member who is occupying an own home in their housing benefit location without any resident family or recognised other persons when they are deployed for 6 months or more and they choose to vacate the home for the duration of the deployment.
- **Overseas posting locations.** Include Beirut, Lebanon as a new posting location and the American Community School, Beirut as a new benchmark school for Beirut, Lebanon to ensure that a member who is posted to the location has access to the overseas conditions of service.
- **Reunion travel.** Amend the overseas reunion travel benefits to provide the following.
 - Clarify the number of reunion travel benefits a member is eligible for in a reunion year.
 - Provide reunion travel benefits for a member when they have a dependent who is a tertiary student studying in Australia or an overseas location that is not the member's posting location.
 - Provide that a member can travel to another overseas location for a reunion visit if the eligible person cannot travel to the member's posting location overseas.
 - To restructure the reunion travel provisions to reflect contemporary drafting standards.
- **Public transport reimbursement.** Update the total threshold amount for calculating the amount a member may be reimbursed in excess of the costs they incur for public transport when they travel to and from home to work.
- **School transport reimbursement.** Update the threshold for calculating the amount a member may be reimbursed in excess of the costs they incur for their child's school transport when they travel to and from home and school.
- **Definitions.** Amend the definition of 'housing benefit location' and 'family benefit location' to provide what the terms mean for a member who is on a long-term posting overseas.
- **Storage during deployment.** Clarify what storage benefits a member who is deployed for 6 months or longer who chooses to vacate their accommodation, or is directed to vacate their living-in accommodation, is eligible for.
- **Rent Allowance.** Extend the Early Eligibility for Rent Allowance Trial by 12 months.

The following Determination has been signed and are effective on 5 June 2025.

[Defence Determination, Conditions of Service Amendment Determination 2025 \(No. 9\).](#)

- The purpose of this Determination is to update continuation bonus provisions to better clarify the definition of effective service, and clarify how it is used in relation to the application rules for continuation bonus 1 and 2. Effective service in these instances includes periods of service in the Reserves undertaken on a continuous full-time service basis immediately before the member joined the Permanent Forces.
- The Determination also amends the savings provision in Defence Determination, Conditions of service Amendment (Continuation bonus) Determination (No. 2) 2025 (amending Determination) to ensure that members who are made an offer for the continuation bonus under the continuation bonus pilot are able to accept the offer until the end of 2025.

DVA NEWS – [Single Review Pathway](#)

As a DVA client you can appeal a decision that has been made.

What is the Single Review Pathway?

Currently, the appeal pathway for decisions made by DVA differs depending on which Act the claim falls under.

The appeal pathway for decisions made under the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 (VEA) and the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004 (MRCA) begins with a merits review conducted by the [Veterans' Review Board \(VRB\)](#), followed by a review at the [Administrative Review Tribunal \(ART\)](#).

Decisions made in respect of claims under the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation (Defence-related Claims) Act 1988 (DRCA) are reconsidered internally by DVA followed by review at the ART.

However, changes have been introduced that will result in a Single Review Pathway from 21 April 2025, which will harmonise the appeal pathways across each of the three Acts.

Applying for a review for of an original decision made prior to 21 April 2025

MRCA claimants

The [appeal process for MRCA decisions](#) made before 21 April 2025 will not change.

You will continue to have 12 months from the date of your determination letter to apply for a review by the VRB. In your request, you must state why you disagree with the decision.

Requests for review by the VRB will continue to be made through DVA for decisions made before 21 April 2025.

VEA claimants

The [appeal process for VEA decisions](#) made before 21 April 2025 will not change.

There are time limits, depending on the type of claim, for when you can ask the VRB to review a decision.

- Death or entitlement of a veteran: you have 12 months from the date you receive notice of the decision. However, we can only pay maximum arrears if you apply within 3 months of receiving notice of the decision. This means that you should apply for your review as soon as possible.
- The rate of pension or a claim for attendant allowance: you have 3 months from the date you receive notice of the decision.

Requests for review by the VRB will continue to be made through DVA for decisions made before 21 April 2025.

DRCA claimants

The [appeal process for DRCA](#) decisions made before 21 April 2025 will not change.

You have 30 days to request a reconsideration from DVA.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of that (DVA) reconsideration, you have 60 days from the date of the reconsideration decision to appeal to the ART.

Requests for reconsideration of DRCA decisions will continue to be made through DVA for decisions made before 21 April 2025.

Current VEA veterans

The [appeal process for VEA decisions](#) made before the commencement date of the Single Review Pathway (21 April 2025) has not changed.

There are time limits, depending on the type of claim, for when you can ask the VRB to review a decision.

- Death or entitlement of a veteran: you have 12 months from the date you receive notice of the decision. However, we can only pay maximum arrears if you apply within 3 months of receiving notice of the decision. This means that you should apply for your review as soon as possible.
- The rate of pension or a claim for attendant allowance: you have 3 months from the date you receive notice of the decision.

Current DRCA veterans

The [appeal process for DRCA](#) decisions made prior to the commencement date of the Single Review Pathway (21 April 2025) has not changed.

You have 30 days to request a reconsideration from DVA.

If you are not satisfied with the reconsideration you have 60 days from the date of the reconsideration decision to appeal to the ART.

Applying for a review of an original decision made from 21 April 2025

MRCA / VEA claimants

The VRB will remain as the first-tier review body for decisions made under the MRCA or VEA.

However, instead of applying for a VRB review through DVA, you will be required to apply directly to the VRB.

You can request a review in one of the following ways:

- Apply online via links at vrb.gov.au/how-apply
- send an email to reviews@vrb.gov.au
- send a letter to Veterans' Review Board (VRB), GPO Box 1631, SYDNEY NSW 2001.

You can go to vrb.gov.au for further information.

DVA NEWS – [Single Review Pathway](#) continued

If you are unsure about which appeal pathway applies to you, please consult the appeal rights in your determination letter.

DRCA claimants

Original decisions made under the DRCA on or after 21 April 2025 will be open to review by the VRB prior to progressing to the ART (if needed).

You will have 12 months from the date of the original decision to apply to the VRB.

Requests for review will be made directly to the VRB in one of the following ways:

- Apply online via links at vrb.gov.au/how-apply
- send an email to reviews@vrb.gov.au
- send a letter to Veterans' Review Board (VRB), GPO Box 1631, SYDNEY NSW 2001.

You can go to vrb.gov.au for further information.

If you are unsure about which appeal pathway applies to you, please consult the appeal rights in your determination letter.

What happens to my review that is currently in progress?

There will be no impact on reviews already in progress as at 21 April 2025. The appeal process will continue unchanged.

Note that any DRCA decisions made prior to 21 April 2025 which are yet to be appealed will also continue through the 'pre-commencement' review pathway.

Additional Resources

There is a range of additional resources available on the [Legislation Reform website](#) covering a variety of topics. There are individual pages for different [veteran cohorts](#) including VEA veterans, DRCA veterans, MRCA veterans and family members of veterans.

Access to the Booked Car with Driver (BCWD) Service

Veteran Gold and White Card holders with eligibility under the [Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 \(VEA\)](#) may have access to the BCWD service, where DVA arranges taxi or hire car transport on your behalf with no out of pocket expenses.

Access to the BCWD service

[Veteran Gold Card](#) and [Veteran White Card](#) holders with eligibility under the VEA may have access to the BCWD service.

The BCWD service is designed to meet the needs of clients experiencing vulnerability and access requires certain criteria to be met based on age and medical condition/s.

Who can access the Booked Car with Driver service?

Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Veteran Card holders with eligibility under the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 who are:

- ✓ Aged 80 years or over OR
- ✓ Living with dementia (any age) OR
- ✓ Legally blind (any age) OR
- ✓ Receiving DCP Special Rate (TPI) or EDA

OR

✓ 79 years or younger AND meet one or more of the specified conditions

Specified conditions for veteran card holders 79 years or younger

- A chronic or temporary condition that makes using public transport challenging.
- Any mental or physical condition that severely limits independence.
- Recent surgery or treatment that makes travelling by public transport difficult.

www.dva.gov.au/bcwd

Veteran White Card holders who meet the above criteria must be travelling for treatment of a condition covered by their card to access BCWD. To discuss your access or to make a booking, call 1800 550 455.

Disability Compensation Payment (DCP) or the Special Rate (commonly known as TPI) or the Extreme Disability Adjustment (EDA) rate automatically meet the medical condition criterion.

If you cannot access the BCWD service

If you cannot access the BCWD service, you may be eligible to claim full reimbursement of taxi, rideshare, community transport and public transport fares when travelling for approved treatment. The following pages have more

information on claiming reimbursement for travelling expenses:

- [Claim travel expenses under the VEA](#)
- [We may repay your travel costs under MRCA or DRCA](#)

You can also [contact us](#) to discuss your transport options.

What you can receive

We may arrange for a taxi or hire car to take you from your home to your closest practical treatment location, with no out-of-pocket expenses.

If you live a long distance from your closest practical treatment location, we may provide you with a pre-arranged flight or rail transport. This is only when it is clinically necessary and is the most suitable and economical means of transport.

Access if you are aged over 80, or legally blind or living with dementia or receiving DCP Special Rate (TPI) or EDA

Veteran Gold Card holder

You can access the BCWD service to travel to all approved treatment locations if you are a [Veteran Gold Card](#) holder who is any of the following:

- aged 80 years or over; OR
- legally blind (any age); OR
- living with dementia (any age).



Veteran White Card holder

You can access the BCWD service to travel to all approved treatment locations if you are a [Veteran White Card](#) holder who is:



- travelling for treatment of an accepted service-related condition/s or specific condition/s covered under [Non-Liability Health Care \(NLHC\)](#)

and you meet any of the following:

- aged 80 years or over; OR
- legally blind (any age); OR
- living with dementia (any age).

Access if you are aged 79 years or younger

Veteran Gold Card holder

If you are a [Veteran Gold Card](#) holder aged 79 years or younger, you can access the BCWD service if you have 1 or more of the [specific medical conditions](#).

If you are a [Veteran White Card](#) holder aged 79 years or younger, you can access the BCWD service if you meet all of the following conditions:

- you are travelling for treatment of an accepted service-related condition/s or specific condition/s covered under NLHC;
- you have 1 or more of the [specific medical conditions](#).

Veterans receiving DCP Special Rate (TPI) or EDA automatically meet the medical condition criterion and do not need to provide further information about their conditions.

Medical conditions

When booking, you will need to state which of the following categories you meet, but you do not need to state your specific medical condition.

- a chronic or temporary condition that makes using public transport challenging.
- Including but not limited to frailty or incontinence
- any mental or physical condition that severely limits independence.
 - Including but not limited to respiratory issues, amputation, arthritis, cardiac disorders, vascular disease, paralysis, significant muscle control or coordination issues, significant mental disorders, psychosis.
- recent surgery or treatment that makes travelling by public transport difficult.

How much you pay

There will be no cost to you if we arrange your transport.

How to make a booking

To book transport you can either:

- book online using [MyService](#)
- call [1800 550 455](#).

If your health provider is registered with our online services, they can book your transport through their online account.

A family member, friend, health provider or authorised representative can also call [1800 550 455](#) to make a booking on your behalf.

If you have booked a return journey, please ask your driver for a 'right of return' card so you can make arrangements with the transport contractor to travel home after your appointment.

If you live a long distance from your treatment provider and you require long distance transport, please call us on [1800 550 455](#).

Please note that transport requests made online or through [MyService](#) outside of business hours may not be confirmed until the next business day. Please refer to 'Travelling after hours or on weekends' below for alternative options to ensure your travel arrangements are in place.

Travelling after hours or on weekends

If you need travel for treatment after hours or on the weekend, you need to contact us during office hours to book. If your transport has not been pre-arranged and you need to travel for treatment, you will need to pay for your travel and submit a claim for reimbursement.

Specific travel arrangements

Please tell us when you make your booking if you require specific travel arrangements such as:

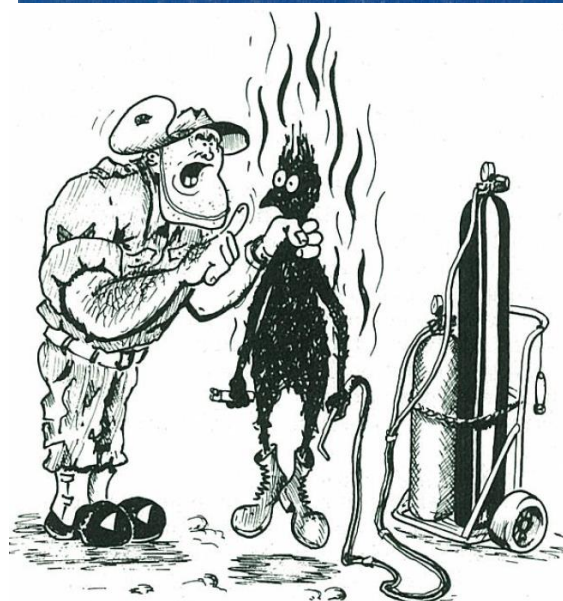
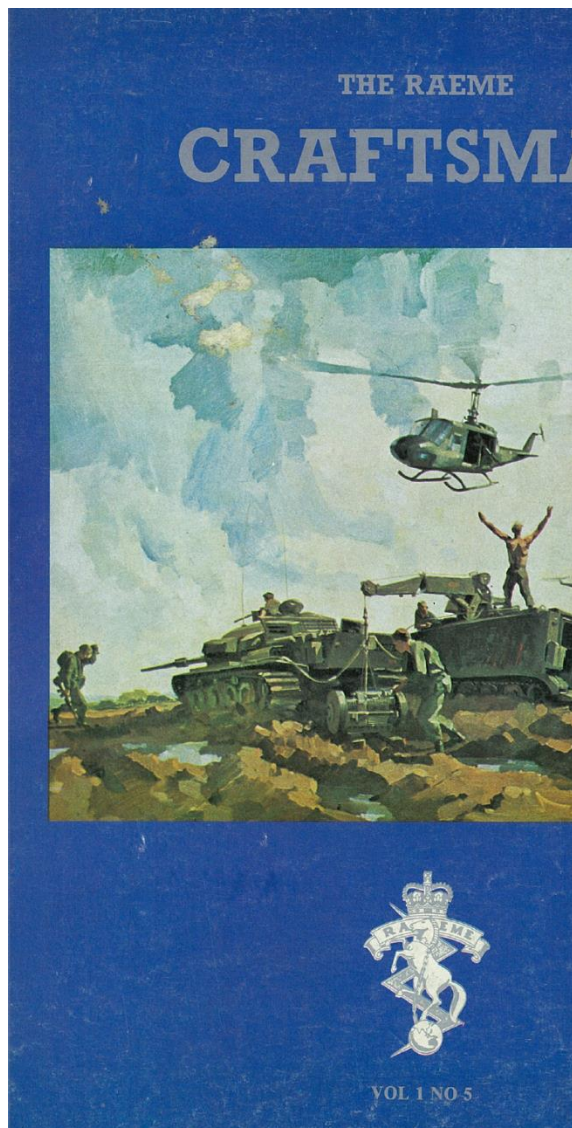
- requiring a wheelchair accessible vehicle
- travelling with your medically required attendant
- travelling with an Assistance Dog

How to book transport online with MyService



LOOKING BACK

On reviewing Edition 5 of our Corps magazine, *The RAEME Craftsman*, from December 1980, I was drawn to both the cover image and the editorial comments that related to both the image, and the name of the publication. It seems that some recent discussions actually started decades ago. There is clearly nothing new under the sun.



"WHY DIDN'T VA USE THE IGNITER IN THE CES VA BLOODY MUG, THOSE DISPOSABLE CIGARETTE LIGHTERS ARE POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS!"

EDITORIAL



On behalf of the editorial board I want to thank our many correspondents (including those from overseas) for their words of encouragement, praise and criticism.

You now have a problem on the name of your Corps magazine. As you are no doubt aware, the ladies have joined our ranks and may possibly be known as Craftswomen; that would make the "Craftsman", as a title, appear a little male chauvinistic, but I would draw your attention to the COD edition 6 and the strict definition of the word.

I personally don't care for "Craftsperson" but I, and the board are open to suggestions. Perhaps the ladies would like to help out.

Back to contributions, we are inundated with submissions right on the deadline, and quite a few units and individuals will miss out. If they are not outdated we will try to use the articles in our next issue, but please, in future, don't leave it too late, and remember that we are limited by contract to a maximum number of pages per copy.

The editorial board wishes you all a Merry Christmas and looks forward to your continuing support in the New Year.

COVER:

The cover is a reproduction of the Corps Painting on display at RAEME Training Centre. The wording that accompanies the painting is:

"In November 1969 a troop of gun tanks supported by an ARV became bogged in the 'light green' east of the long Hai Hills in the Phouc Tuy Province of the Republic of Vietnam."

In addition to the bogged vehicle, two gun tanks were immobilised, one with a gear box failure and one with a final drive failure.

Whilst the crews and the ARV, with stirring efforts on the shovels GS (Aust) extricated the two serviceable gun tanks, a Forward Repair Team was deployed from 106 Fd Wksp to provide the lift necessary for replacement of two failed MUA's. The M113A1 (Fitters) transported the gear box (inside the vehicle) while the final drive assembly was lifted in by CH47 Chinook. The repair and re-supply operations were timed to enable the CH47 to "back haul" the two repairable assemblies.

The operation was conducted over a seven hour period. The organic RAEME commitment was an ARV, crewed by two Recovery Mechanics, one Electrician and three Vehicle Mechanics. The non-organic commitment was provided by 106 Field Workshop Forward Repair Team comprising one M113A1 (Fitter) crewed by three Vehicle Mechanics.

Troops involved were 4 TP Squadron from 1 Armoured Regiment consisting of four main battle tanks under command of Sgt Browning (RAAC) on operation control to a company of Australian Infantry (Battalion not known).

Prints may be purchased from the Corps Committee Treasurer, RAEME Training Centre, Bandiana.

SOLDIER'S 5 QUIZ

Answers at bottom of page

1. **People.** What were Breaker Morant's (pictured) last words reported to be?
2. **Places.** In what city would you find Porton Barracks?
3. **Things.** What is the highest current non-commissioned rank in the Australian Army?
4. **Events.** Which was the first apprentice intake that accepted female apprentices?
5. **Trade.** In what part of a car engine would you find the points and a rotor?



INVICTUS AUSTRALIA NEWS

Below is a summary of Invictus Australia activities in which you can participate nationwide this month. To find more details about these and more events or Invictus Australia in general, please visit: <https://invictusaustralia.org/events/month/2025-07/>

Date	Time	State	City/Region	Activity
Tues 01 st July	10:00 - 11:00 am	ACT	Queanbeyan	Yoga
	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm		Gungahlin	Yoga at Burgmann Anglican School Valley Campus Chapel
Weds 02 nd	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	SE-Qld	Toowoomba	Women in Fitness HIIT Program
		N-Qld	Cairns	Women in Fitness HIIT Program
Thurs 03 rd	5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	NSW	Nowra	Term 2- Yoga
	5:15 pm - 6:30 pm	SE-Qld	Brisbane	Women in Fitness HIIT Program
	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	N-Qld	Townsville	Women in Fitness HIIT Program
		SE-Qld	Toowoomba	Yoga Term 2
	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	SE-Qld	Ipswich	Women in Fitness HIIT Program
Fri 04 th	9:30 am - 11:00 am	NSW	Maitland	(not)parkrun Walking Group
Tues 08 th	10:00 - 11:00 am	ACT	Queanbeyan	Yoga
Weds 09 th	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	N-Qld	Cairns	Women in Fitness HIIT Program
		SE-Qld	Toowoomba	Women in Fitness HIIT Program
	7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	NSW	Stockton	(not)parkrun Walking Group
Thurs 10 th	5:15 pm - 6:30 pm	SE-Qld	Brisbane	Women in Fitness HIIT Program
	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	N-Qld	Townsville	Women in Fitness HIIT Program
	6:00 pm - 7:00pm	SE-Qld	Ipswich	Women in Fitness HIIT Program
Fri 18 th	9:30 am - 11:00 am	NSW	Maitland	(not)parkrun Walking Group
Weds 23 rd	7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	NSW	Stockton	(not)parkrun Walking Group
Sun 27 th	9:00am - 1:00pm	SE-Qld	Kooralbyn	True Grit

CLOSING COMMENTS

That's about it for this edition. If you would like to submit something for future editions, or if you would like to see something in particular published that is relevant to the Corps, please email me at: Secretary@act.raeme.org.au.

Arte et Marte,

Ian Cook
Secretary, ACT RAEME Association



President: Andy Adams, President@act.raeme.org.au

Secretary: Ian Cook, Secretary@act.raeme.org.au

Website: <https://act.raeme.org.au>



Membership of the Association is free to all serving or former members with a connection to RAEME who also live or work within the ACT region.

Soldier's 5 Quiz Answers 1. "Shoot straight, you bastards!" nothing that this is questioned in various accounts 2. Cairns, N-Qld; 3. Sergeant; 4. 39th Intake, 1984; 5. The Distributor