



RAE CORPS NEWSLETTER

THIRD MILITARY DISTRICT

APRIL 1988

THE WATERLOO DINNER

The first Waterloo Dinner was held in a dugout at Anzac Cove on 18 June 1915.

On that day a party of the 2nd Field Company under Lieutenant S.H. Watson of the First Divisional Signal Company completed 'Watson's' pier which was to become the first structure of significance in the Anzac area. The pier consisted of nineteen bays of pile construction with a depth of water thirteen feet.

As 18 June 1915 was also the one hundredth anniversary of Waterloo, Major C.H. Foott suggested that 'Waterloo' Dinner be held in his dugout that evening to celebrate both events. With his aid and direction, a special menu was designed by Sapper Roach of the Signal Company. Copies were distributed and were signed by all present as souvenirs.

Lieutenant Watson mailed his menu home and later presented it to the then Colonel Commandant RAE, Brigadier W. Veale CBE MC DCM ED for the Corps Archives. It is now displayed in the RAE Corps Mess at the School of Military Engineering.

Wherever Sappers have been since, they have gathered at this time to commemorate the spirit of fellowship and achievement celebrated at Gallipoli.

The RAE Corps Officers' Mess 3MD was established on 22 July 1924 and the Dining President for the 1988 Waterloo Dinner is the Chief Engineer of the Third Military District, Colonel V.A. Morgan.

In 1955, the Mess was designated a Corps Mess and a Colonel Commandant was appointed for the Southern Command, now the Third Military District. The present Colonel Commandant is Brigadier I.G.C. Gilmore, OBE.

In 1934, the Engineer Depot moved from Alexandra Avenue (where it was located since 1889) to Swan Street. The Depot is the centre of the Army Reserve Engineers in Victoria, the Sixth Engineer Group, commanded by Colonel K.J. McManus.

Together, the Colonel Commandant, the Chief Engineer, and the Group Commander comprise the Third Military District Corps Committee and most warmly welcome you to our 1988 Waterloo Dinner.

RAE CORPS MATTERS 1988

1. In the Bicentenary year the Director of Engineers plans a number of corps activities to be conducted in the Holsworthy/Moorebank area in the period 25 Jun - 3 Jul 88. The proposed activities include:

- a. the 1988 RAE Corps Conference,
- b. opening of the Bicentenary Museum building,
- c. an international FE Tp competition,
- d. production of a souvenir calender, and
- e. a special Waterloo dinner.

2. The Bicentenary Museum building will be officially opened by the CDF on Fri 1 Jul 88 followed by the special Waterloo Dinner.

RAE CORPS SUBSCRIPTIONS

3. Subscriptions to the RAE Corps Fund are collected by the MD Sub-Committees each year. 60% of the monies collected are forwarded to the RAE Corps Fund and the remaining monies stay in 3MD. These monies are used to support activities conducted by the Corps Committee and are their sole source of income.

4. The subscription to the Corps Fund is based on twenty percent of one day's pay for serving members, and retired members are asked to donate \$15.00.

5. The Corps Committee has set the 1988 subscriptions as follows:

	<u>ARA</u>	<u>ARES</u>
SGT	12.50	9.50
SSGT	15.00	11.50
WO2	17.00	13.00
WO1	18.50	14.50
LT	14.50	11.50
CAPT	17.00	14.00
MAJ	21.00	17.50
LTCOL	24.00	20.60
COL	28.00	23.50
BRIG	32.50	27.50
MAJGEN	37.50	