

THE CLIPPED WINGS



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AIR DISPATCH ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

DECEMBER 2016

President's Report



Hello Everyone,

Well another season is over and we are looking at another scorcher of a summer.

In the last four months, we have had several truly sad events where we have lost members and loved ones but there has been one joyous event.

It wasn't until after we had put out our Spring Edition of the Clipped Wings and we were made aware of the passing of our previous Western Australian Representative, Doug Carpenter, who passed away on 10 August. In September, we lost our Secretary and Clipped Wings Editor, Jim Piet and the day after, Colin Daisley (Ex 39 AD PI). Grant Foster also lost his brother, Craig. In October, Tony Hordern's wife, Pauline also passed. So, as you can see we have been pretty busy dealing with passed members and loved ones and our condolences go to all family members and friends. Our joyous event was for one of our Management Committee Members, Geoff Cutts whose wife Wendy presented him with a son, Benjamin Eric Cutts on 4 November and our congratulations go to Geoff, Wendy and the family.

With Jim Piet's passing, some members did not receive their copy of the September Clipped Wings. If you would like a copy, please contact me and I will ensure one is posted out to you. The Editor's role for this publication has been taken on by Joyce and myself.

Thanks to Lou Heidenreich for taking over the reins of Secretary, at least until the next AGM. Unfortunately time has been against us, and we don't have a Secretary's report for this issue. Jim was also listed as our Public Officer. This role has been taken over by Ned Miller, who will advise the ADAA of any changes to the legislation for charitable organisations. Thanks, Ned for stepping up to the plate.

We have had a number of events since our last edition; the annual CMF – Ares reunion, held at North Richmond Sporting Club, the trip to Floriade in Canberra and a visit to the War Memorial, the South Australian Veteran's Health Week Barbeque and in Melbourne, a Veteran's Health Week Luncheon and Fashion Parade. Well done to all those involved in organising those events. Next month, our only

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planned event is in Queensland and is a luncheon to be held at Beenleigh RSL on 3 December. Please contact Kemm Baber for details and bookings. Thanks to our State Reps, we have managed to have at least one function in every state. It appears nothing happens in Western Australia, that's why there are no functions held over there.

We have obtained the prototype design for the embroidery to be used on the polo shirts for next year's reunion, celebrating the 75th anniversary of air drops on the Kokoda Trail. The shirts are to be a navy blue with the art work on the left side and the kangaroo and crossed swords on the right side. Final designs will be posted as soon as they are approved. Because we are reviewing our holdings of merchandise, these shirts will only be available by order through our Merchandising Officer, Kim Harris, so you will have to call or email if you want a shirt. New maroon shirts are also being sourced for a simple design of just the brevet. These will also be posted when available.



The reunion next year, in Melbourne is shaping up well more information is available inside this edition.

A thing that affects all of us is the ADAA has been given approval to use the RACT Air Dispatch Brevet as our logo for all correspondence and merchandise. This was formally passed by the Deputy Head of Corps and Commanding Officer of the Army School of Transport, Lt Col Paul Rogers. Thank you, Paul, for this great honour.

I have had contact from the Platoon Commander of 22 Pl at 1 RTB, Kapooka, Lt Cameron Smith. He wants to ensure our affiliation with the platoon is strengthened and I, and some other committee members, have been invited to attend the March Out Parade on 9 December this year.

We have had some interesting times this year; the International Reunion in April being the highlight of the year with people still talking about what a good time they had. The inaugural Myola Day Dinner and Ball in August and various dinners, trips and events all designed to ensure members of the ADAA have opportunities to get out and enjoy what is available in this great country. If you have any ideas on what our members might enjoy, drop me, or any of the committee members or state reps, a line and we will see what we can put together for you.

So, as we reflect on the events of this year, the highs and the lows and we start preparing for the Christmas holidays, please stay safe and we look forward to catching up with everybody in Melbourne.

From Joyce and myself, have a very Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring you everything you wish for.

Until next time, take care.

Cheers,
Nicko (Nov 16)

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Treasurer's Report

Since the last Annual General Meeting, a few things have changed including our Banking organisation. We have ceased to use the Bank of Queensland and have opened new accounts with Westpac. The main reason for this was because Westpac is more accessible Australia wide, and has more branches available to our members. For everyone's information, we have four new accounts

- Admin, where all our annual fees go and this pays our insurance and other annual and monthly admin charges.
- Merchandise, which covers all our apparel, promotional items and badges.
- Grants, which covers any grants we receive from DVA or other government bodies,
- Fund Raising, which goes to welfare, events, and reunions. This in particular, is where those who get involved with our fundraising activities will receive more benefits than those that don't get involved.

Any members who have Bank of Queensland account details saved could you please change them to the following Westpac Account No's

- Admin - BSB: 032 814 - Account No: 485891 – Name: Air Dispatch Association of Australia
- Merchandise – BSB: 032 814 – Account No: 485920 – Name: As Above

Now on to other matters. Our fundraising BBQ's have been curtailed with the impending closure of Masters, but we did achieve an amazing result at our last BBQ at Penrith Masters on Saturday the 4th of September with everyone out shopping for a bargain. We had to restock supplies numerous times throughout the day and sold through 60 kg of sausages on the Saturday alone and had to purchase more on Sunday morning for our Father's Day BBQ at Bunnings Penrith, as well as all other supplies. \$4500 was banked in the following week from the two BBQ's. Sausages were off the menu at home for the next month. Nicko and Joyce have been busy with The BBQ's on the first Tuesday of each month at Bunnings Wollongong and have also picked up the first Friday of each month at Bunnings Kirrawee. Our next BBQ at Penrith is on Saturday 18th of December at Bunnings North Penrith if anyone is available to help out. Thank you to everyone who has helped with these BBQ's and especially Joyce and Nicko who have continued bringing in the fundraising dollars with the Bunnings BBQ's every month at Wollongong and Kirrawee. If anyone has any fundraising ideas, please drop us an email and let us know.

As Christmas is fast approaching, Kim and I would like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and a great New Year. Stay safe and enjoy time spent with family and friends.

Geoff Harris

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Merchandise Report

We have just received samples of new ties that will be available to purchase through the store on our website in the New Year. We have had our Maroon ADAA tie remade with the updated logo as we had sold out of this colour and we have also had a matching bowtie made for all those very official functions. Our brand-new tie is a black one with red poppies and our logo in gold, the members that have seen the design on paper were impressed with this new tie, that will be added to our merchandise stock.

As our older clothing merchandise is limited in sizes and we now have approval to use the AD Brevet we will be having a clearance sale on the older stock and replacing with new items in the New Year. We will also be having a sale on the remaining 2016 Reunion merchandise, (see flyer in this issue of Clipped Wings).

We are working on other new merchandise items that will be revealed to our members in the New Year, through the website so keep a lookout for what's new in the store on the website.

If anyone has any ideas on what they would like to see in our merchandise stock, please email them to us – merchandise@adaa.net.au. Input on this from everyone, helps us to produce merchandise that is wanted by our members.

Thank you to everyone who has purchased merchandise this year from the Association, we are looking forward to releasing new items in the New Year.

Kim Harris

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SNEAK PEAK AT OUR NEW TIES
AVAILABLE IN THE NEW YEAR.

New Maroon Tie with
Gold ADAA Logo.

New Maroon Bow Tie
with Gold ADAA Logo.
Coming Soon to the
Merchandise Shop



New Poppy Tie with
ADAA Logo.

Coming Soon to the
Merchandise Shop.



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MERCHANDISE CLEARANCE SALE REUNION & OLD LOGOs

2016 Reunion Polo Shirt
Was \$32.00
Now \$25.00
Sizes available 1 x Medium
1 x Large and
2 x 2XL



2016 Reunion Jacket
Was \$50.00
Now \$42.00
Sizes available 1 x Large
2 x X-Large
3 x 2XL



2016 Reunion Chambray Shirt
Was \$45.00
Now \$38.00
One only size 4XL



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2016 Ladies Reunion T-shirt
Was \$38.00
Now \$32.00
Sizes available Green - 16/18/20
Blue - 20



Maroon Aerial Delivery Polo shirt
Was \$35.00
Now \$28.00
Sizes Available 13 x 2XL
1 x 3XL



Maroon ADAA Polo Shirt
Was \$35.00
Now \$28.00
Only 3 x X-Large



For purchases of these merchandise items please email Kim Harris at merchandise@adaa.net.au or contact Kim on 0438 635905 or Geoff on 0458 000932. Postage will be extra on all sales.

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NSW State Rep Report

Hi All

A great time was had by the group who went by bus to Canberra for Floriade in October. The weather was great and we learned how to make scones from the CWA ladies. Then following day short trip to War Memorial after overnight stay and very enjoyable dinner. A full write up appears later in this newsletter.

Proposed activities for 2017 / 2018 in NSW / ACT for all members from all states:

- Singleton Army Camp Infantry Museum. Overnight & dinner. Next day Newcastle RAAF Williamtown Fighter World Museum.
- Nowra - day trip by bus to Fleet Air Museum.
- Day trip to Garden Island
- Dubbo Zoo - overnighter - dinner - train trip.
- Albury-Wodonga - Bandiana Museum -overnighter/dinner -train trip again
- Canberra War Memorial whole day plus next morning as need longer to see everything than we had last time.

Sausage Sizzles are still on at Bunnings Penrith. Hoping to arrange Bunnings Narellan. Bunnings Wollongong and now Kirrawee still going strong every month. (Big thanks to Joyce & Nicko, Geoff & Kim Harris , Eddy, Andrew & Hannah Cornish, Rusty & Ros Towers, Leonie Moorhead, Mark Easthope, Matt & Lara Conwell, Vince & Gerda Head, Nick & Lockie Piet – Jim's sons, and anyone I have forgotten).

Anzac Day 2017 is in Melbourne organised by Geoff Cutts. Some members from NSW planning to go down to reunion by train. Expressions of interest for Anzac Day & Reunion 2018 needed please.

Still looking into possibility of building permanent Poppy Park in Penrith - ADAA to be involved with others on this one.

Wishing you all a safe and Happy Christmas & New Year. Hope to see you at one of our sausage sizzles.

Grant Foster
NSW rep

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Our New Marquee

Earlier this year, whilst at a sausage sizzle at Masters, Penrith, Mark Easthope told us he could get a 6 metre by 3 metre frame for our association for nothing. Realising we were going to lose Masters in the near future we thought if we get one of these big marquees, we could use it for sausage sizzles at venues that don't supply the equipment and other activities. The committee got their collective heads together and it was decided if we paid for the canvas cover, we had a decent sized canopy to use.

Our Vice President, Anthony Eddie, ran with the task and after deciding on what was appropriate for artwork, ordered the new canvas at a cost of about \$1,400.00. As the photo shows, it is quite a distinctive colour and layout.

The marquee is available for hire for members of the association for private functions and all we ask is a donation and that the person who hires it is responsible for any damage.

As the marquee is stored in the Penrith area, it would be mainly available to people in the Sydney / New South Wales area, unless you are willing to pay for transport interstate.



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EVENTS

CMF A-res Reunion September 2016

A most enjoyable get together was had by members of the Air dispatch community on Saturday 10 September at the Nth Richmond Panthers club.

This is our third reunion in three years. Each year more old faces pop up including an ex Troop commander (Paul Bates) who some will remember from the Silverwater days along with several other members from the 1AASO days in the 1960s. Ken Howard an ex RAAF air crew member also attended for the second time, along with both Regular and Ares members.

A great meal was available to those who stayed for lunch.

We had 30 members turn up and had 10 apologies, a good turnout.

We are still trying to contact other members who are not aware of the reunion and would like to contact them, as our list only has some hundred-odd names on it.

Our next reunion will be held on the second Saturday in September 2017. Venue to be advised.

Stay safe and well till we meet again.

Regards

John Barnes, Peter Russell and Ross Christie



Far table:

Pam Barnes, Pam Noble, Wanda Deakin,
Gerda and Vince Head

Near table:

Ned Miller and his sister Marilyn, Claire
Miller Kristine Luscombe

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Laurel and Gordon McGeogh



**Toni and Ian Baines,
Peter and Carol Russell**

John and Pam Barnes, Joyce Nicolai



Canberra October 2016

On 8 October 2016, a few members and their wives ventured to Canberra, primarily for the annual Floriade festival. 7.00am saw us gather in the carpark of Panthers at Penrith.

First to arrive was Vince & Gerda Head, then Nick & Joyce Nicolai, Rusty & Roz Towers, Jerry & Kiwi Liebens, John & Pam Barnes, then Fozzie & Christine Foster. The Towers and Liebens arrived via McDonalds with coffee; what a sensible idea, but unfortunately, not enough to go around.

Reluctantly most of us left our cars overnight, hoping that security was good enough.

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Our bus driver was Daniel. We can't call him a coach captain on this occasion as the bus was the smallest in the Murrays fleet. Even so, it still gave us the ability to have single seats all round. A quick break at Suttons Forest, and most of us were consuming bacon & egg rolls, and the catch-up of coffee that we weren't offered a couple of hours previously.

We arrived in Canberra, dropped off at the gate of Floriade around 10-ish and then left to our own devices. The weather was glorious, the displays of flowers amazing, but the food and drinks matched the standard of most of these types of shows; expensive.

Rusty & Roz braved the ferris wheel and took amazing photos, so Joyce had to follow suit.

After lunch, Fozzie & Christine decided to attend a CWA cooking class. What a great idea. Nick & Joyce joined them. And the great lesson was on cooking scones. Needless to say, Nick and Fozzie had to taste the result.

At 3.00 Daniel came back to collect us, and we were joined by Steve, a local Army Reservist who works part time for Murrays. He gave us a running commentary as Daniel drove around parts of Canberra. We saw several places from the inside of the bus, and now have the desire to go back and explore in more depth. Places like Questacon the old and new Parliament Houses, Art Gallery, several Embassies, National Library, Treasury, National Portrait Gallery, National Gallery.

Then to and through Duntroon up to Mount Pleasant where we all got together for a group photo.

When we left there, we headed to Mount Ainslie to take in more magnificent views of Canberra. And seeing the War Memorial laid out below us.



A drive down ANZAC Parade, then round the Arboretum before being taken to the Diplomat Hotel; our accommodation for the night. Somehow in all the booking process, Rusty ended up with 3 rooms. Hope the credit card can take it.

At pre dinner canapes we were joined by Paul Brearley, Bruce and Avis Patterson, Barry Armstead and our driver Daniel.

Dinner was a quiet affair, and we were all retired to our rooms by 10.

Most of us met for breakfast around 8; Fozzie decided on an earlier start and he and Christine enjoyed theirs in peace and quiet. Then off to the War Memorial. Seemed like a rush to see everything as we had to be back for the bus by midday.

Nick had to fly to Brisbane so we delivered him to the airport, then a quiet trip home; once again via Suttons Forest for a bite to eat. We made it back to Panthers around 15:30.

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A special thanks to Paul Brearley for organising the weekend. We had a wonderful time, and are hoping that we can do it all again next year. And for Kiwi's benefit, we'll include stopping off at IKEA.

Floriade



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Dinner



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Veterans' Health Week 22nd – 30th October 2016 Adelaide

On Sunday, 23 October, our South Australian Rep, Lou Heidenreich and his wife Sue hosted the annual get together for Veterans Health Week at their home in Aberfoyle Park. Lou and Sue have run this for the last three years and the SA membership is continually growing, albeit slowly.

It was good to see some old faces and a few new faces in the forms of Ken Chester and Col Howard. Hopefully we will have more next year.

A huge thanks for Lou and Sue for their generous hospitality.



L to R Lou Heidenreich, Peter Jolly, Ken Chester, John Barnet, Colin Howard, Brian Holecek, John Thurgood

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Veterans' Health Week 22nd – 30th October 2016 Melbourne

Venue date - 28th October 2016

Guest Speaker was Danielle Green, State Member for Yan Yean

Theme: Social connection to participate, connect, influence.

Invitations: Local Businesses

RSL

Northern District National Service Group

Current serving Defence force

Event was self-funded via DVA, local traders and Coles

Factors that influenced the small showing on the day - Melbourne Cup long weekend (Tue 1st being Cup Day)

Unions/Contractors rostered days off 31st

October - 2nd November and inclement weather

In hindsight earlier in the week may have had a greater showing of various personnel.

Financial Report to follow.

Graham S. Papworth - Vic-Tas

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ARTICLES

Two RSMs and a Pub

The Irvings are on the road again doing the “big lap” to cover those things we missed last year. After a very cold journey through the Great Divide (Dorrigo / Inverell) we spent a couple of days in Moree in and out of the hot ponds there. Would recommend them to anyone with aches and pains and isn't that most of us?

We made our way through Central Queensland hitting the high points of Roma, Charleville and Longreach where we were flooded in for a couple of days before we could get to Winton. Good to see the rain for the stations but bloody awful in caravan parks – mud, mud and more mud!

Camooweal was our last stop in QLD. A very interesting place with a history of Drovers and their stories. It must have been a great place in its heyday.

Into the Territory and little change in the Scenery – flat dry and few small trees – but then we arrived at the Daly Waters Pub. A welcome watering hole along the way. Great entertainment at night and the best surf and turf in Australia (Barramundi and Territory beef).

Whilst looking around for a seat I happened to bump into John (JL) Liston on the front verandah. He's living in Daly Waters and finding it hard to get medical support for his various ailments but otherwise in fair health for age. His daughter is also living in Daly Waters and is keeping an eye on him. She is the kitchen supervisor in the pub. JL was the RSM of 1 ATSR at one stage. He has a very interesting “business” card to say the least.

On my way back to the van I recognised another RSM type, one Allan Murdoch. He and his wife and friends were devouring the Barra and Steak and enjoying a beer. Alan was the last RSM of the Regiment. He is well, enjoying retirement from his civilian job and very proud of his Special Services son. Good to catch up with him.

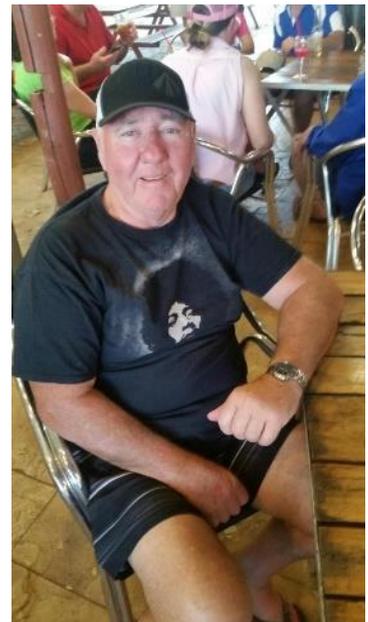
So, two RSMs in one night and a fantastic Pub to boot!

We have moved on since then and are now enjoying the warmth of Broome. Our trip will take us through WA and hope to catch up with some more old Air Dispatchers down south.

I hope everyone is well and that you all celebrated on the 18th August.

Talk soon,

Brian and Dianne Irving.



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Finding 50

Recently Sue and I headed off to Coffin Bay to enjoy a well-earned rest at the oyster capital of the world (well SA anyway). Whilst we were recently touring in Queensland we were lucky enough to catch up with Alan and Margaret Murdoch and decided that we would meet up with them on their way around Australia on their homeward leg. For those who don't know Alan (AKA 50 Cal AI), he was the transport supervisor at AMTDU and then at 176 in early eighties and went on to be the last RSM at 1ATSR.

We loaded up the caravan and headed off from Adelaide with the weather warning bells ringing loud and clear in our ears. The Bureau of Meteorology had predicted strong winds, storms, rain, showers and every other climatic disaster possible. The trip across to Coffin Bay about 700 kilometres was uneventful except for the strong cross winds.

We made Coffin Bay at about 4 in the afternoon and set up camp next to Marg and Al in the local caravan park.

Coffin Bay is an exceedingly beautiful part of SA with islands and inlets of a pristine bay. Our first appointment was at the local restaurant where fresh oysters could be purchased for \$10 a dozen. So, over a number of local white wines and beers we consumed copious quantities of the local product.

We ran out of room before they ran out of oysters.

After settling in for the night the winds began to increase and then the rain began. This was the start of the predicted weather.

Saturday, we drove over to Port Lincoln for lunch and some local shopping. Port Lincoln is built around Boston Bay and was one of the original sights considered for the establishment of Adelaide.

It is another beautiful city built on a natural harbor. The inclement weather continued for the next three days, but did not stop us from enjoying great companionship and many laughs with the Murdoch's.

During one break in the weather we decided to take our dogs for a walk around the outside of the caravan park. The dogs are a Pug (Golly) and a Red Australian Cattle Dog (Flynn). During our leisurely stroll, I decided to let Flynn off to have a run about. He was having a great time sniffing and running until he saw a group of emu chicks all about half grown.

He must have thought that this was an ideal opportunity to show his herding skills as he was sure that the old man would just love half a dozen emu chicks in the caravan. Just as he made his first salvo to get control of this chaotic bunch there appeared from around a clump of trees the largest male emu in the universe. He was not impressed to see this red-haired lout trying to molest his chicks and with great dexterity managed to kick him (Flynn) into the air then deliver a downward stomp onto a now disoriented and disillusioned cattle dog. With discretion being the better part of valour Flynn beat a hasty retreat straight back to his old man requesting back up.

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Me being the non- hero that I am, took off in the direction of anywhere that the old man emu wasn't. After that we made our way back to the caravan; the dog indicating that he wanted no further contact with the huge chicken or his brood.

We set off in convoy, the next day, heading back towards Port Pirie, our next destination. About half way between Cowell and Whyalla I received a message from Al over the CB that one of the tyres on the van was doing a self-destruct job on itself. We pulled to the side of the road and managed to perform routine surgery and replace the now completely shredded tyre. The rest of the trip was uneventful and we settled down to another night of laughter and good cheer in Port Pirie.

The next morning, we again departed, this time us for home and Allan and Marg for Canberra. Our adventure was almost complete. Allan had mentioned that he had met up with Brian and Dianne Irving and John Liston in the Daly Waters Hotel. It is amazing how many old and bold manage to meet up in the huge country of ours.

Cheers Lou and Sue

Australia's most famous badge "The Rising Sun"



Since the introduction of the 1904 version of the Rising Sun, apart from the wording on the scroll, the badge has remained more or less unchanged.



As the pictures, above and below show the wording has gone from "Australian Commonwealth Military Forces" to the present day "The Australian Army". According to my source of information,

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the form "Australian Imperial Force" badge was never issued and was used on stationery, headstones memorials.



If one looks at the badge of today. You will notice that the crown has also been changed. This was changed when HM Queen Elizabeth ascended to the throne after the death of King George VI. The crown was changed from the Kings Tudor Crown to a Queens St Edwards Crown on the 1956 version. A little while ago, I had the opportunity to purchase a Rising Sun badge which now sits in pride of place, (with approval from GOC Home Command) on my mother's Singer Sewing machine in the entrance to our home.

It was purchased from Australian Custom Metalwork Designs. It measures 48 x 35cm.

www.acmd.com.au



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WHAT'S ON?

THE BLURT

WHERE ARE YOU

Fund-raising Sausage Sizzles

Listed below are the fund-raising activities planned for the remainder of the year. These are to go to the 75th Anniversary of Kokoda in 2017 – **These events will not fund themselves.** So, please come along and pick up a pair of tongs to help out or sell a few snags, you won't be disappointed.

These are the events that Joyce and Nick in Wollongong and Kirrawee and Fozzie and Ed in Penrith have arranged. If you wish to organise an event in your area, please let us know and we will assist where possible. Given we have interstate reps, where possible, your assistance in adding to these events would be greatly appreciated

- 19 November Bunnings Wollongong
- 2 December Bunnings Kirrawee
- 7 December Bunnings Wollongong
- 18 December Bunnings North Penrith

Brisbane Christmas Lunch **Saturday 3rd December 2016** **1200hrs to 1500hrs**

For those in Queensland who are interested in attending the Christmas lunch contact Kemm to book your spot

Contact: Kemm Baber ADAA Queensland Representative

Phone: 0418 732380

Location: Beenleigh RSL www.beenleighrsl.com.au

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WARNING ORDERS

ANZAC Reunion 2017

The 2017 Australian Air Dispatch Reunion, is being held in Melbourne from 21 to 26 April 2017. All 'Air Dispatchers', Biscuit Bombers, Parachute Riggers and those posted to Air Dispatch units including their partners and guests are welcome to attend.

This reunion coincides with the 75th Anniversary of air resupply on the Kokoda Trail in 1942 and is shaping up to be one of the most memorable we have had.

Due to the high cost of accommodation we have included a number suitable venues close to where we are holding dinners and the march. These can be found under the ACCOMMODATION Section.



ITINERARY

Date	Activities
21 Apr	Visit to Army School of Transport, Puckapunyal
22 Apr	Visit to Vietnam Veterans Museum, Phillip Island (entry and lunch provided)
23 Apr	Visit to RAAF Museum, Point Cook Sunday Night Dinner (Royce Hotel)
24 Apr	Rest day
25 Apr	ANZAC Day (ANZAC Day Breakfast and Lunch provided Royce Hotel)
26 Apr	March out of accommodation

RESERVATIONS

The reunion will cost \$234.00 (AUD) per person (and again, fund-raising activities are subsidising these events). Bookings and payments must be finalized by COB on Friday 3 March 2017. Reunion bookings made after 3 March 2017 shall be \$280.00 (AUD) per person.

In order to secure your reservation, complete and submit the 'Reservation Form' no later than 3 March 2017. This can be completed by any of the following means:

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- Electronically
On-line (ADAA website), then click the 'Submit' button
Or
Scan and email to events@adaa.net.au
- Manually
Post to ADAA Reunion 2017, PO Box 483, Helensburgh NSW 2450 Australia.

You will be able to pay online by credit card, or direct payment using BSB and account number. The other option is to send a cheque or money order to the address above.

REFUNDS

Refunds for monies paid towards the reunion will be paid up to COB 3 March 2017. Requests for refunds must be made in writing to PO Box 483 Helensburgh, NSW, 2508 or by email to events@adaa.net.au. Requests for refunds after 3 March 2017 will be decided on a case by case basis. No refunds will be considered after 31 March 2017.

TRANSPORT

Transport to and from all events is to be by bus. Transport to and from the reunion is at the member's expense. For those members transiting through NSW, we are looking at getting rail transport SYD – MEL return. Please view the segment on the Troop Train.

ACCOMMODATION

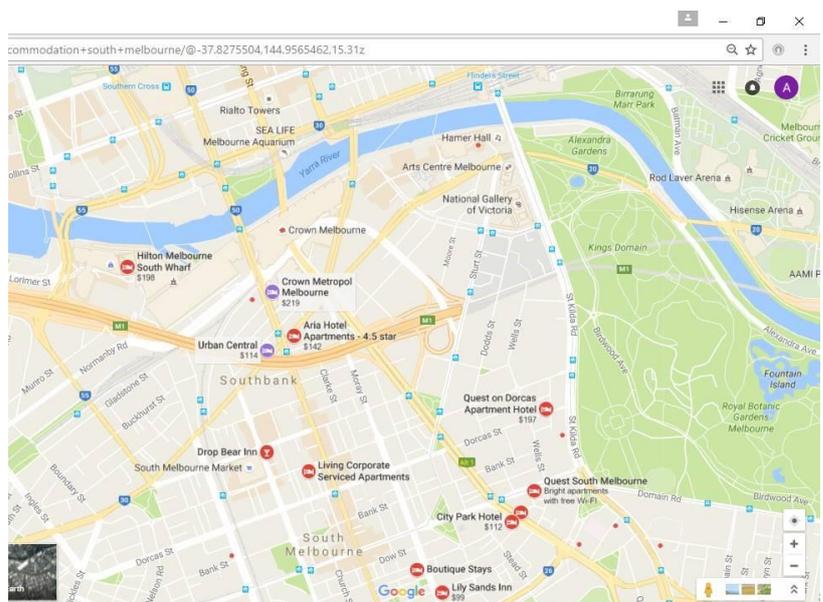
Accommodation in Melbourne is usually at a premium, therefore we have identified a number of hotels in the area. The planned venue for reunion meals is the Royce Hotel, which is situated not far from the Shrine. We have chosen the Royce as it is mid-range price wise compared with other hotels in the area.

Accommodation close to the Shrine:

- Royce Hotel rate (room only)
 - \$199.00 per night
 - Facilities available are
Breakfast, Bar
- Seasons Botanic Gardens
- City Park Hotel
- Quest on Dorcas
- Quest South Melbourne
- Crown Metropol
- Travelodge Southbank

Inner Melbourne

- Double Tree on Hilton
- Breakfree on Collins
- Adelphi Hotel
- The Westin
- Mantra



REUNION MEALS

There is one sit-down dinner planned during the reunion; a Welcome Dinner 23 Apr. You will be contacted after your reunion booking request has been received to confirm your choice of meals.

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Other meals which have been pre-arranged are:

- Lunch at Puckapunyal 21 Apr
- Lunch at Phillip Island 22 Apr
- Breakfast ANZAC Day 25 Apr
- Lunch ANZAC Day 25 Apr

UNABLE TO ATTEND?

If you are unable to attend the reunion and would like to support this event with a donation, please complete the form on the website.

MERCHANDISE

No items of merchandise will be available during the reunion. These can be ordered through our Merchandise Officer, Kim Harris and include:

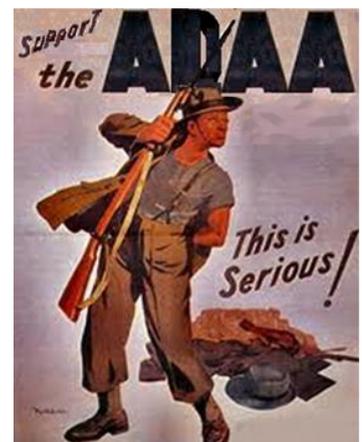
- Polo Shirts
- Business Shirts
- Caps/Visors
- Spray Jackets
- Ties
- Stubbie Coolers
- Reunion Coins and Red Poppy Coins
- Belt Buckles

ATTENDANCE ON SPECIFIC DAYS

If you are unable to attend the full reunion, please feel free to contact us and identify which activities you would like to attend and the cost for those activities will be forwarded to you. Payment must be received prior to attending any of these activities.

TROOP TRAIN

One of the major problems of getting around this great country of ours is the distances that must be traversed. We are investigating the possibilities of travelling by train from Sydney to Melbourne and return. Those ex members in NSW should already be in receipt of a "Free Rail Travel Pass" so the cost of the trip would be minimal compared with airfares or fuel, if driving.



If we can get enough people who want to travel by train, we would probably be able to get a group concession for our wives and partners. The thing to remember is train travel has changed a lot from when we were younger and is as sophisticated as air travel if not better.

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Some of the benefits of travelling by train are as follows:

- Plenty of leg room, decent seating and the ability to get up and walk around
- The station in Melbourne is in the middle of the city and not far from our accommodation
- There is a buffet car on the train for food and other vital refreshments
- Its cheaper than an air fare and no deep vein thrombosis

If you are interested in travelling by train, please contact Joyce at events@adaa.net.au before the end of December or give us a call on 0408 473254 or 0407 942904.

Kokoda Track Trek 2017

We are seeking anyone interested in doing the Kokoda Track in 2017 to coincide with Myola Day. Please send an email to the secretary@adaa.net.au with your expression of interest.

Position Vacant

With the passing of our Editor and Secretary Jim Piet, we have a position for a motivated, enthusiastic team player with a bit of knowledge about using a computer and can produce four copies of our newsletter a year.

The person we are seeking must be willing to be interrupted at all hours of the day and night, be semi-politically correct and be able to drink and type at the same time.

The pay is pitiful (nothing) and the fringe benefits are not much better. However, we can supply laptop, printer and other requirements required for such a demanding job.



Please contact the President if you are interested in this highly challenging position

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HOW TO CONTACT US

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VALE

Doug Carpenter

Jim Piet

Colin Daisley

Pauline Horden

Myra Vandine

Memories of Jim Piet



James Andrew Piet was born on the 5th of May, 1960, and the youngest of three children to Anna and John. He was brought up in the Bankstown area, attending Condell Park Primary School and later Bankstown Boys High. After leaving school, he took on an apprenticeship as an upholsterer but this was not what he wanted in life and on the 6th of June 1984, his life changed.

2300014, Recruit Piet marched into Kapooka, Piety was now a member of the Australian Regular Army. Jim was selected for the Royal Australian Corps of Transport and posted to the RACT Centre, Puckapunyal, Victoria. After Corps training, he was posted to 1 Tpt Sqn and later HQ FF Comd as a driver but he was still not satisfied until he heard about the Air Dispatch Trade. This started a new chapter in his military career. Jim was posted to 176 Air Dispatch Squadron in 1987. Whilst in the Sqn, Jim completed Basic Air Dispatch Cse and his Crew Commanders Cse and was promoted to Lance Corporal.

In 1992, the Army, and Air Dispatch in particular went through a major change. The Sqn was to become airborne which required all members to be parachute qualified as we were to be rotated

between the Sqn and 3 RAR. This change resulted in a number of soldiers being transferred to other units. Jim was posted 161 Recce Sqn in Holsworthy.

When 161 Recce Sqn relocated to Darwin, Jim was posted to DNSDC (The main ADF distribution centre in Sydney) at Moorebank till his discharge in 95. Jim had a dry sense of humour and on one occasion, whilst at 161 Recce Sqn and having too much free time on his hand, he decided to ring Army Recruiting.

The recruiter on the phone asked how they could help and Jim in his own special way wove a web that said something like "How he wanted to join the new Army and serve the country". After about ten minutes, there must have been a certain words or phrase that the recruiter heard and he said. "You already in the Army aren't you?" Jim acknowledged he was and after a tirade of abuse from the recruiter, Jim hung up the phone.

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After the Army, Jim had a few different jobs but eventually found a niche in computers. The last organisation Jim worked for was NEC where he was highly respected. This is an extract from the signal that notified NEC staff of Jim's passing.

"We asked his colleagues about Jim and they described him as a wonderful man, full of life, easy going, funny, always there to help with anything, talented in his work and very kind. He will be missed.



Jim's life was the same as everybody else, punctuated by high and lows. Two major pinnacles in Jim's life were the birth of his two sons, Nicholas in January 99 and Lachlan in August 02. Jim was so proud of his boys and we often sat and discussed the boys. The love Jim had for his son's was beyond monumental. The boys would often come and assist us in fund raising activities, they also joined us for some activities, during the International Reunion and Jim would stand to one side as an admiring parent.

Jim was a man you could depend on and with a sense of dedication, helpfulness and always willing to give a guiding hand. Over the last three years, Jim was the Editor of our associations quarterly newsletter and more recently since April, the Secretary of our association. Jim was loved and respected by all he came in contact with. Jim was also a thorough gentleman and rarely said a bad word against anybody.

It is impossible to sum Jim's life up in a few words but one thing is for sure if others could take a leaf out of Jim Piet's book of life, the person would be strong, steadfast, resilient, positive and trustworthy.

In closing, I can only say Jim Piet has always lived up to our Corps motto "Par Oneri" - Equal to the Task. Safe travels brother.



Some of the AD's at Jim's Funeral