

THE CLIPPED WINGS



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AIR DISPATCH ASSOCIATION OF
AUSTRALIA

SPRING 2018

President's Report



Hello Everyone,

This report is coming to you from Dublin, Ireland as we travel with the tour, preceding the UK ADA Reunion. After the AGM in April, the committee concentrated on a few things, being the Myola Ball, the official adoption of the new Constitution, the Soldier of the Year awards and the UK Tour and Reunion. A bucket load of things to achieve and a relatively short time to achieve them.

So in order of precedence, the Myola Ball was again a tremendous hit; we had over 100 people attending and again with great music supplied by Army Band, Sydney. Our Vice President, Anthony Eddie, put another exceptional evening together with two Guest Speakers, LtCol Andy Harrison-Wyatt (CO 9FSB) and WGCMDR Steve Money Penny (OC AMTDU) giving us two presentations on "Where we are going with Air Dispatch" and "New Trends in the Future of Aerial Delivery". Both very enlightening and informative.

Prior to the ball, like about 30 minutes prior, there was a Special General Meeting to officially adopt the new Model Constitution for the Association and although this was discussed in depth at the AGM in April, it was necessary to ratify it at a Special General Meeting prior to notifying the NSW Department of Fair Trading. This was done and our Public Officer, Ned Miller, has informed me everything has been lodged and the ADAA has a new Constitution and Ned is working on the new By-Laws.

That same night we were to present the Soldier of the Year Award. After discussion, it was decided there should be two awards, one for the ARA Soldier and one for the Ares Soldier. This award is picked from the ranks and is only eligible for Private Soldiers (although we did go off the tracks for the two previous years) chosen by their peer groups as the soldier they believe are worthy of the award.

This year, our lucky recipients were:

Pte Christopher Day ARA, and

Pte Emily Burrell Ares

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Being part of the Army, one must be flexible, and in true Army spirit, we found both soldiers were deployed on tasks over the period of the ball. However, Pte Day had his award presented by Brig Andrew Freeman at 9 FSB, RAAF Amberley on 14 Aug 18. Pte Burrell was still on task in support of Ex Pitch Black.

Two days after the ball, five of us met at the International Terminal at Mascot for our flight to the UK. Joyce and I, met Harry Hordern, his lady Karen Austin and our winning lady, Wanda Deacon. We were off on our trip. Interestingly, when we booked our trip, because the association paid for Wanda's ticket and the rest of us paid on our credit card, we all shared the same flight to Singapore, but Wanda was placed on a different flight to London leaving Singapore and arriving in Heathrow some 40 minutes after us. Luckily, Wanda being a seasoned traveller took it in her stride while we were concerned that the lady who we were looking after was travelling on her own. We arrived at Heathrow, retrieved our bags from the baggage carousel then sat and waited for Wanda to arrive. Sure enough Wanda appeared and we were all reunited again.

As we are currently still on tour, there is a section in this edition devoted to what we have done. For additional reading have a look further on.

Between now and the end of the year, the NSW side have a few things planned around November that may be of interest to some. 11 November 2018, marks 100 years since the end of hostilities in World War I. This day will be of special significance to many people and the St Marys RSL is having a large event at Penrith Paceway. The ADAA will be in attendance providing refreshments in the form of another sausage sizzle. More to follow on this event. Later this month, we have planned our end of year function at O'Donoghues, Emu Plains. Again, more to follow on that.

Finally, there is an exercise planned for injured soldiers doing a walk over a number of days ending in Ipswich, QLD. The ADAA has been approved to support this exercise and some of our members will be in attendance for this programme. If you wish to be part of the support group, please contact Anthony Eddie as he is to be the direct link to 9 FSB.

Next year, 2019, our ANZAC Reunion is to be held in Brisbane. We are looking at booking about 15 rooms in a hotel on Southbank, Brisbane, which is only a short walk from the form up point for the Brisbane ANZAC March. Further information will be posted when we get back from this International Reunion, so you will have ample time to book accommodation. Our Queensland Rep, Kemm Baber has been working on this. If you are interested in attending, please contact Kemm so we can have an idea of numbers for this event.

If you have any suggestions on how we can improve the organisation, let us know, we value your feedback and support.

So until the next edition, Take care

Cheers

Nick

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Treasurers Report

Shown below are summaries of each of our bank accounts. These are the figures sent to the Australian Taxation Department when we reported our GST activity for the 2nd quarter of the year. If you would like further information, let me know by email.

A reminder that membership fees for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 are due. If you haven't paid them, here are your payment options:

1. By cheque or money order
 - Made payable to Air Dispatch Association of Australia
 - Post to PO Box 483, Helensburgh NSW 2508
2. Deposit at any Westpac Bank. You may also be able to deposit at the Post Office, but fees may be payable.
3. Online by bank transfer
 - As the bank does not allow any letters in the payee's details, please send me an email with the details of the date, branch and amount of your payment
4. Online by credit card
 - If this is your payment choice, please send me an email so that I can set you up with this facility.

For direct payments into our bank account, our bank details are:

- Westpac Banking Corporation
- BSB 032-814
- Account number 485891
- In the name of Air Dispatch Association Administration account

Regards
Rob Ward

ADMINISTRATION		
Bank Opening Balance as at 1 Apr 18		12,806.31
Payment from ATO - previous GST	367.00	
Membership Fees	1,050.00	
Donations	65.00	
Interest	2.85	
Total Income		1,484.85
Office Supplies	-256.12	
Internet & Website	-100.00	
Awards, Plaques, Wreaths	-119.73	
Travel and accommodation	-597.32	
GST paid (to be reimbursed by ATO)	-142.32	
Total Expenditure		-1,215.49
Bank Closing Balance as at 30 Jun 18		13,075.67

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Treasurers Report Cont.

MERCHANDISE		
Bank Opening Balance as at 1 Apr 18		1,912.87
Merchandise	324.38	
Interest	0.50	
Postage Recovered	32.73	
GST Collected	35.69	
Total Income		393.30
Merchandise Purchases	0.00	
Postage	-198.05	
GST Paid	-19.80	
Total Expenditure		-217.85
Bank Closing Balance as at 30 Jun 18		2,088.32

FUNDRAISING		
Bank Opening Balance as at 1 Apr 18		21,368.03
BBQ	2,743.20	
Donations	0.00	
Functions & Trips	0.00	
Interest	19.48	
Total Income		2,762.68
Supplies & Materials - BBQ	-909.83	
Functions & Trips	-141.82	
Reunion - members	-1,165.03	
Reunion - widow	-6,393.07	
Bank Charges	-34.95	
Miscellaneous	-41.81	
GST Paid	-56.45	
Total Expenditure		-8,742.96
Bank Closing Balance as at 30 Jun 18		15,387.75

GRANTS		
Bank Opening Balance as at 1 Apr 18		2,511.19
Interest	0.62	
Total Income		0.62
Bus trip	-2,100.00	
Total Expenditure		-2,100.00
Bank Closing Balance as at 30 Jun 18		411.81

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Fund Raising

Upcoming Dates for our Bunnings Sausage Sizzles

Bunnings Valley Heights **14th October**
Bunnings Valley Heights **9th December**

Bunnings Wollongong **2nd October**
Bunnings Wollongong **6th November**
Bunnings Wollongong **4th December**

As always to make these fund-raising events work we need volunteers to man the tongs and help out. Please contact us and we can roster you on for a shift. (see contact details on last page).



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-SA](#)

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Notice

MEMBERSHIP 2018

OUR MEMBERSHIP YEAR ENDS 30 JUNE 18

PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE PAID YOUR
ANNUAL \$25.00 SUBSCRIPTION TO
REMAIN FINANCIAL

To make things easier, we now have a
Membership Officer who you can contact
directly to check on your association
financial status.

Contact: memberships@adaa.net.au

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Interest

2018 Myola Ball



A fantastic evening was had by all who attended the 3rd Myola Ball at Penrith Panthers on the 4th August. With great food, beverages and entertainment supplied by Army Band Sydney, past and present Air Dispatchers enjoyed catching up with old mates. A very special thanks to all those people who spent time at fund raising BBQs. Without your support, the night would not have been as successful as it was. A big thankyou also to Anthony Eddie who planned the event. Hope to see you there next year.



Photos Supplied By Joy Blakely, Rob Ward and Rusty Towers

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Interest

2018 Tour & Reunion Wrap-Up

We departed Sydney, with Wanda Deacon, Harry Hordern and Karen Austin (Harry's Lady) on 6 August. Our first stop was Singapore, where it became interesting because when we booked the flights for the trip, Wanda somehow managed to be shifted to a different flight in Singapore, which was leaving 40 minutes after us and arriving 40 minutes after us in Heathrow. Not put off by this, Wanda travelled by herself and we met her in the arrivals hall in Heathrow at about 0630 the next morning. We did a bus tour that afternoon and I thought we were back in sunny Australia (32°C). On arrival at the Victory Services Club that evening we ran into Denis and Jean Foster who had arrived a few days before.

Our first day in London started with a visit to Westminster Abbey. This proved to be very special for all of us but in particular for Wanda. Her great, great, great, (maybe another great) grandfather was a Choirmaster in the Abbey and was buried in Poets Corner. After a bit of searching we found his grave and although photography is prohibited, one of the staff members allowed her to photograph his stone. Harry and I also got lucky with one of the staff photographing us beside the grave of the Unknown Warrior (a very special moment for us both).



From there to the London Eye and a bird's eye view of London, a tour on the River Thames and a visit to the Tower of London. Harry and I started talking to one of the Beefeaters and after chatting, he arranged us to jump the queue (about 45 minutes worth) and view the Crown Jewels; a very interesting place, given its age and history.

The following day saw us in the Imperial War Museum. Another very interesting place, with plenty of artifacts and memorabilia, ranging from WWI to the current day. The afternoon was rounded out with the London Transport Museum and Covent Garden. I'm so pleased I don't drive in London. The roads are not conducive to large vehicles, particularly trucks and buses.



Next day – Glasgow.

Dick Filewood met us at Euston Station and the six of us travelled to Glasgow by train, a relaxing four-hour trip with lunch and wine, very sophisticated. A car was waiting to take us to the hotel, where we caught up with Ron McCaffery and the remainder of the tour guests; the rest of the Aussies, the Kiwis and the Americans.



Pictured left is are Deb Wahlen, Wanda Deacon and Roz Towers (they said they were waiting for the bus but I reckon they were waiting for the bar to open). That evening we had the welcome dinner. The first great night of many.

Next morning, off to Sandymount Cemetery to the grave of Francis Kelly. Mr Kelly was a recipient of US Medal of Honor and his final resting place was somewhat neglected but we laid two wreaths at the site; one by our US guests, Maj Gen John Cusick (Ret'd)

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Lt Col Dave Kline (Ret'd), and one by two previous ADAA presidents, Gary Cole and Barry Gannon. Denis McCann recited the Ode.



From Glasgow we were off to the Scottish Highlands. We left the hotel and travelled to Ben Nevis and paid our respects at the Commando Memorial and posed for our first group photo.



Fort William for lunch then up to Urquhardt Castle where we boarded a cruise on Loch Ness. We overnighed in a little place called Nethybridge.

Edinburgh was the next overnight stay but enroute, we stopped off at the Blair Athol Distillery, the home of Bells Scotch Whisky. We even got the opportunity to sample a “wee dram”. Before Edinburgh, we did a brief detour to St Andrews, the home of golf. This stop gave us the opportunity to wander, so as usual most of the sturdy crew headed for a pub.

We arrived at the hotel in Edinburgh and settled in early, a quiet night was had by most. The next day a half day tour of Edinburgh followed by lunch at the Scots Guards Club. The club itself is only small and generally quiet but all of a sudden a rowdy bunch of Aussies, Kiwis and Americans arrived and the place became alive. Liquid refreshments flowed freely and a great time was had by all. One gentleman who as in attendance was Mr Alasdair Hutton, OBE, TD. Alasdair was the commentator for the Edinburgh Military Tattoo and he also joined in with the visitors. That night we were bussed to the “Taste of Scotland” dinner and show where one of our Kiwi members got up and displayed his prowess in highland dance. It was interesting watching Lonnie prance around the dance floor with various Scottish ladies in tow reminding him where to go and what to do next. Sorry mate stick to golf, I don’t think highland dancing is your forte.

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Down to the wharf the next day to visit the Royal Yacht Britannia then that night, the Military Tattoo. Alasdair Hutton, the man we met in the Scots Guards Club made a special mention of the Air Dispatch Tour and Reunion. Needless to say we were all pretty chuffed.

The performers were in excess of 1200 and represented countries from all parts of the globe, including a couple of pipe bands from Australia.



The Massed Piped Bands



A Piper during the massed bands section



A group from Massachusetts did a period piece; marching the Revolutionary War US flag and the State flag of Massachusetts.

Our group included two young soldiers from the Australian Contingent of Ex Long Look that decided to join us. Capt Nathan Alcock and Sgt Rick Butt were hosted by Tours International for the evening and they enjoyed it immensely. The Tattoo never fails to impress and this night was no different. It was even better because the rain held off.

The final march past was particularly impressive with the RAF, who were celebrating 100 years, took post at the head of the parade and the General Salute.



Cairnryan was our next destination, so that we could catch the ferry to Belfast. The crossing although very smooth was rather windy, as Rusty Towers experienced when he ventured outside on the deck.

We were met at the dock by our new coach captain, an Irishman named Neil, with a very broad Irish accent. This bloke took great delight in putting on an Aussie accent and saying "Giddy mate". He dropped us off at the Titanic Experience in Belfast, not far from where we disembarked the ferry. The Titanic was a time line from the time the plans were drawn and keel laid till the fateful night and the aftermath.

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Upon leaving the Titanic Experience, we were given first hand knowledge of Neil's driving ability when he got in the wrong turning lane; deciding to drive over the medium strip and at the same time giving a red-light camera a nudge with the front of the bus. But in true Irish style, he simply said "Shit", backed off then drove over the medium strip and went on his merry way. He could have stayed in the original lane but there is nothing like a bit of excitement.

Dublin was the next stop where we overnighed and the following day, we were off to see the "Book of Kells", a collection of four gospels in Latin based on text which St Jerome completed in about 384 AD. This is held in Trinity College and photography of the actual items is forbidden.



That evening, we did a canal dinner cruise and we all piled onto this canal boat and set off on our journey. The vessel slipped its moorings and travelled towards a lock, where one of the crew jumped off and operated the lock gates. There was not much headroom passing under some of the old stone bridges but we managed to get by. The bridge we are passing under here was built in 1791. The canal cruise was a for 2 hours and we travelled a total distance of about 600 metres.



The Rock of Cashel was our first stop the following day, and although it was only a quick photo opportunity the castle itself looked pretty formidable. Those who have never had the experience of travelling through the UK would be amazed at the number of castles, cathedrals and abbeys. It seems every time you stop there is a castle or something similar to view.



Blarney Castle and the Blarney Woollen Mills was the next stop. This is where one has the opportunity to "Kiss the Blarney Stone". With the likelihood of an hour or more wait and the possibility of catching every dreaded disease know to man, most of us opted not to partake in this ritual. I personally believe, at my age, I have no need to be eloquent, so I headed for lunch.

The weather in Ireland was not as kind as Scotland and we had four seasons in one day on more than one occasion.

We left pretty early the next morning for the "Ring of Kerry" and the "Skellig Experience" on Valentia Island. On the way to our next stop, we were privileged to see a working sheep dog presentation where two Border Collies chased, cut, divided and bailed up a mob of sheep.

We also stopped where a local bloke was making St Bridgits Crosses and a photo opportunity with his dog and donkey.



THE CLIPPED WINGS



Lunch was at a small town called Sneem. A picturesque little place and the restaurant where we had lunch was placed beside a river, known for its trout fishing. We did however, manage to find an old friend from Australia. We actually think this is where he started.

Last day on the road, another early start and we crossed the River Shannon by ferry and headed for the "Cliffs of Moher".

This place is a set of sea cliffs that stretch for about 14 km on the south western edge of County Clare and rise about 120 metres above the ocean. Yet again, as we pulled up in the bus, the sea mist rolled in and we were soaked in. So a short stay then off to Bunratty Castle.

Bunratty had a large folk park and we checked out the old mill, farm yards, post office and other attractions before getting ready for the medieval feast that night. We arrived at the feast and were greeted with a cup of mead to welcome us into the castle. At some stage, one of our tour members was selected as king and queen. Denis and Sandy McCann were selected as the special guests for the evening and Denis in his usual way did us proud. Once again, a night enjoyed by all.



Tuesday, 21 Aug, was the final day for the tour and most of us boarded the bus for Dublin Airport. Gary Cole and Marie, Barry and Lynne Gannon left us at the hotel. Denis and Sandy McCann, Henry and Irena Fabishak, Denis and Jean Foster, Nicki Davis and Helen Ngatai (from New Zealand) also left us and continued their individual tours. The rest of us flew to Birmingham to be met by George Hilliar from the UKADA. One thing we did learn was how interesting it is flying Ryanair. All things equal it is probably the first and last time we will fly with this operator. I would place them behind Tiger Air for service.

George was our minder from the UKADA and I don't think he knew what to expect. The coach arrived to pick us up and transport us en masse to the Quality Hotel Coventry, where after dropping our gear in our respective rooms, it was off to the bar. We were joined by Lt Col Chris Stuart and Col Sean English (Chairman and President of the UKADA respectively). This was the only time we caught up with Sean as he had other issues on the go and could not attend. We did however, catch up with Chris on a number of occasions.



THE CLIPPED WINGS

The next morning, Tuesday, George had us on the bus to Bristol early and we were off to the British Aerospace Museum. A young guy from the museum gave us a pretty interesting tour from the the inception of the Bristol Aircraft



Corporation to the current day. Aircraft included the Bristol Scout (pictured), a World War I fighter and a Bristol Bloodhound Surface to Air Missile (just like the ones outside the old entrance to RAAF Base Darwin).



The tour also took in the famous Concorde SST. This aircraft could fly from Paris to New York in 3 hours 30 minutes. The technology used in this aircraft was amazing. It was noticed there were some restrictions with the aircraft, in particular the height of the entrance door. This can be seen with Suzie Lee (under 5 feet) and George Hilliar (over 6 feet). The aircraft cockpit is about the same size a Caribou but there is a bucket load of electronics in it.



The old Roman Baths in Bath was the next stop and although it looked a little green, it was reputed to have very good therapeutic values. Had a taste of the water at the official tasting fountain. I can honestly say it is not the fountain of youth and tastes pretty ordinary.



THE CLIPPED WINGS

Wednesday, we went to Down Ampney and Brize Norton. The old church at Down Ampney is the spiritual home of UK Air Dispatch. The church has a stained glass window depicting a Dakota (C47).



Rusty & Ros Towers



Blue & Di Walker



Dick Filewood



Grant & Christine Foster

We had a look around the church and graveyard, and then we were off to 47 Air Dispatch at RAF Brize Norton. Upon arrival we were treated to a BBQ and a few drinks. I think the Brits wanted to see how we operated with a few sherbets under our belts. After a presentation on the UK Air Dispatch Dakota, we were given a tour of the hangar and then all the old and bold were singled out and given a rigging lesson. There were a couple of jerricans and we had to rig a compact. The Brits rig these without a skid board. Under the instruction of a Crew Commander and a few diggers watching, the association elders commenced rigging. There were a number of protests and the actual top rigging team was not identified. However, Rusty Towers and Tony Hordern reckon they nailed it, so did Mick Hughes and Bub Wahlen but everybody had a good hands-on time.

The final wash up with the combined rigging crews in the background and the junior instructors in the hi-vis vests.



THE CLIPPED WINGS



Next day, off to Warwick Castle and Stratford-upon-Avon. Warwick Castle was full of old armour and the like. We were also privileged to see an operating catapult also known as a trebuchet (not to be confused with the Microsoft Word font).



Array of spears etc



Armour & weapons



Trebuchet

Off to Stratford-upon-Avon with mimes and history of Shakespeare. A very interesting town but because it looked like rain, we made our way to a pub and settled in for a while.

Hamming it up with a couple of the mimes:



Suzie Lee



Joyce Nicolai

THE CLIPPED WINGS

That night we arrived back at the hotel to find we had been joined by a lot of the Brits from the UKADA. A jovial bunch who enjoyed a beer or ten. This was a prelude to our Saturday Night festivities together.



Saturday, the majority went to the National Arboretum at Alrewas, Burton-on-Trent, where a wreath and a number of crosses were laid at the Air Dispatch tree. Dick Filewood said the Ode and we made our way back to Coventry for the final dinner.

The Final Dinner was a great evening with presentations done to various people, including Chris Stuart and our minder, George Hilliar, who did an excellent job of looking after the wayward Aussies, Kiwis and Americans. This night we also enlightened the

Poms on what was happening with the 2020 Kiwi Reunion and Tour. This one looks like being an absolute cracker. The basic outline will be presented in the next Clipped Wings. During the evening, Mr Bill Sunley from the UKADA arranged for me to be presented with a print of the air drops in Arnhem. This was signed by the last three remaining Air Dispatchers of that operation. Since the signing, one of them has unfortunately passed away.



This year was a brilliant tour and reunion. Our winner, Wanda Deacon, said she enjoyed herself immensely and said she would put together an article for the newsletter. From me, I would like to thank those who have given their time and energies to make the Australian trip possible. From all accounts everyone enjoyed themselves and we are looking forward to 2020.

Cheers

Nick Nicolai



THE CLIPPED WINGS

Interest

My Wonderful Trip to the UK

Well where do I start?

It was with much surprise when I was chosen to go on this trip of a lifetime.

There are so many wonderful sights and experiences I don't know where to start, at the beginning I suppose.

Karen, Tony and myself met Joyce and Nicko at Mascot and boarded our flight on BA, it was a good flight, we arrived in London at 5.30am booked in at the Victory Services Club and went on the hop on - hop off bus to see the sights of London. The next day we went to Westminster Abbey, wow what a great Cathedral, then on to the London Eye, great, and The Tower Of London, the Crown Jewels are amazing!



Karen, Me, Harry and Joyce, London bound 6 Aug 18



My surprise Birthday Party

We caught the fast train to Glasgow, what a great trip, where we met up with the rest of the tour group, at dinner that night. It was my Birthday and after dinner, a huge chocolate cake was brought out, it sure was a surprise and very much appreciated.

A trip up to Loch Ness, sorry no monster to be seen, stayed overnight in a 200 year old Hotel (Nethybridge), very interesting, then on to Edinburgh Castle, magnificent place!! Went to a Scottish evening dinner and show, fantastic! Next the Edinburgh Military Tattoo, there are not enough words to describe the experience, magic.

After leaving for Belfast by ferry, then on to Dublin and on to Blarney Castle, no I did not kiss the stone!!! Ring of Kerry, a rock formation amazing! An interesting evening banquet at Bunratty Castle. The following day, we flew from Dublin to Birmingham and the start of the UK Reunion.



Massed Pipe Bands

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Next day on to Bristol, home of the Concorde museum, what a fantastic place. About lunch time we headed for Bath, beautiful green farmland and then a huge historic town, I must say my Great Grandfather was born in Bath 200 years ago, it was humbling to walk maybe where he had walked all those years ago.

We went to an old Church [built in the 1200s] in Down Ampney that was significant to the Air Dispatchers, then on to Brize Norton R.A.F. where we were treated to a lovely B.B.Q. lunch and then a tour of the 47 AD. It was great to see the old hands had not lost any of their skills.

Warwick Castle, brilliant. I am a great reader of historical novels, especially Henry 8th and all his wives !! it was a great disappointment when it rained very heavily.

Not in order, we toured the Titanic Museum, Royal Yacht Britannia, [had scones and tea in the lounge] very posh. The Cliffs of Mohr [fogged out]. Shakespeare country, I hope I haven't left anything out, there was so much to see and do.



On Saturday we went to the National Memorial Arboretum, a place of remembrance. It is a most impressive place, we should have something along those lines here. I was most impressed with everything that was there, the grounds, memorials and gift shop brilliant!!!

The tour and reunion came to the end with a fantastic dinner that evening with the U.K., N.Z, U.S.A. and Aussie contingents.

I must say I had an amazing time catching up with friends I have not seen in many years, many many thanks must go to our coach drivers and especially Ron Mccaffery, George Hilliar, thank you so much. As special thanks to Joyce and Nicko for everything you did for me, [I'se a coming] and will be appreciated forever, also to Tony and Karen, Mick who kept an eye on me on the flight home and to all of you who

I tagged along with Deb and Mark, Ros and Rusty, Joy and Ron. A special thanks to all of you who made this possible for me to attend it is most appreciated, thank you one and all.

A special treat after the reunion was to travel to Exeter and on to the fictitious Port Wenn (really Port Isaac), the home of "Doc Martin" fantastic little fishing village with very narrow roads!! Just ask Nicko!!.



Narrow roads around Port Isaac

THE CLIPPED WINGS



Port Isaac, is a quaint little fishing village in Cornwall with very old houses and very narrow streets

The Krab Pot Restaurant on Fore Street, Port Isaac



On to Fovant, to see the carvings on the hillside of the Australian Rising Sun and other Corp badges, a most awe inspiring spot also a small Cemetery at Compton Chamberlayne with 28 Australian War Graves of Australian servicemen who died, many as a result of the flu over the 1916/18 period.

Thanks to Ron and Cecilia for having me stay at their home and taking me to the airport, and a fantastic dinner!!! Thank you both.

It was a most wonderful experience one not to be forgotten, if you ever get the chance to go on one of these reunions please go!!!



Australian Rising Sun Badge - Fovant

Once again thank you for all your fund raising that made it possible for me to go, thank you.

Wanda Deacon



THE CLIPPED WINGS

Interest

Once in a Life Time

During the Australian Army Long Look Exchange program, two members of the contingent; namely CAPT Nathan Alcock (former Air Dispatch WO2) and SGT Derick Butt (current Air Dispatcher), had the pleasure of being invited to attend the Air Dispatch Association of Australia in Scotland, United Kingdom. The intent was to RV in the city of kilts and attend the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The marry-up was a success, post a seven hour drive North from London across the magnificent pommy countryside (thanks Rick for driving the entire way) which seen us arrive on time ready for the evenings events.



The castle was amazing, although the parade ground leaves little room for square-gating Riggers to flop around the area. Aside from the relatively small space, the Scots know how to fit hundreds of pipes in a very tight area *pardon the pun*.

Prior to the Tattoo commencing, a number of special guests were welcomed to the show, with the ADAA hailed over the loud speaker for their attendance. The show went off without a hitch, with approximately 8000 people in attendance and not a spare seat in sight. As for the performance, from a precision drill perspective arguably the most impressive performance was between the Swiss Top-Secret Drum Corps with their combined use of pyrotechnics and musical mastery, and the United States Air Force drill team. Now, I know what you're thinking, the words drill and Air Force in the same sentence without words such as rubbish or nonsense is bizarre; however, these blue jobs got it right in contrast to their coalition counterpart's down under.

Overall the night was a spectacular success and on behalf of the Australian Long Look contingent, I would like to show our appreciation to the ADAA for the invitation. The only unfortunate part of the night is that the ADAA members had an early start the next morning and were unable to join both Rick and I for a Scotch or four.

Nathan Alcock
CAPT
Long Look Commander
London, UK



THE CLIPPED WINGS

General Interest

Design a New Logo for the ADAA

Expressions of interest are being called for, to design a new logo for the ADAA.

We are looking at future branding for the association and member input would be gratefully appreciated.

The design would need to be kept fairly simple, to facilitate clarity and ease of reproduction in various situations.

Please submit all designs to Grant (Fozzy) Foster (see contact details on last page)



Membership Medallion

We are looking at having a medallion/coin struck, as a memento of membership in the ADAA.

Side A to have: "Air Dispatcher" and Air Dispatch Brevet

Side B to have" "The Australian Army" and Rising Sun.

More information regarding this to come soon.

If you have questions or constructive comments, please contact Grant (Fozzy) Foster (see contact details on last page).



THE CLIPPED WINGS

9FSB WALK FOR VETERANS

EXERCISE TIGER WALK

Hello Everyone

The email below was received from HQ 9 FSB. In short, it is a request for support to younger soldiers. I would urge everybody who is able to attend this to do so. This is a perfect opportunity for association members to give something back to our younger veterans. Please contact me at president@adaa.net.au or Anthony Eddie vicepres@adaa.net.au if you are able to assist. A detailed instruction and sequence of events can be emailed on request.

Cheers, Nicko

Support to Exercise Tiger Walk

28 Oct – 1 Nov 18.

9 Force Support Battalion (9 FSB) request the support of the ADAA to provide moral support to participating Soldiers, NCO's and Officers of the Battalion during this period. The 9 FSB members that have been identified to participate in the activity are members that have either suffered an injury or illness, are in rehab, recovering or will be discharged in the future due to their illness. This activity is designed to encourage a positive attitude throughout the recovery process and to build the resilience that young guys often lack today. It is certainly not a physical competition (maybe challenge) and most of us will not be there to fix the broken, because that is just not our job. My hope and wish is that the ADAA can get involved in this worthy support cause and generate a long rewarding friendship with 9 FSB now and in the future.

Main points to note:

1. Start walk Sunday 0630 h **28 Oct 18.**
2. Finish Walk Thursday 1600 h **01 Nov 18.**
3. Finish everything including the cleaning up of equipment etc 1200 h **Friday 02 Nov 18.** (Lunch and beer at the Booza).
4. The ADAA is not expected to participate in the actual walk but are welcome to participate at their own leisure in whole or part at their own risk.
5. Maximum 4 x members to represent the ADAA at any one time.
6. ADAA members will be provided a Safety Brief and Guidance for interaction with the Wounded Injured and Ill (rules of engagement).
7. Meals will be provided.
8. Sleeping arrangements are Swag or tent (bring your own), if you want to bring a caravan it could be organised but needs some work and \$\$\$.
9. Showers and toilets are provided at Toogoolawah showgrounds.

THE CLIPPED WINGS

10. I have a washing machine and dryer at my house for anyone who might need it. (It will dry in 5 minutes in QLD anyway)
11. Travel to and from Ipswich is not provided by the Army (maybe the ADAA could support).
12. I have two spare Queen size beds at home for guests which could be used before after and during the activity.

9 FSB respectfully requests the ADAA to support EX Tiger Walk by providing the following: Note there will also be plenty of helpers at your disposal:

1. Friendly moral support to all involved.
2. Set up a nice place to rest for lunch breaks daily. Bring the ADAA tent.
3. Assist with the preparation and cooking of Breakfast and Dinner Meals (BBQ packs are expected to be provided from the Mess for Breakfast and Dinner, some cooking required).
4. Distribute cut lunches / drinks to participants daily (will be delivered).
5. Have a positive happy attitude at all times. (might restrict a few).
6. Have fun, be part of the 9 FSB team.

I understand that a week is a long time for people to manage but really hope that we can find volunteers that will best represent the ADAA.

I am always happy to discuss any finer points.

A EDDIE, WO1 | A/RSM | OPSWO | 9FSB

Contact

- **President- Nick Nicolai - 0407 942904**
- **Vice President - Anthony Eddie - 0401 417497**

Email enquiries:

- president@adaa.net.au
vicepres@adaa.net.au

THE CLIPPED WINGS

Upcoming Events

End of Year Get Together

Come along for a casual get-together, great food, drink and mates.

All welcome

To be held at O'donoghue's, Emu Plains

17 November – 1830hrs

<https://www.odonoghues.com.au>



Centenary of Armistice Day 2018

To be held at "Penrith Paceway"

The ADAA is setting up our "Sausage Sizzle" fund raising tent to provide refreshments throughout the day.

We will also be providing our legendary "Sausage Sangas" on Saturday 10th November, during the set-up phase.

We will require plenty of helpers, please let us know if you are available to help out at any stage during these two days: Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th November 2018.

Please contact Grant (Fozzy) Foster to submit availabilities for the roster (see contact details on last page).



Vale

John Liston

On Wednesday 30 May, Ned Miller, Vince Head and myself flew to Hervey Bay to celebrate the life of John Liston. JL passed away on 23 May 18 and it was his wish not to have a funeral. In accordance with his wishes, he was cremated, and a memorial service and wake were held for him instead.

Jeanette, JL's daughter, organised the finer details and we were supposed to be there by 1200. This was going to be interesting as the aircraft didn't arrive until 1205 then we had to make our way from the airport and so it was arranged the proceedings didn't commence until we arrived. We arrived at 1245 to see a room full of JL's family and mates, including his four children Jeanette, Greg, Carolyn and Robert.

Ned gave the opening address and spoke of JL's early years growing up in Tasmania and up until the time he joined the Regular Army. At this point I took over and spoke about his military career and postings. It was also a great honour for me to speak about JL being the inaugural president of the Air Dispatch Association of Australia (ADAA) and how the association had developed over the past 20 odd years. Tony Dowd, another ex-president of the ADAA, requested I read a letter about JL, on behalf of he and his wife. Jeanette was then presented with an ADAA sash. From here, the formal part of the service was completed but the lady from Hervey Bay RSL who was orchestrating the service asked if anybody else would like to say a few words, well the "flood gates" opened at this point.



Brig Geoff Christopherson (Retd) addresses some of those present

In no particular order they stood up all to say glowing words of JL. Geoff Christopherson, Brian Irving, John Onley (who filled the part when JL was RSM of the Corps), Noel Wienhiemer, Dick Filewood, Peter Crane, Graham Papworth and a host of others all paid tribute JL with stories about "A Bloody Good Bloke". His four children all participated in the service in their own special ways.

To the left of the room was a shelf with an Australian National Flag, photos of JL and other memorabilia but there was also a strange sky-blue bottle of Bundy Rum, interesting!

Vale

John Liston Cont.

Towards the end of the afternoon Jeanette, Carolyn and Robert wanted to say a few words and spoke about how various people stood by JL and supported him through his illness. They then placed three miniature bottles of Bundy on the table and one at a time called up Ned Miller, Rusty Sherrington and Paul Walton (a civvy mate of JL's) to come forward. The small bottles of Bundy were then presented to these three men and each one said a few words after each presentation.

Ned showed me his miniature container. The small vessel contained some of JL's ashes inside. He then pointed to the bottle of Bundy on the shelf. That was the rest of JL.



Originally JL wanted to celebrate his 81st birthday (6 June) with a wake where he could be present to enjoy the festivities, but this was not to be for a number of reasons. However, JL being the man he was still managed to make it to his wake, albeit in a Bundy bottle. The afternoon continued into the evening and night until everybody departed and although JL was not there in his physical form, he was definitely part of his service and wake.

The next morning would have been interesting for some of those who attended the previous afternoon with headaches the size of Hervey Bay and none of them would have missed it.

So how do I finish this final chapter on John Alexander Liston?
A Soldier, A Larakin, A Bloke who loved the odd drop of Bundy



L-R Graham Papworth, Dick Filewood, Kemm Baber, Vince Head
Ned Miller, Nick Nicolai and Brian Irving

Vale

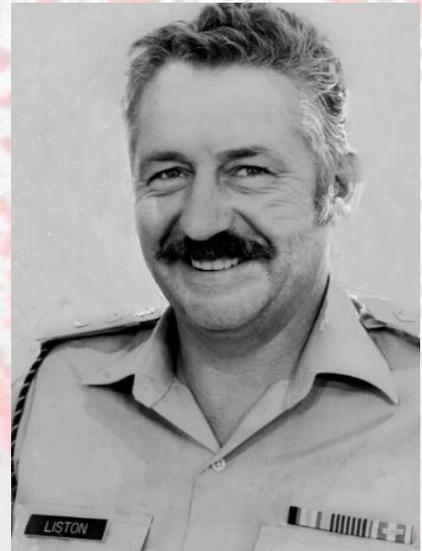
John Liston Cont.

A couple of us had a Bundy and Coke the afternoon of his wake, in honour of JL and many stories were told by his mates and family about this lovable rogue. In my four short years as president of the ADAA, I have attended numerous funerals, memorial services and wakes but never have I experienced one with such laughter and atmosphere as I did with this one. To use a quote from Ned Miller,

“We didn’t celebrate JL’s life. We celebrated our lives with him”.

Love him or hate him there is one thing no person can ever take away from JL, “He was the founding President of the Air Dispatch Association of Australia” and that can never be changed.

Par Oneri De Caelo



THE CLIPPED WINGS

CONTACT DETAILS

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	
President:	Nick Nicolai 0407 942 904 president@adaa.net.au
Vice President:	Anthony Eddie 0401 417 497 vicpres@adaa.net.au
Secretary:	Dick Filewood 0428 008 515 secretary@adaa.net.au
Assistant Secretary:	Lou Heidenreich 0427 702 419 asstsec@adaa.net.au
Treasurer:	Rob Ward 0481 320 547 treasurer@adaa.net.au
Committee Members:	Geoff Cutts 0418 384 807 comm01@adaa.net.au
	Grant Foster 0413 190 541 comm02@adaa.net.au
Public Officer:	Ned Miller 0439 993 071 public.officer@adaa.net.au
Patron:	Brigadier Mick Ashleigh
Past Patron:	Major General David Ferguson

STATE REPRESENTATIVES	
Queensland	Kemm Baber 0418 732 380 gld@adaa.net.au
New South Wales	Grant Foster 0413 190 541 nsw@adaa.net.au
Victoria/Tasmania	Brian Hill 0428 132 098 vic@adaa.net.au
South Australia	Lou Heidenreich 0427 702 419 southaust@adaa.net.au
Western Australia	Edward Duffy 0407 999 472 westaust@adaa.net.au
Australian Capital Territory	Bruce Patterson 02 6236 9946 act@adaa.net.au
OTHER CONTACTS	
Merchandise:	Rusty Towers 0407 954 297 merchandise@adaa.net.au
Clipped Wings Editor:	Andy Cornish 0407 213 241 clippedwings@adaa.net.au
Immediate Past President:	Gary Cole 07 4637 0518 pastpres@adaa.net.au
Honorary Auditor:	Linda Wright
Historian:	Vacant historian@adaa.net.au
Membership Officer	TBA membership@adaa.net.au