



RTFV-35SQN Newsletter

28 May 2009

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Hi All,

What a great Anzac Day. We now have an attendance sheet for Anzac Day so we can see who attends each year. In all I had 54 sign the attendance sheet but I think I might have missed a few. I think we had about sixty who marched and probably the same number who came to the Port Office Hotel after the march.

It was great to see a good turn-up with 9Sqn and for the first time Neil Handsley with his 3Sqn Association and they will continue to join us each year. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone next year.

A mate of mine attended and he joined our Association. He was actually posted to 35Sqn. but the Squadron was withdrawn before he left Australia. Welcome aboard, Jim Morrison, Peter (Dit) Eaton, Ian (Jake) Jacobsen, Michael Calvert, W.O.B. Al Fraser, Geoff Brand, Ken White. I have many members joining our electronic newsletter. I will contact them to see if they wish to join our Association.

A lot of members paid their fees for their membership. I thank those who paid the \$50 for life membership. It sure makes my job easier not having to chase money every year.

I have contacted most members who are due to pay their fees. I will be sending out reminder notices

with this Newsletter. It was great to catch up with everyone this year including Pete de Jonge – although I was worn out by the end of the day saluting Pete he kept reminding me that he was a "Sir".

Anzac Day March

I recorded the march. I was a little disappointed with the commentary. A lot of what I sent and John Griffith sent in was not used. I thought they might have said more about the Caribou

I have had a plaque made up. I will put a photo of it with this Newsletter and also on our website. I have had 30 orders so far. They sell for \$100 including postage. If you would like a plaque, please let me know so I can order more. I will contact Stew Bonett to ask if it is O.K. to sell our plaque at Coffs Harbour. They should be on the website soon.

I have also sold about 30 DVD's of aircraft returning to Australia from 8 mm film. The film was supplied by Dave Milligan. It sells for \$10 each. There is a sample of the D.V.D. on our website.

I still have the ring for sale. They have been reduced in price (the original set-up cost inflated the price of the first batch). They will sell for \$150 which will include resizing and engraving. I will compensate those who bought the ring first up.

I will possibly look at caps with our logo. I may look at getting our logo embroidered on pockets or iron-ons that you can put on your shirt of choice. Trying to keep shirts in stock is hard with all the different sizes. I am also investigating caps and ties as well. I am looking at iron-ons for pockets. They will sell for approx. \$10. You can iron them on caps or shirt pockets. I am looking at a tie with our logo on it but it might be expensive.

I was going to take my model of A4 171 in to the Port Office but could not fit it in with all the other gear that I had to take. I have a copy of a web page of the C-7 Caribou. Some members were interested in buying one but I think they only have them with Yankee decals. The details will be included in this Newsletter. The better one came from England but they are very expensive. If we order 10 or more we may be able to get a better price.

I have 5 rings in stock. I know a lot of people don't wear rings but I look at it as something that can be handed down to the family. I hope to have photos of the ring on the website shortly which will give you a better indication of what they look like.

Reunions

Caribou 45th Reunion will be held in Coffs Harbour on 31 July. You must

contact Stewart Bonett, P.O. Box 160 Glenorie 2157, telephone 02-9652 1653, mobile 0410 518 712, email stew.b@bigpond.net.au.

Townsville – I have been contacted by Sqn Ldr David Falls. He is happy to fly our Colours at the Colours Parade with 38Sqn. The details I have are – Friday night Meet and Greet 6 November 2009, Saturday 7 November 2009 Colours Parade (morning) Saturday afternoon Open Day, Saturday night Informal Dinner, Sunday Sausage Sizzle at a Surf Club. Bob O’Doherty has offered to be our liaison in Townsville. (Thanks, Bob). Bob may be able to get a donation toward our costs. I have also been speaking to Carol Macdonald (Vets Affairs Grants) so fingers crossed there. It has not been confirmed but the R.A.A.F. may assist with transport. I will keep everyone up to date as information becomes available. Another suggestion was a Thursday night Meet and Greet with members attending the Colour Parade. More on that down the track. A lot of members are saying they will be attending but possibly by the end of September we will need to know actual numbers (partners included). Maybe we should get a shirt, badge, cap, pocket or something to honour the demobbing in Townsville. I will check on a pocket or a cap for the Townsville Colours Parade.

I am applying for a grant for the Townsville Colours Parade. I have the Grant Application and will submit it shortly. I have checked on accommodation and buses to ferry us around to the various functions. I am awaiting quotes etc.

Canberra Bomber

They have found the last Australians missing in Vietnam. We may find out what the cause was. *May They Rest in Peace – Lest We forget.*

Australian History

Sunday 24 January 1788 French explorer Jean la Perouse arrived off Botany Bay.

Saturday 29 October 1880 Judge Barry sentences Ned Kelly to be hanged.

Sunday 24 July 1907 Australasia wins Davis Cup Tennis Championship for the first time.

Sunday 30 October 1918 Turkey surrenders after A.I.F. attack in Palestine.

Thursday 14 January 1939 worst bushfire in Victoria with 71 dead.

Sunday 25 December 1974 Darwin devastated by Cyclone Tracey.

At the risk of upsetting N.S.W. members 15 July 2009 Q’ld recorded 4 straight wins in State of Origin.

Billy Sing

As mentioned in the last Newsletter I read the book “Gallipoli Sniper”. The life of Billy Sing. Billy had a Chinese father and an English mother. He was born in Clermont Q’ld. and he was a roo shooter. He was credited with over 200 kills. He used a rifle without a telescopic sight. A mini series called “The Legend of Billy Sing” is in post production. As I found out more I will let you know.

T.P.I. Pension

There was no increase in the T.P.I. component in the Budget but listening to what was said at the Budget Briefing I think something will come out of the Clark Review.

VALE

Alan Field passed away 8 April 2009

Robert (Bob) Holsken passed away 7 May 2009

Website

The website is looking good with members contributing more stories. Some of the stories I hear when I phone some members would be great for our website but the question is ‘how do I get them to put pen to paper’? I am buying some books and doing a course so I can operate the website.

Update on Townsville

Bob O’Doherty, our liaison man in Townsville, has informed me there is no on-base accommodation. He was speaking to the C.O. of 35Sqn. I think we will need to book early to avoid disappointment. The C.O. said a lot of people will be attending. After the Coffs Harbour Reunion, I will start to finalize numbers of members who attending the Colours Parade in Townsville. I have had some quotes for accommodation but Bob will follow up further. We will be getting buses to move us around. Some members have emailed me to inform me they are attending. I will now start to list those who need accommodation, those who have their own accommodation etc. I will keep everyone informed as I hear more.

Wall Plaque

A copy of the wall plaque that the Association is selling, is on the following page. It will sell for \$100, this includes registered postage. The plaque is 30 cm x 22 cm. It will have A4 208 not A4 171 on the fuselage.

Hope you are all keeping well – stay in touch.

Cheers

John (Sambo) Sambrooks

The wall plaque

RAAF TRANSPORT FLIGHT VIETNAM



1964



1972

35 SQUADRON



FIRST SQUADRON IN - LAST OUT
WALLABY AIRLINES

TOWNSVILLE COLOURS PARADE

If you are attending please send this form back to me at the address below...

I will be attending from the Thursday 5 November 2009 until Tuesday 10 November 2009.

NAME.....

PARTNER'S NAME.....

IF ATTENDING.....

ADDRESS.....

PHONE NUMBER.....MOBILE.....

EMAIL ADDRESS.....

I will require accommodation from.....to.....

I will book my own accommodation.....

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