



RAAF ASSOCIATION (N.S.W. DIVISION) INC



*Honour the Past – Support the Present – Act for the Future*

## THE RADAR BRANCH BULLETIN

AUTUMN 2014

Website: <http://www.raafradar.org.au>

Email: [contact@raafradar.org.au](mailto:contact@raafradar.org.au)

**Patrons**  
**President**  
**Senior RAAF Member**  
**Correspondence**

Air Commodore D. Bowden AM (Ret'd)  
Air Vice Marshal R.B. Treloar AO (Ret'd )  
Squadron Leader Ray O'Donoghue (Ret'd)  
Air Commodore C.J. Westwood  
Secretary, The Radar Branch  
57 Bay View Avenue EAST GOSFORD NSW 2250  
Email: [secretary@raafradar.org.au](mailto:secretary@raafradar.org.au)

### NEW RADAR BANNER



We have acquired a new Radar Banner to encompass the post WWII unit and operations that new and particularly serving members will be able to identify with. The main Radar contingent will march under the new Banner this Anzac Day in the Sydney March. The old Banner will be retained and will also be used for Anzac Day. Please see details below.

### RADAR BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton on Thursday 6 March 2014.

There were new nominations and Office Bearers and Committee members were elected as follows:

*President:* Ray O'Donoghue  
*Vice-President:* Terry Delahunty  
*Treasurer:* Tony Rogers  
*Secretary:* William (Bill) Forsbey  
*Welfare Officers:* Howard Campbell and Tony Rogers  
*RAAF liaison:* Warrant Officer Bobby McFerran (Serving Member)  
*Committee:* Jim Stewart, John King, Bruce Carpenter, Alex Culvenor (Victoria)

Members are encouraged and welcome to apply for vacant committee positions. Please contact our Secretary or email to [contact@raafradar.org.au](mailto:contact@raafradar.org.au) if you are willing to contribute to running the Branch in any capacity.

### **RAAF BIRTHDAY SYDNEY COMMEMORATION 2014**

This year activities to celebrate the 93<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Royal Australian Air Force will take place as follows:

#### **Commemorative Service 1100am Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014, Cenotaph Martin Place Sydney**

There will not be a luncheon cruise following the Cenotaph Service this year. For details contact: Bruce Weekley RFD, State Vice President, RAAF Association (NSW Division) **PO Box A2147, SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235** or email [bweekely@optusnet.com.au](mailto:bweekely@optusnet.com.au)

### **ANZAC DAY 2014**

#### **Note Change to Order of March**

All RAAF and WAAAF Veterans and serving members are invited to assemble on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April. This year, the organisers have changed the Order of March to allow WWII veterans to lead off the parade.

Radar Branch members will assist any WWII Radar vets who wish to march under the old RADAR Branch banner. Any WW II vets who wish to be in this part of the parade should let us know ASAP, so that we can arrange a wheelchair or escort (one only, per veteran).

Form up for WWII participants in this part of the march is at 0900 at the corner of Spring and Pitt Streets, for a step-off between 0915-0930.

The main party will march with approx 50-75 uniformed personnel from RAAF Williamtown, behind our new banner. Our meeting point will be on Elizabeth Street, opposite Market Street, as usual. Please arrive by 1030, although step off time is likely to be unpredictable as usual.

Therefore, again this year, we will be accompanied by a contingent of serving members from Surveillance and Response Group (SRG), RAAF Williamtown. SRG includes Nos 41, 42 and 44 Wings which were also active in WWII as radar units. We are extremely grateful and delighted that serving RAAF members can once again join with us on this important day.

Please contact 02 4321 0830 or [secretary@radar.org.au](mailto:secretary@radar.org.au) if you wish to participate in the WWII leading contingent or require a wheelchair to ride in a vehicle during the march.

#### **ANZAC Day Banquet Lunch - \$50 Per Head**

#### **ANZAC DAY 2014 VENUE: The Emperor's Choice Restaurant, Corner King and Castlereagh Streets, Sydney**

The EMPEROR'S CHOICE RESTAURANT has once again graciously agreed to host our annual lunch following the Anzac Day March. Lunch will commence 1230pm to 3.00pm. The restaurant would not normally open on Anzac Day but host Eric and staff have again willingly accepted our booking in the spirit of ANZAC Day for which we are most grateful.

The cost of \$50 per head is the same as last year. Please fill out the slip included in this bulletin and return to the Secretary **by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2014**. Payment can be made by cheque accompanying the slip or at the restaurant on the day.

The Joe Ulett Memorial and Pither trophies will be awarded at the luncheon to the recipients from Surveillance and Response Group. Both of these trophies are sponsored by the Radar Branch and are awarded annually to the airman or airwoman who has made exemplary contributions in their field. The Wing Commander Grant E.S. Stuchbury award will also be presented to a member of 44 Wing.

**DID YOU KNOW****31 March 1921****Australian Air Force officially formed**

ORDER.

Australia to wit,  
FORSTER,  
Governor-General.

By His Excellency the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia.

WHEREAS it is enacted by the *Defence Act 1903-1918* that the Governor-General may, subject to the provisions of that Act, raise, maintain, and organise in the manner prescribed, such Permanent and Citizen Forces as he deems necessary for the defence and protection of the Commonwealth and of the several States:

And whereas it is desirable that Military Forces, to be called the Australian Air Force, should be raised, maintained, and organised in the manner aforesaid:

Now therefore I, Henry William, Baron Forster, the Governor-General aforesaid, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, do hereby order that a Force, to be called the Australian Air Force, be constituted as part of the Australian Military Forces as from the thirty-first day of March, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one:

And I do further order that the said Force be raised, maintained, and organised in the manner prescribed by the *Defence Act 1903-1918* and the Regulations made thereunder.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth at Melbourne, this twenty-fourth day of March, in the (L.S.) year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, and in the eleventh year of His Majesty's reign.

By His Excellency's Command,  
G. F. PEARCE, Minister of State for Defence.

On this day, the Australian Air Corps (AAC)—a temporary Army unit raised 15 months earlier—was disbanded and replaced by the Australian Air Force (AAF) as a separate service. The AAF immediately took possession of existing aircraft and equipment at Point Cook, Victoria, but not all the AAC's personnel were transferred across. At its formation the new Service had 21 officers and 128 other ranks, and even six months later this strength had barely doubled. The 153 aircraft which initially came into the AAF's possession were mainly war surplus machines received under an 'Imperial Gift' arrangement. Most stayed in storage, and for several years only 50–60 aircraft were actually in use. Economies imposed in 1922 forced the RAAF to cut back on development plans, so that even after five years in existence it had less than 700 personnel.

**NEW AIR FORCE GENERAL PURPOSE UNIFORM**

Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal Geoff Brown, AO and Warrant Officer of the Air Force, Mark Pentreath, CSM tried on the new Air Force General Purpose Uniform (GPU) at the Office of the Chief of Air Force at Russell Offices, Canberra. The GPU was launched at the Centenary of Military Aviation air show at RAAF Williams - Point Cook on 1 March 2014. The uniform will be issued to all Air Force personnel for general base duties and in non-warlike environments such as humanitarian tasks and Defence assistance to the civil community. The purpose of the GPU is to provide a unique and easily identifiable Air Force presence to the Australian Defence and civilian community that is consistent with the Royal Australian Air Force's distinctive identity whilst remaining effective in meeting service requirements.

Air Marshal Geoff Brown and Warrant Officer Mark Pentreath in the new RAAF GPU

*Please cut off and return*

ANZAC DAY LUNCH 2014 – ‘EMPERORS’S CHOICE RESTAURANT’

12.30 TO 3.00PM

**Please return with your cheque by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2014 (or annotate that you will pay on the day)**

**We would welcome your response to Treasurer, The Radar Branch**

PO Box 470  
MORISSET NSW 2264

contact@raafradar.org.au

1. YOUR NAME: .....

2. I will attend the ANZAC Day lunch and will be accompanied by my spouse/partner/family members/friends (please include given and surname)

NAME/S: .....

.....

.....

3. I enclose my cheque made in favour **“Radar Air Defence Branch”** for the sum off \$.....

Being payment of \$50 for each person attending.                      Number attending: .....

4. I will pay the sum off \$.....

Being payment of \$50 for each person attending.                      Number attending: .....

5. Please advise whether there are any special dietary needs: .....

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.....

6. Please advise if you require assistance on the day with your contact details below

Your phone number or email: .....