



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



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

THE RADAR BRANCH BULLETIN

WINTER 2013

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

Email: contact@raafradar.org.au

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

RADAR BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2013

New Radar Branch President

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton on Tuesday 26 March 2013.

After 8 years, Terry Delahunty has handed over the role of President of the Radar Branch to the Secretary, Squadron Leader Ray O'Donoghue. Ray served as an Air Defence officer over a long and distinguished career in the RAAF and is well known and respected amongst current serving and past members in the Radar community. Congratulations Ray, from all Radar Branch members with our full support.

William (Bill) Forsbey is the new Secretary and brings considerable experience to the role.

Stan Burge, WWII Radar, has resigned from the committee and we acknowledge and thank Stan for his dedication and guidance over many years.

We also welcome John King and Bruce Carpenter as new Committee Members of Radar Branch.

The Office Bearers and Committee members were elected as follows:

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

The Branch is fortunate to retain Bob Treloar and Dave Bowden as Patrons and we look forward to their continued counsel and companionship.

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

Air Force Association NSW -Presidents' Forum – Metro & Surrounding Regions

On 13 May 2013, GPCAPT John Staal (Ret'd), President of the Air Force Association, held the NSW Metro & Regional Forum in Sydney with a broad Agenda to "refine and develop procedures and activities for the yearly AGM and ongoing Working Groups". The Radar Branch participated in the forum which aimed to establish a rewarding system of an open interaction between the Division and Branches.

The Forum agenda included background setting of the current Divisional, Branch & Affiliate entities followed by open discussion associated with the scope, dimension and plans of the “three pillars” of the Association, namely: ***Honour the Past, Support the Present, and Act for the Future***

The outcomes of the Forum included the development of options for the best way to prepare for the next State AGM and for establishing activities of mutual benefit between the Division and Branches. A major focus of the discussion was to examine how the Division and Branches can best organize their activities to attract new members, provide high levels of support for the new veterans through a proper Advocacy, Entitlement from the DVA and also act for the future status of the Association and its members.

The Radar Branch congratulates and welcomes the initiatives of GPCAPT John Staal and the NSW Division and Branches and will fully support the activities arising from the Forum intended to reinvigorate the relevance and attraction of the RAAF Association for the membership of the future.

NSW DIVISION STATE COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Rev. Geoff Usher has been appointed as Secretary of the NSW Division. Geoff stood down as a Vice President, and Mrs Betty Seery, who had been elected as a Councillor at the AGM, has replaced him as the fourth Vice President. David Leach has been appointed Councillor to replace Betty, constituting a full complement of office holders and members of State Council under the guidance of President John Staal.

THE 73rd ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN LUNCHEON **16 September 2013**

The State President of the RAAF Association (NSW Division) in conjunction with the Royal Air Force Association Branch 1144 will commemorate the 73rd Anniversary of the Battle of Britain on Monday 16th September 2013 as follows:

(I) Commemorative Service 1100am, Cenotaph Martin Place Sydney

(II) Luncheon and Harbour Cruise: 1215 for 1230, No 6 Wharf Circular Key

For details of the events, please contact the RAAF Association, NSW Division Phone 02 9393 3485

The 73rd Anniversary of the Battle of Britain function following the commemorative service at the Cenotaph will be a harbour cruise with Captain Cook Cruises on board the MV SYDNEY 2000. The dress is Jacket and Tie (medals may be worn). If you haven't been before, please consider attending to experience a special function with other Radar Branch members. The cruise will depart at 1230 and guests are requested to be at No 6 Wharf at Circular Key at 1215 to ensure an on-time departure. The cruise will be 4 hours but the MV Sydney will return to Wharf 6 at 2.30pm for those who wish to disembark earlier.

Access to embark is level and all facilities are on deck the Show Deck with panoramic windows. The cruise will accommodate 200 guests for a three course meal including Standard Open Bar serving a choice of beers, Tyrrell's wines, soft drinks and fruit juices.

The RAAF Association extends the invitation to the function to all Radar Branch Members and partners and requests that the form attached to this bulletin be forwarded to the address on the form included with this bulletin ***no later than Friday 30th August 2013. Note: Payment of \$60 for RAAFA members and partners/carers or \$79 for non- members can be made by cheque or credit card.***

Remember to annotate membership of The Radar Branch and make cheques payable to RAAF Association NSW Division Inc. For details contact:

Bruce Weekley RFD, State Vice President, RAAF Association (NSW Division)
PO Box A2147
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235
bweekely@optusnet.com.au

ANZAC DAY MARCH AND LUNCHEON SYDNEY



The Radar Branch contingent was led by WWII RAAF Radar veterans Mr Stan Burge and Mr Paul Ogden who received a warm reception from the crowd and the admiration of all.

The Branch was again generously supported by 60 serving members from RAAF Williamtown whose dress and bearing was impeccable as usual.

Stan Burge and Paul Ogden lead the Radar Branch contingent.

The Branch luncheon was again hosted by Eric and the gracious staff of the Emperor's Choice Restaurant and was also attended by a large number of members from Williamtown who enjoyed a great function.



The Radar Branch trophies to No 41 Wing, which have been awarded annually since 1997, were also announced. The Joe Ulett Memorial trophy and Pither Trophy accompanied by a \$200 cheque are awarded annually to the airman or airwoman who has made the most positive contribution to operations and technical worthiness of No 41 Wing. The Pither Trophy was awarded to CPL Martin Bigg of SACTU and the Joe Ulett Memorial Trophy was awarded to CPL Andrew Riessbeck of 3 CRU.

Corporal Drew Riessbeck receives the Joe Ulett award from Patron AVM Bob Treloar

The G.E.S Stuchbury Award which was established in memory of Wing Commander Grant 'Stuch' Stuchbury who passed away suddenly in 2011 is awarded annually with a \$200 cheque by the Radar Branch to a No 44 Wing Officer of any category who is of Squadron Leader rank and below who has demonstrated outstanding professional mastery through their dedication and performance. FLTLT Steven Booth from 453 SQN WLM FLT was awarded the G.E.S Stuchbury Award for 2013, in recognition of his pursuit of professional mastery beyond his core roles and duties. The Radar Branch was again honoured to have



the award presented by Mrs Teena Stuchbury who was accompanied by her son Nathan.

Mrs Teena Stuchbury and FLTLT Steven Booth from 453 Squadron No 44Wing

DID YOU KNOW

14 Aug 1953 - Sound barrier broken for first time in Australia



During a 20-minute test flight on this day, the prototype Sabre swept-wing jet fighter built by the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation became the first aircraft to break the sound barrier over Australia. Taking off at 11.40 am from CAC's Avalon airfield outside Geelong, Victoria, aircraft A94-101 (the first local version of the North American F-86 Sabre fitted with the Rolls Royce Avon RA7 engine) reached a height of 25 000 feet before entering a shallow dive over Port Phillip Bay. As the aircraft's speed reached 670 mph (1078 km/h), it generated a sonic boom that was heard in Melbourne. The pilot on this occasion, 28-year-old Flight Lieutenant William Scott, was

actually not the first RAAF member to achieve supersonic sound. This feat had apparently been achieved two years earlier on an American F-86 by Wing Commander 'Dick' Cresswell, while he was briefly attached to a US fighter group in Korea.

3 Sep 1964 - Butterworth radar unit placed on alert



All leave in No 114 Mobile Control and Reporting Unit (114MCRU) at RAAF Base Butterworth was cancelled on this day, and the unit began a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week operation. The previous day, about 100 Indonesian paratroops had been airdropped into northern Johore, signalling a disturbing escalation in Indonesia's policy of confrontation with the newly-created Federation of Malaysia. As a precaution against possible air raids, the operations room and the unit's power station were sandbagged. Small arms and ammunition were also issued to technical and operations

personnel, as a self-defence measure against possible attacks by saboteurs, and armed guards and area patrols were instigated. A month later, a detachment of 114MCRU was dispatched to Kampong Changkat, south of Butterworth, to operate the Army Mk 7 light anti-aircraft 'gap filler' radar, but by the following month the alarm created by the Indonesian landings had largely dissipated.

2013 – AN IMPORTANT ANNIVERSARY FOR KOREAN WAR VETERANS

The 27th July 1953 commemorated the 60th anniversary of the armistice that ended the Korean war three years and one month after the war began. The ending was so sudden that some soldiers had to be convinced it really was over. After the war ended, the presence of Australians in Korea continued with a peacekeeping force until 1957. The Korean War began on 25 June 1950, when North Korean forces launched an invasion of South Korea. Personnel from the Australian Army, RAAF, and RAN fought as part of the United Nations (UN) multinational force, defending South Korea from the Communist force of North Korea.

The crisis in Korea originated in the closing phases of the Second World War, when control of the Korean peninsula, formerly occupied by Japan, was entrusted to the Allies, and the United States and the Soviet Union divided responsibility for the country between them at the 38th parallel. Over the course of the next few years, the Soviet Union fostered a strong communist regime in the north, while the US supported the government in the south; by mid-1950, tensions between the two zones, each under a different regime, had escalated to the point where two hostile armies were building up along the border. On 25 June a North Korean army finally crossed into the southern zone and advanced towards the capital, Seoul. The city fell in less than a week, and North Korean forces continued their southward drive towards the strategically important port of Pusan.

Within two days, the US had offered air and sea support to South Korea, and the United Nations Security Council asked all its members to assist in repelling the North Korean attack. Twenty-one nations responded by providing troops, ships, aircraft and medical teams. Australia's contribution included 77 Squadron of the RAAF and the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (3 RAR), both of which were stationed in Japan at the time as part of the



British Commonwealth Occupation Force. In the three years of fighting 1,263 men of the Commonwealth forces were killed and a further 4,817 were wounded, while the US lost 33,000 men. Australian casualties numbered more than 1,500, of whom 340 were killed. Almost half a million South Koreans died as a result of the war, and an unknown number of North Koreans and Chinese.

Commanding Officer No. 77 Squadron RAAF, Wing Commander Lou Spence straps into the cockpit of his P51-D Mustang fighter

73rd ANNIVERSARY BATTLE OF BRITAIN LUNCHEON RSVP & PAYMENT ADVICE

On board Captain Cook Cruises MV Sydney
Monday 16 September 2013

Please return by Friday 30 AUGUST 2013 to

To: Bruce L Weekley RFD
Vice President
RAAF Association (NSW Division)
PO Box A2147
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235
bweekely@optusnet.com.au

MEMBER'S NAME.....(PLEASE PRINT)

ADDRESS (for return of tickets).....
.....

POST CODE..... TELEPHONE NO

BRANCH/ASSOCIATION

I will be attending the 73rd Anniversary of the Battle of Britain Luncheon on board MV Sydney 2000 on Monday 16 September 2013

I will be accompanied by.....
And if possible would like to be seated with.....Radar Branch NSW Division.....

LUNCHEON COST, BOOKING SLIP & METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR LUNCH

\$60 per head RAAFA financial members and partner/carer
\$79 per head for non- members

for: persons at \$60 per head (GST Included) \$.....
..... persons at \$79 per head (GST Included) \$
TOTAL \$.....

Cheque
I enclose a cheque (made payable to RAAF Association NSW Division) for \$.....

Credit Card
I approve the RAAF Association (NSW Division) to charge my
VISA / MASTER CARD (Please circle) for the amount of \$.....

NAME ON CREDIT CARD: (please print)

CREDIT CARD NO:.....

EXPIRY DATE:MONTH.YEAR

SIGNATURE:.....

PLEASE RETURN BY FRIDAY, 30 AUGUST 2013