

Bulletin # 26, 17 January 2019



The arrival of the latest Strike Force (F35a) jets heralded a huge expansion and upgrade of the RAAF Facility at Williamtown which our speaker this week Wing Commander Mick Duggan found himself in charge of - somewhat by default.

Having retired from the RAAF after 43 years he walked back into a job the day after his retirement and following the death of a superior and the resignation of another Mick found himself elevated to the position of Base Re-Development Officer.

It might sound like a bit of a "Bradbury", but with what Mick has achieved it was obvious that he was destined to be the one.

Coming to the job in 2014 Mick has overseen the spending of \$1.5 Billion (yes billion) on infrastructure - ranging from runway extension to new hangars, to workshops, to fuel truck shelters, to accommodation block (*for seconded/temporary staff etc – there are no permanent residents on the base these days*), pool and sports facilities and flight and air traffic simulators. In addition, a five-storey administration building for 1000 workers is under construction to house various staff from all service arms. As well, there are some 20 minor projects currently under way.

A thoroughly enjoyable presentation, presented in a thoroughly professional manner.

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Birthdays: 18 Jan to 24 Jan 2019

18 Jan: David Clark

19 Jan: Lesly Freeman

Anniversaries:

20 Jan: John & Yvonne Stumchke

21 Jan: Geoff & Denise Diemar

Heads and Tails:

Visitor Beryl Ainsley

Member Duties 10th Jan 2019

Door: David Clark/Ella Clarke

Meet/Greet: Andrew Downey, Geoff Diemar

Loyal Toast: Doug Craike/John Crump

Grace: Andrew Downey

Intro Guest speaker:

N/A

Thank Guest Speaker:

N/A

Bulletin: Dieter Greiter

Photos: Phill Smith

Binoculars

David Clark & Andrew Downey

Next week: Australia Day preparation

Apologies/Extras to John Crump by noon on Wednesday!

Ph 0401 450 239

Honorary Members Morning Tea



Fourteen Members, Honoraries and guests enjoyed a morning tea catch-up at Evviva Café last Wednesday. Seated: John Stumchke, Peter Buckley, Pam & Ian Rolfe, Dieter Greiter, Murray & Lorraine Nicol, Noaline & Terry Fitzsimons ,Hugh & Anne Randall. Standing: Kathy Rimmer, Tammy Kelly & Richard Turner.

The Morning Teas with Honorary Members that proved so successful last year will continue in 2019 with plans to hold them each month. Originally planned for the 3rd Wednesday of each month a change of week day (or week) may be necessary.... Watch this space.



Around 32 members and guests attended our meeting this week including several visitors. Joining Richard Turner was his daughter Mel, with Helen Ryan was camera shy husband Mike as well as David and Beryl Ainsley and of course our guest speaker Wing Commander Mick Duggan and his wife Ange.



President Kathy was invited to lunch with Premier Gladys Berejiklian this week along with many other women recognised in the area as Community Leaders.

Update

- The Rotary Club of Williamtown have kindly lent us their coolroom for the day
- Even more generous they have also given us their chip cooker to keep. This will mean we will have two chip cookers
- Onion Party! Next Tuesday at Doug Bairstow's. Join in the fun slicing away through 55Kg of onions for Australia Day. Bring your own knife.
- Aust Day Eve: Working party to meet at shed to load equipment and requisites. Those involved to meet at the shed at 8:00AM.
- Final roster to be produced this week. Q&A session at next week's meeting.

Coming up:



Upcoming BBQ's

Friday February 8, Friday February 22,
Friday March 1, Saturday March 9.



Nelson Bay Touch Football Association have asked us to again provide food and drinks at their upcoming championships. The Championships will be held on February 2nd and 3rd at the Tomaree Sports Complex. The event will be bigger this year and volunteers will be sought next week.



- **Hot Pot and Hat Night Thursday 31st January**
- **Soldiers Point Yacht Club**
- **Bring a dish – curry, hotpot, Bolognaise, rice dish or whatever to share.**



As these are licenced premises no BYO – bar will be open.

Re-charge your batteries at the 2019 District Conference.



DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2019

Forster

15 -17 March



5th April

RC Nelson Bay 28th Charity Golf Day