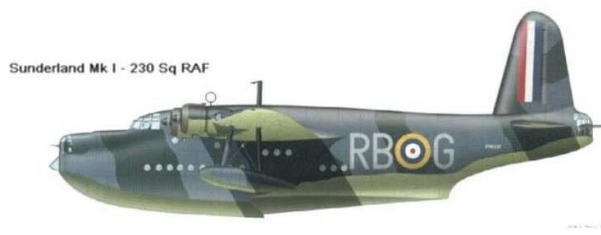


R.A.A.F Association – Victorian Division
Sunderland Branch



RB-G 10 Squadron RAAF
A.C.N. 004250 248
Incorporating 10 Squadron RAAF, the first RAAF Squadron in action in W.W.II;
461 Squadron RAAF, The Anzac Squadron; and 13 RAF Squadrons

22 December 2023

SUMMER 2023



Sunderlanders and friends.

I would like to firstly extend Merry Christmas and Happy and Prosperous New Year greetings to everyone. May 2024 be a great year.

The last month or so has been busy. On the way to Adelaide for the Dudley Marrows Memorial Trophy Dinner, Min and I visited the RAAF Memorial Museum at Mildura airport with Marilyn Marrows-Voullaire and Kel. During WWII between 1942 and 1946, Mildura airport was the home of the RAAF No.2 Operational Training Unit (2OTU) providing operational fighter conversion training for pilots before they were posted to their operational Squadrons. Some 1247 pilots flew Wirraway, Boomerang, Spitfire, Kittyhawk and Mustang aircraft at the base. The museum contains many RAAF memorabilia and displays relating to the activities of 2OTU and wartime operations elsewhere. In the near future the museum will relocate to a hangar at the airfield where a full-size Kittyhawk will be displayed. The museum is well worth a visit when you are in the area. The volunteer staff are very friendly and helpful.

On the way from Mildura to Adelaide for the Dinner, we travelled to the north of RAAF Edinburgh on the freeway. I was ecstatic to see a P3-C Orion flying at low level. It made a truly beautiful sight. Little did I realise at the time that I was witnessing history in the making. I was later informed that the P3-C I saw was one of the last two aircraft making their final flights under the 10 Sqn banner. Both aircraft have now been withdrawn from flying duties with 10 Sqn. Tuesday 5 December 2023 proved to be a sad but notable day for 10 Sqn. These aircraft have served the RAAF and 10 Sqn well over a period of 45 years.

10 Sqn is entering a new era with the cessation of flying the P3. There is a changing of the guard with the appointment of a new Commanding Officer. WGCDR Daniel Beurich has assumed command.

The Sunderlanders congratulate the new Commanding Officer WGCDR Daniel Beurich on his promotion and appointment and look forward to continuing our association with 10 Squadron going forward. We know that the Squadron is in good hands as it enters a new era.

To Group Captain Marija “Maz” Jovanovich, we congratulate her on her promotion and posting to Canberra for further training. We thank her for her support to continue the ongoing connection of the Sunderlanders with 10 Sqn. We know she will not only enjoy her new posting but she will excel.

Squadron Warrant Officer Randall Abbott will also leave the Squadron at the end of 2023. The Sunderlanders express our sincere thanks to WO Abbott for all his organising of the dinners.

A snippet from an earlier Queensland Branch Newsletter mentioned that they welcomed to their luncheon 102-year-old Mick Scott who served as a Rigger/Tail Gunner with 10 and 461 Sqns. Great to know that Mick, an original Sunderlander can attend Sunderlander functions.

I have also included for your information a copy of a Media Release forward by AFA Victoria Division regarding registering to obtain free attendance passes for anyone planning to attend overseas Dawn Services.

Alan Stark has rightly pointed out to me that the title of the graphic I use in the letter head above is incorrect when it is headed Sunderland MK1 – 230 Sqn RAF. The Sunderland featured, RB-G P9602 is a 10 Sqn Sunderland. I was unable to remove the incorrect text when I got the photo from Google. Sunderland RB-G crashed on 2 September 1940 when alighting at Oban at 2315 hrs on returning from patrol. The aircraft Captained by Flight Lieutenant Dick Cohen overshot the flare path in bad weather and crashed into the island of Lismore.

PAST EVENTS

2023 DUDLEY MARROWS MEMORIAL TROPHY DINNER

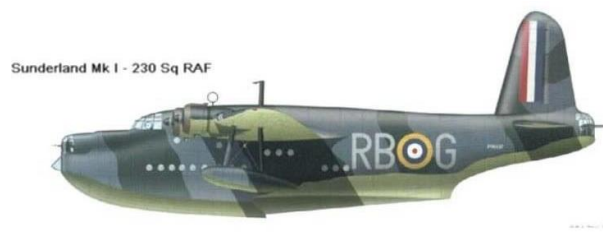
The 2023 Dudley Marrows Memorial Trophy Dinner was held on Wednesday 6 December 2023 in the Air Force Room at the Navy, Military and Air Force Club, Hutt Street, Adelaide. This dinner was the 74th Sunderlanders Dinner originally instigated by the Air Force Association NSW Branch.



The assembled 10 Squadron members and Sunderlanders

As you can see by the smiles this year's dinner was great success. Everyone enjoyed a marvellous meal and lively conversation.

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This year the three nominees for the Dudley Marrows Memorial Trophy were all technical specialists (TECO's). All these nominees demonstrated FLT Dudley Marrows' values of Courage, Integrity, Compassion and Leadership, and as WGCMD Jovanovich stated when she introduced them, they were all very worthy of being awarded the Trophy



The 2023 Nominees – L to R

SGT Perry Williams
CPL Darren Malyon
LAC Robert Kohler

The Trophy winner was CPL Darren Malyon.

Cpl Darren Malyon being presented with the Dudley Marrows Memorial Trophy as the 2023 winner by 10 Sqn CO, Wing Commander Marija Jovanovich.

It is interesting to note that WGCMD Jovanovich is a previous winner of the Trophy.



The 11 Sunderlanders attending from NSW, QLD and Victoria were Peter Dowling and Sue Alexander, Tim Jensen and Prue Anthony, John and Joy Mackellar, Pam Urquhart, Marilyn Marrows-Voullaire and Kel Voullaire, Ricky, and Min Hattam.



Descendant Sunderlanders with Winner and CO.

L to R - John Mackellar, Pam Urquhart, Peter Dowling, CPL Darren Maylon, WGC DR Marija Jovanovich, CO 10 Sqn, Marilyn Marrows-Voullaire, Prue Anthony, Tim Jensen, Ricky Hattam.

As part of the Award Night, it has become a tradition that one of the Sunderlander descendants provides a short presentation on the story of their Sunderlander farther.

This year I had the honour to present the story of my father 401562 FLT Ricky Hattam MID.

I trust that the presentation provided those in attendance with some insight into the story of my father and that of many other Sunderlanders who had similar experiences.



ELECTRONIC REFERENCES AND CONTACTS

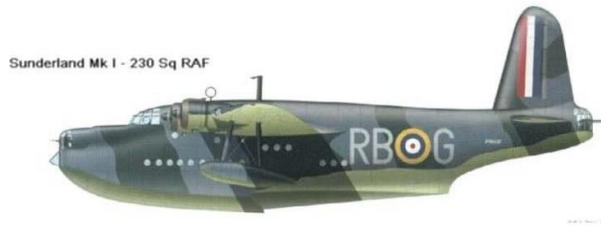
RAAF Museum – Point Cook, Victoria

The museum is open on Thursdays and Sundays, 1000 to 1500. Bookings to attend are essential. You need to book via the website – <https://airforce.gov.au>

Short Sunderland/Hythe, Sandringham & Seaforth/Solent. Face Book Group

Facebook group that might be of interest to some Sunderlanders – Short Sunderland/Hythe, Sandringham & Seaforth/Solent. It is a Private Group, but often has Sunderland, RAAF 10 and 461 Sqn content. Worth following.

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Websites –

www.pooleflyingboats.com

www.ayemaam.com

Aviation Heritage Museum - Bull Creek, Western Australia

This is great Museum. In the past it had some Sunderland Squadrons displays. There is also a Facebook page for the Museum.

<https://aviationmuseumwa.org.au>

RAF Coastal Command 1936-1969 Facebook site

This Facebook group is dedicated to RAF Coastal Command. As 10 and 461 Sqn's served in Coastal Command there are often articles about our Sunderland Squadrons. Worth having a look at.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MHTCommunity/>

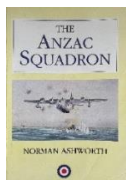
Short Sunderland "Flying Porcupine" - Facebook site.

This Facebook group is dedicated to the Short Sunderland. This site has recently posted a number of 10 Sqn photos from the album, of Bill Sykes, 10 Sqn RAAF. Also worth following.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1416154278706348/>

SHOPPING SECTION

"ANZAC SQUADRON"



This book contains a wealth of information about Squadron members and relates the story of 461 Squadron the "ANZAC SQUADRON" by Norman Ashworth. Copies are available from the Secretary at a cost of \$55.00 per copy, postage, and handling.

"MARITIME is NUMBER 10" Book – Currently out of stock

Sunderland Lapel Badges – "Sunderland" lapel badges are available from the Secretary at \$8.00 ea. packaging and postage paid.

Secretary/Treasurer: Rick Hattam. Please address all, correspondence to Secretary: Rick Hattam,
5 Waurn Park Court, BELMONT VIC 3216, Phone 0418 994 759; rickyh461@gmail.com

10 and 461 Squadron Plaques

We now have both 10 and 461 Squadron Plaques in stock. The cost is \$70.00 including GST, postage, and packaging.

COMING EVENTS

ANZAC DAY 2024 - Unit Associations & Kindred Organisation UA&KO update

Air Force Association
VICTORIA



Dear Colleagues,
Forwarded for your information.

Joint Media Release - Minister Keogh and Assistant Minister Thistlethwaite - Registrations open for 2024

Anzac Day services overseas
Department of Veterans' Affairs
THE HON MATT KEOGH MP

Minister for VETERANS' AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR DEFENCE PERSONNEL
and

THE HON MATT THISTLETHWAITE MP
ASSISTANT Minister for DEFENCE
ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS
ASSISTANT MINISTER for the Republic
MEDIA RELEASE

17 NOVEMBER 2023

REGISTRATIONS OPEN FOR 2024 ANZAC DAY SERVICES OVERSEAS

So many Australians have a connection with the Anzac legend – a family story of a son lost, or a local hero who never returned home.

109 years since the Allied landings on the Gallipoli peninsula, Anzac Day remains core to our national identity. In Australia, New Zealand, and indeed across the globe, as the dawn breaks on Anzac Day, we come together, solemnly, silently, and respectfully.

We gather to remember the sacrifices of so many ordinary Australians, caught up in extraordinary events throughout our history.

Australians are now invited to register their attendance at the 2024 Anzac Day Dawn Services in France and Türkiye to commemorate our Anzacs, and all those who have served our nation in conflict and peacekeeping operations in the years since.

The Gallipoli Anzac Day Dawn Service will take place at the Anzac Commemorative Site on the Gallipoli peninsula. This will be followed by the Australian Memorial service at Lone Pine, the site of one of the fiercest battles that the Australians fought during the First World War. The Dawn Service in France will be hosted at the Australian National Memorial near Villers-Bretonneux, followed by a service at the Digger Memorial, just outside the town of Bullecourt.

Those planning to attend these overseas Dawn Services can now register for their free attendance passes online at <https://commemorations.teg.com.au/>. Registration is essential. Australian travellers are encouraged to monitor smartraveller.gov.au for the latest travel advice.

MEDIA CONTACT:

DVA Media: media.team@dva.gov.au

Barbara Stallard | Office Manager | (03) 9813 4600 | office@afavic.org.au | www.afavic.org.au