

RAAF Association – Victorian Division
Sunderland Branch



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

30 November 2019

SPRING 2019

Sunderlanders and friends.

There have been a couple of significant Sunderland events since my last Newsletter.

The Coastal Command exhibition at the Melbourne Shrine of Remembrance and the New South Wales' Branch 50th Sunderland Branch Dinner in October.

I have recently found a "Face Book" Group "Old RAAF Photos". This group recently featured many photos of 10 and 461 Squadron aircraft and airmen. It is worth a "Follow". It is great to see that these photos and connections are shared across a group of enthusiasts with similar interests to the Sunderlanders.

This is the last Newsletter for 2019 I wish all Sunderlanders and friends compliments for the upcoming Festive Season, Merry Christmas and Happy and Safe New Year. Next Newsletter (Summer 2020) will be early in 2020 followed by one prior to Anzac Day.



PAST EVENTS

SHRINE OF REMBERANCE – RAF COASTAL COMMAND EXHIBITION – 16 August 2019

The launch of the Shrine Trustees wonderful Cinderella Service exhibition pertaining to the activities of RAAF crews in RAF Coastal Command during the Second World War held on 16 August was attended by several of our Sunderlanders including some interstaters. Wing Commander Colin Smith, Commanding Officer of 10 Squadron was the guest speaker.

Some details of the exhibition launch are provided below. This great exhibition that will continue for 12 months.

I would recommend that you visit the exhibition especially as “The Cinderella Service” receives minimal publicity for the important role they played in keeping the sea lanes clear for the transportation of the vital supplies required for the war effort.



The exhibition includes displays relating to 10 and 461 Sunderland Squadrons and 455 Hampden Torpedo Bomber Sqn, memorabilia of Ivan Southall 461 Sqn, a bust of Colin Walker 461 Sqn, and information and items of memorabilia related to other Sunderlanders and 455 Squadron members.



418900 Flg Off Ivan F Southall DFC display including his Distinguished Flying Cross award, photos and uniform, together with a Sunderland model.

Ivan wrote numerous “Simon Black” fictional books involving flying boats for young people, and notably “They Shall Not Pass Unseen” a factual account of 461 Squadron RAAF exploits during the Battle of the Atlantic.

401640 Sqn Ldr Colin B Walker DSO, Captain of the Sunderland EJ134 (N Nuts) which was attacked by two JU88's and two FW190's on 13 February 1943 and, was later attacked by eight JU88's on 2 June 1943, subsequently completing a forced landing on the beach at Praa Sands in Cornwall.



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50th SUNDERLAND NSW BRANCH AWARDS DINNER – 19 October 2019

The 50th Sunderland Awards dinner was held at the Naval Military and Air Force Club, in Adelaide on Saturday 16 October. Some 28 serving members and Sunderlanders were in attendance.

The evening was a celebration of the outstanding service given by all award nominees and in particular the winners,

Wng Comd Colin Smith, CO 10 Sqn provide a brief overview of the future for 10 Sqn. He along with Peter Dowling, Secretary of the NSW Branch proudly presented the awards to the two winners for 2019, WO Hayden Inwood and Flg Off Emerald Hamlyn. Congratulations to these worthy winners.



2019 50th Sunderland Awards being presented to WO Inwood by Peter Dowling.

FLGOFF Hayden was unable to attend the presentation as she was on active duty.

Award Winners' Trophies



Sunderlander attendees included New South Wales members, Peter and Sue Dowling, John and Joy Mackellar, Tim Jensen, Prue Anthony, Ken and Allison Horrell; Victorian members, Marilyn Marrows-Voullaire and Kel Voullaire and Rick and Min Hattam.



New South Wales contingent together with Marilyn Marrows-Voullaire, Wng Comd Smith and WO Inwood.

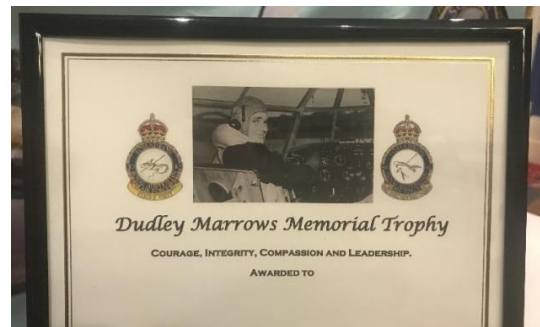
The night was one of fellowship and much conversation.

The evening was also an opportunity to announce the next tranche of the Sunderland's Award.

It has been decided that moving forward that there will be a change in the format for future awards. There is to be a single annual award to be known as "The Dudley Marrows Memorial Trophy" and presented to a 10 Squadron member who displays the characteristics of Courage, Integrity, Compassion and Leadership.



The Dudley Marrows Memorial Trophy



Victorian Branch President Rick Hattam with the Dudley Marrows Memorial Trophy and NSW Sunderland Squadrons Banner transported to Adelaide for the function.

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A SUNDERLAND STORY

On 14 January 1946, Flg Off H George at the controls of 209 Sqn RAF Sunderland WQ-T, PP131, flew under the Sydney Harbour Bridge before landing at Rose Bay flying boat base.

FOUR ENGINED PLANE FLOWN UNDER BRIDGE



A giant four-engined R.A.F. Sunderland flying-boat was flown under the Harbor Bridge. The Sunderland had just reached Sydney from Hong Kong, via Darwin.

Mr. William Finlay, of Boyle Street, Balgowlah, who was on the Bridge said : "The flying-boat came right down, and I thought it was going to fly straight into the bridge. "By skilful handling, the pilot took the huge aircraft right under the bridge, then lifted it into the air again as he continued his flight down the harbor to alight at Rose Bay.



Flying under the Harbor Bridge is prohibited by Civil Aviation Department regulations.

First man to fly beneath the bridge was Jimmy Broadbent, holder Of The England-Australia solo record, who put his machine under in 1933.

Only other four-engined aircraft to fly under the bridge was the Lancaster bomber piloted by Flight-Lieutenant Peter Isaacson, R.A.A.F. Isaacson did it on October 23, 1943, while making a drive for the Fourth Liberty Loan.

Some of the crew.



COMING EVENTS

Monthly Luncheons.

NOTE CHANGE OF DAYS. Thank you Pam Gibson for the update.

Monthly Luncheons are held on the first Thursday of each month at the East Malvern RSL, Stanley Grose Drive, East Malvern, off Winton Road. See Melways Map 60 A12.

SHOPPING SECTION

“MARITIME is NUMBER 10” Book – Currently out of stock

“ANZAC SQUADRON”

This book relating the story of 461 Squadron the “ANZAC SQUADRON” by Norman Ashworth is also from the Secretary at a cost of \$55.00 per copy, postage and handling.

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

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.



**A 10 Squadron Crew on their way out to the kite RB-D at Mt Batten.
[RB-D possibly N9050]**