

*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

20 January 2018

## THE YEAR THAT WAS 2017

Sunderlanders and friends.

I trust that you all enjoyed a joyous Festive Season, and apologise for the lack of Newsletters in 2017. Since I semi-retired in June, I have been trying to get my time management and new lifestyle sorted. Not sure I am there yet, but I am on the way. I trust that in 2018 I can get circulate more regular Sunderland communications.

2017 was a year of many significant events. Two members of our Sunderland family celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday, the NSW Branch continued its Sunderland Awards Night for the 48<sup>th</sup> time, and for the First World War students, it was the Centenary of the Light Horse Charge at Beersheba as part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Gaza Offensive in October 1917. I didn't make the pilgrimage to Palestine this time as I had commitments in Canberra for the Centenary commemorations.

2018 will obviously have many events to Commemorate the Centenary of the end of WWI, and for the Sunderlanders it will be 75 years since the major action involving N461. A number of descendants of the crew members involved will be making another pilgrimage to Praa Sands and I assume PD. Maybe more detail of this trip in later Newsletters.

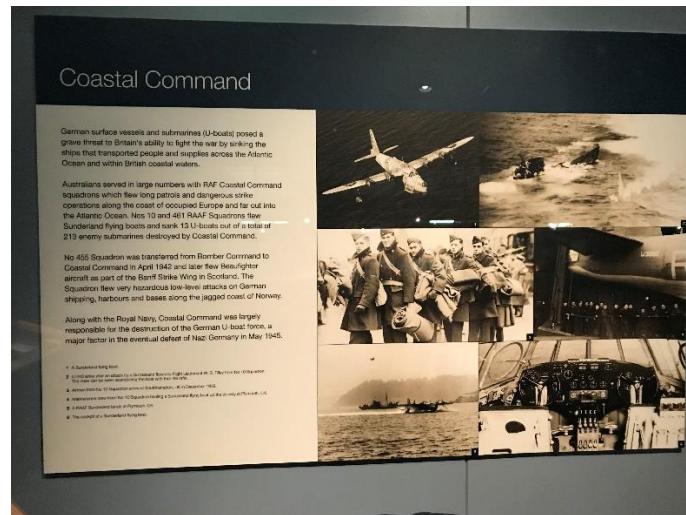
To those people who have been patiently waiting to obtain Squadron Plaques and History Books, I now have in stock, 10 and 461 Squadron Plaques and Squadron history books, Maritime is No.10 and Anzac Squadron respectively. I also have some small Sunderland badges. See the Shopping Section below.

There is a letter below from Carl Schiller our National and Victorian Association President regarding investigating the Association entering into the aged care industry.

Just a reminder that any deceased post war Squadron member's descendants who wish to have their Sunderland family member's name place on the Wall of Remembrance at Rathmines, please contact NSW Secretary, Peter Dowling (ph. 0418 281 775) for more information. I have attached a copy of the application form to this newsletter.

I recently made a flying visit to the RAAF Museum at Point Cook, and was pleased to see that the Coastal Command display included a significant component relating to the Sunderland Squadrons. A much superior display to that presented at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

The display although relatively small features Squadron Leader Peter Jensen's tunic, a personal photo album and an explanation panel.



For anyone who has not visited the Point Cook Museum it is well worth a visit.

## STOP PRESS

### NEWS FROM AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION VICTORIAN DIVISION

#### ASSEMBLY OF AN AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION VICTORIA RESEARCH TEAM – AGED CARE PROJECT

Dear Colleagues

Late last year I informed Branch Presidents the Victorian Division Board wished to investigate the possibility of the Division entering the aged care industry like that undertaken by the Western Australia Division.

The Western Australia Division's residential care facility has been operating since the 1970s, which has developed into a significant corporation providing all levels of aged care. It has been a challenging journey successful through cooperation, commitment and good management. Western Australia like Victoria has few Air Force assets compared to other states and territories but has managed to become very influential in the veteran and general communities by providing high quality aged care and retirement housing options. The Victorian Division could be able to enter this industry, albeit at the outset in a much smaller way, and develop its assets while providing a community service to ex-serving members and their families as well as others in the general community.

The Western Australia Division has provided some initial advice on the matter and is willing to provide further assistance in this regard. However, understandably, the Victorian Division needs to develop its own feasibility study to determine if this pathway is feasible and suitable. Consequently, the Board is seeking expressions of interest from members who would like to become part of the Research Team. Although attendance at meetings from time to time would be necessary, much of the research could be done from home.

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The Board and I very much look forward to hearing from those of you who would like to be part of this exciting project. Expressions of interest should reach Barb Stallard by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

Carl Schiller, OAM CSM

National & Victorian Division President

January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## **PAST EVENTS**

### **ANZAC DAY MARCH – Tuesday 25 April 2017**

The 2017 Anzac Day March in Melbourne once again saw a great representation of second and third generation Sunderlanders.

The 10 Squadron contingent included – Elaine Craig; Ian and Pam McCulloch and family, Julie Taylor, Madison Taylor and Jayden Taylor; Allan Stark; David White; David, Greg, Riley and Dillon Powis.

Ray Rogers sent an apology as he was unable to make the march.

The 461 Squadron contingent was - Noel Clough, Pam Gibson and Rick Hattam.

A fine representation for both Squadrons and once again well presented on the TV coverage.

Thank you to all attending for their commitment to our Sunderlanders.

## **Celebrations of 100<sup>th</sup> Birthdays**

Arthur Atkins DFC

Long-time Sunderlander friend Arthur Atkins DFC (625 Sqn Bomber Command) celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 5<sup>th</sup> August and featured on National TV at a Commemorative Luncheon.



## Dudley Marrows DSO DFC Legion de Honor

On December 8<sup>th</sup> distinguished Sunderland Dudley Marrows DSO DFC Legion de Honor celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday in Mildura. At an afternoon function on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December, Dudley accompanied by numerous friends and family celebrated his numerous significant achievements in both his military and civilian life.

To commence proceedings for the afternoon there was a flyover by a 10 Squadron PC-3 Orion.



Amongst the many distinguished guests was Sunderland Peter Jensen, President, NSW Sunderland Branch AFA who was on Dudley's crew during many of his extraordinary actions in the Bay of Biscay.

Group Captain Jason Begley, CO 10 Squadron accompanied by two members of the Squadron also attend. Gp. Capt. Begley presented Dudley with a pennant signed by Chief of Air Force from the Squadron



A hearty congratulation to our Centenarians.



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**NSW Sunderland Squadrons Branch 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Night – 18<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Night Dinner was held at the Chatswood Golf Club, Chatswood NSW, on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November. I was honoured to be able to attend and reunite with Sunderlanders from NSW. Original Sunderlanders, Branch President Peter Jensen and Branch Treasurer Ron McKellar both for 461 Squadron were in attendance.



The event was once again a great success with a contingent of serving Officers and NCO's accompanying the CO Wing Commander Jason Begley making the journey from RAAF Edinburgh.

There was strong commitment from those present to continue the Awards Night into the future with 2 more years to go to the 50th Awards Night.

The sad news delivered by Wng Comd Begley is that 10 Squadron is to be disbanded in the future with only 11 Squadron continuing current role of both Squadrons.

The Victorian Branch also offers its congratulation for Jason Bagley on his promotion to Group Captain subsequent to the function.

## COMING EVENTS

### ANZAC DAY MARCH – Wednesday 25 April

Arrangements will be much the same as last year with final details provide before the event once I know the step off time.

### Monthly Luncheons.

Monthly Luncheons are held on the first Tuesday of each month at the East Malvern RSL, Stanley Grose Drive, East Malvern, off Winton Road. See Melways Map 60 A12. There is no luncheon in January and the November luncheon is held on the second Tuesday due to the Melbourne Cup clash on the first Tuesday.

## SHOPPING SECTION

### All items now in stock

**“MARITIME is NUMBER 10” Book** – Your Committee has some copies of the reprint of this History of 10 Squadron.

Books are available from the Secretary at a cost of \$70.00 including GST, packaging and postage. Order forms are available from the Secretary. The reprint is quite good and worth purchasing.

### “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.

## LEST WE FORGET



**VALE:** David Hampshire, son of John Hampshire 461 Sqn; Tom Sheridan, 10 Sqn; Keith Greenslade, 10 Sqn;

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**Sunderland Branch RAAFA NSW**



**Application for plaque for Memorial Wall at Rathmines**

Please provide the following information for the installation of a plaque:

Service Number	Initials	Surname	Rank on discharge
Date of demise	Age	Decorations	

Name address and relationship of representative to deceased:

Name	Address	Relationship
Signature	Email	Phone number

Charges

Casting, freight and fixing to wall.	\$ 290
A donation to the continuing maintenance of monument and wall would be appreciated.	\$
<b>TOTAL (\$ 290 plus donation)</b>	<b>\$</b>

When completed, please return form and fee. Cheque payable to Sunderland Branch.

Or direct deposit to Westpac BSB 032 097. Account 100804. Sunderland Branch

Secretary, Sunderland Branch (RAAFA)  
Peter W Dowling RFD  
Unit 85/4-16 Kingsway  
Dee Why NSW 2099  
Email: [peterwdowling@bigpond.com](mailto:peterwdowling@bigpond.com) Mobile: 0418281775

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Rick Hattam. Please address all, correspondence to Secretary: Rick Hattam,  
5 Waurin Park Court, BELMONT VIC 3216, Phone 03 5241 3431, 0418 994 759; rickyh461@gmail.com