

RAAF Radschool Association Magazine Vol 36 Sept 2011

Sadly in the few months since our last issue, we have once again lost some very good mates. See Page 2	Our lovely Page 3 girl this issue is Flt Lt Name withheld who is the Admino at 33 Sqn, Amberley. We also have photos of courses from a long time ago. See Page 3	
If you've just bought a Mac, Sam tells you how to transfer the data over from your old PC. And, he shows how to save ink/toner on your printer. See Page 4	Col O'Brien has sent us a bunch of photos taken at Ballarat yonks ago and Joy Hutchinson sent us some from a recent RAAF Assoc meeting at Coffs. See Page 5	

RAAF Radschool Association Magazine – Vol 35

1		I
There's been some confusion about who gets a set top box and who doesn't – Ted sorts that out. And there's a Bra war going on in Qld, Ted's got a grasp of that. See page 6	John McDougall, ex- Caribou Loady and F111 sumpie, tells us his story. See Page 7	
The un-necessary anxiety imposed on those young Army blokes has finally ended and the old CO2 topic has re- emerged. See Page 8	Allan George is back on deck, having taken a break and swanned around the US for many weeks. He has a close look at the Cowra Breakout and other stuff. See Page 9	
The Djinnang Association got together again on the 28 th May. See Page 10	A lot of people suffer from Sleep Apnoea, check it out here and is depression caused by the weather? See Page 11	
33 Sqn's new Tankers are arriving at Amberley and Dick Harcourt has the good oil on the UK's code breaking section during WWII. See Page 12	Ted Strugnell has been researching the 'myth' of the lost Spitfires of Oakey. See Page 13	
August was a busy month for the RSL, VP day and Vietnam Vets day kept them busy. We find out what is planned for Iroquois A2-1022. See Page 14	A few people are doing a lot to bring some fairness to the DFRB/DFRDB issue, but you have to help. If you are affected, join them. See page 15	

RAAF Radschool Association Magazine – Vol 35

Page 1

RADIO VIETNAS	Back in 1969, Australian Forces Radio was set up in Vung Tau. See Page 16.	A few blokes are not as well as they should be. See Page 17	
	We're looking for a few people, perhaps you can help. See Page 18	This is where you have your say. See Page 19	
	Here's the news, all the news, the whole news and nothing but the news. Page 20	Index . The Index is now finished - all references have been linked so if you're looking for a topic or a photo of someone, click on the <u>Index</u> link on the top of each page and just follow the links.	

Opinion!

All legal action has finally ended against a group of Australian commandos involved in a disastrous raid in which, tragically and accidently, six Afghan civilians died. Thankfully, the Director of Military Prosecutions, Brigadier Lyn McDade lost her case before a Military Judge and the soldiers, whose job it is to carry out orders given by the Army, at huge risk to

themselves, have had to live a dreadful and anxious life since that incident in Feb 2009. A judge, who it seems knows a bit more about how the Army works than does McDade, has thrown the case out.

We admit we do not have access to all the facts in the case, but, relying on what has been reported and what is out in the public domain, it looks very much like it was a political decision to bring on the charges - but why??



Surely McDade would know that the Aussie soldiers did not, and would not, deliberately set out to kill innocent civilians. Surely she is not suggesting that they would?? If this were so, then why the charge?

Surely she would know that those young blokes were involved in a live fire incident, people were trying to kill them. An interesting questions, and one that has to be asked, is, if she was in the same situation, what would she do??

All McDade has done now is cause enormous anxiety in the Defence Force ranks – all solders will surely be worrying whether they could be next – if, when under enemy fire, they accidentally kill or maim one or more civilians, could they also be on a manslaughter charge. Unfortunately, we feel that this could lead to Australians losing their lives – there is no room for hesitation when under fire. There's an old saying, "He who hesitates is lost," when under fire, I think it is right on the money.

What if the artillery kills one or more civilians in a barrage, or what if an RAAF aircraft drops a bomb on a target and civilians are killed – are they now chargeable offences?? It was McDade's decision to bring on those charges and because of her decision, there is now considerable unrest in the ADF.

The people in the real ADF are distancing themselves from her. Defence Force chief General David Hurley said ""The legal processes that were adhered to in relation to this matter were independent of the chain of command," and the Defence Minister Stephen Smith said he would now ask the director of Military Prosecutions Brigadier Lyn McDade to provide a comprehensive assessment of the case and of circumstances which led to it being finalised.

But still she was recently re-appointed to her \$100,000 pa job.

The best thing a new government could do is dump the Office of Military Prosecutions and return discipline in the military to senior officers who know how the Services work.

You can see more on page 8

Facebook

We've had a lot of requests/suggestions to open a Radschool Facebook account. That has now been done and it's there if you wish to join. A lot already have and it's a great vehicle with which people can keep in touch. Search for RAAF Radschool-Association, ask to be a friend and you're in.



Virus

There is a nasty virus doing the rounds via email. If you use Internet email (Yahoo, Hotmail, Gmail etc) you could receive an innocent looking email titled "Here you have it". If you open the file a message will appear on your screen saying: 'It is too late now, your life is no longer beautiful, f*** you and die....'

Page 1

Page 1

You can see more information on it HERE

Membership.

Please check the <u>list of names</u> and if you've joined but your name isn't there, please click on the "<u>Join the Association</u>" tag (there's one on the top of each page) fill in the details again and send it to us. If you're not a member and would like to be, do likewise.

Also, if you change your address, or phone numbers or email address, or you just want to say hello, or you want to give us a tongue lashing, you can do so by clicking on the "<u>Contact Us</u>" tag, also at the top of each page and filling in the details. It's so easy even an instrument fitter could do it, it's all done on line, no printing out forms and no postage.



Over the past couple of months we have been able to put a bunch of people in contact with long lost mates - but that's only because we have your details. Please click on the <u>Join the</u> <u>Association</u> tag and fill it in, the more people that join the more we can match up.

If you want to get the RAM, but don't want to join the association, that's not a problem either. Just click on the "Contact Us" link at the top of each page and fill in the details and tell us to add your email to the list. Then whenever a new edition is released you will be advised.

We don't and won't give out your details to anyone so there is no risk of you being spammed.

RAAF Radschool Association Magazine – Vol 35

Page 1

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