

THE

RAM

THE MAGAZINE BY & FOR SERVING & EX-RAAF PEOPLE & OTHERS

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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 Kelly Muller and we have lots of old time pics.

See Page 3.



Windows 10 has some very good features. We explain some here. We suggest some free PDF editors

See Page 4

The Wallaby Lunch Clubbers got together again for a good time.

See Page 5





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Nothing is more certain than one day we will all cash out. We should make plans before-hand and to help DVA has some very good advice for us all.

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Jock Cassels finishes the story of his exciting life in two Air Forces.

See Page 7



During WW2, if you were captured and sent to a POW camp, Curragh was definitely the one of choice

See Page 8

99% of cars these days have power steering – but how does it work? And why did the Ford flat head V8 fade into the mist?

See Page 9

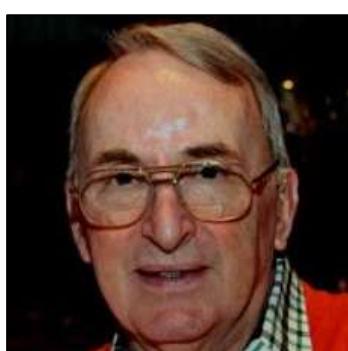


When ever you get to Melbourne, make sure you visit the Shrine of Remembrance and we have another look at RAAF Ballarat.

See Page 10

Vitamins, are they worth taking? And what is the truth behind all those diet plans?

See Page 11.



Jeff remembers his time flying the old Caribou in Vietnam back in 1966/67 and who was Amy Johnson.

See Page 12

AVM Bob Richardson (Ret'd) argues the RAAF is one of the best.

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Vietnam Vets Day (18Aug) was celebrated on Queensland's Sunshine Coast.

See Page 14.

The "Friends of the Mirage" got together recently and we have another look at Butterworth.

See Page 15



"75 Sqn's lolly drop". John recounts a story where the RAAF dropped bags of lollies to the Mission kids on Bathurst Island

See Page 16

Sick parade! Some of our mates are a bit crook. We wish them a speedy recovery.

See Page 17



We're looking for a few people, perhaps you can help??

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This is where you have your say. We look forward to hearing from you.

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Here's the news, all the news, the whole news and nothing but the news.

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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 [Index](#) link on the top of each page and just follow the links.

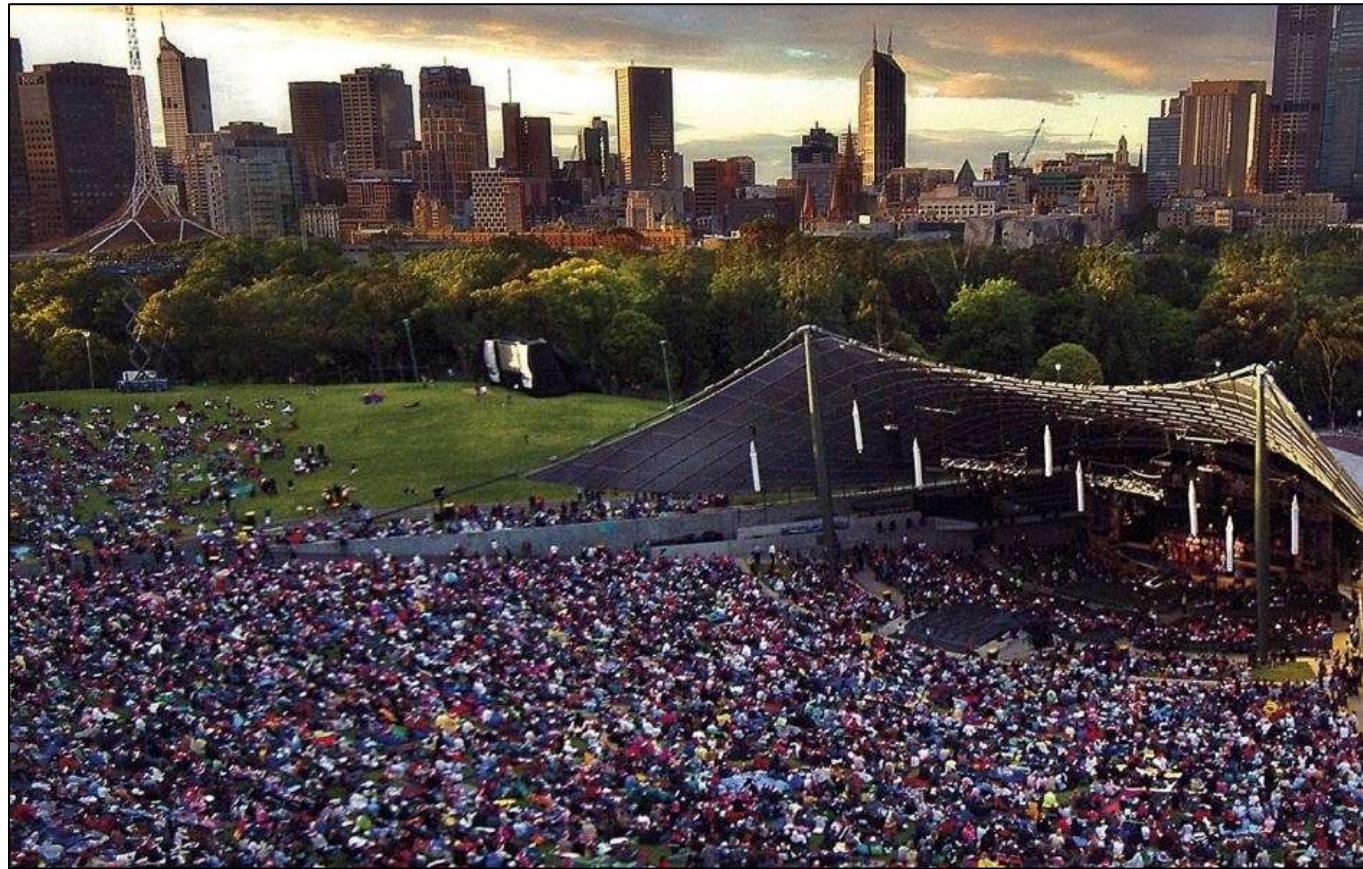
2021 Celebration.

Later this month I'll be in Canberra to see the RAAF to discuss our wish list re the celebration.



We're planning for the Sunday Concert event to be open to all in Melbourne and it could look like this below, you'll definitely want a reserved seat. A thousand of those seats down the front will be reserved for those that attend the reunion – we're limited to 1000, so if you think you'll be able to attend, even though it's a while off, we suggest you get your name in now. After we have 1000, you'll have to go onto the wait list. At the moment we have 213 – don't put it off, if you wait too long you could miss out. Tell all your friends too – get them involved.

To register, go [HERE](#), click the Overview link and fill in the Celebration Form.



Remember, the "other day" Celebration events are open to anyone and everyone who has spent time at Ballarat, Laverton, Point Cook, St Kilda or Frogmell, it's open to clerks, cooks, framies,



pilots, instructor, even radtechs, it's irrespective of mustering. The individual cost to everyone will be minimal as we're down the road aways with sponsors and it's looking good.

Early in 2020 we'll need you to commit and fill in another form with all names, shirt sizes etc and soon after that you'll need to make a payment – but more on that later too.

We'll be asking for volunteers later, people to help with set up, team leaders, crowd management, waiters etc, more on that later too.

OPINION

Back in March this year, that's 6 months ago, we wrote to Defence Media seeking permission to tour the Army Base out at Oakey (west of Toowoomba - Qld) with the intention of completing a story on the Base so you, our readers, could see how the blokes and blokettes posted out there lived, socialised and messed and could compare today's facilities to those they enjoyed when in uniform.

We've done this many times previously, normally we find Defence Media to be very helpful indeed and tours are organised with a minimum of fuss. We've been allowed tours of Air Force, Army and Navy Bases, we've been on Navy Ships, climbed into many of Army's heavy stuff and flown in the Air Force's aircraft and not ONCE has anyone from Defence had the need to criticise our reporting. We deliberately do not report or photograph any thing of an operational nature instead concentrate our reports on the social aspects.

But this time things were different.

Defence Media weren't even courteous enough to respond to our request, we rang them many times only to be told "It's been looked at". We never did get a reply. In frustration, on the 22 May, we wrote to the then Defence Minister, Marise Payne, asking her to intervene on our behalf. We got a response back from the Minister's Office on the 8th June confirming receipt of our letter and stating that it was being considered.

We appreciate that the Minister's Office has a lot more important things to worry about than our little matter, we also appreciate that our request is much more important to us than it is to them, but, as busy as they are, we did get a response on the 16th July – but it was not as we'd hoped. You can see their response [HERE](#).

We've since written back to them, reminding them we're not the media nor are we the general public – we're an ex-Service Association, we've given part of our lives in defence of this nation, we deserve better. We haven't heard back since we last wrote but on the 21st Sept we have a meeting in Canberra with the Defence Department and with the Vet Affairs Department – we'll bring it up again and let you know the outcome next issue.

Membership.

We've decided to go with the following membership.



- 1 year's full membership for \$12.00. (now till 30 June 2019)
- Full membership for \$35.00 to 30 June 2021.

Annual Membership will run from July one year to June the next, with this year's annual membership now expiring in June 2019. As we've said, full membership is not compulsory, you can still receive the RAM which will remain open, free and available on the net.

So, if you'd like to contribute and help us with the ever increasing costs, please join as a full member.

If you are already a member (ie: if your name is on this [LIST](#)), please fill in the form below and send it to us, if you haven't already joined (if you're not on the list), please use the form [HERE](#).

First name: Surname:

Your email address:

Membership type:

Your State: Sum transferred: \$

Please transfer your joining contribution to:

BSB: 124-021 **Account number:** 1048 7401 **Title:** RAAF Radschool Association.
Bank: Bank of Queensland.
and include your name in the "Remarks" window on the deposit.

You can of course pay more if you wish!!

AND!! If you work for a firm that would be kind and generous enough to sponsor the Radschool Association, please get in touch.

RAM thought for the day.

With senses like that, a dog must live in the smelliest, noisiest world.



Errors

Our aim is to have this site error free – but that's probably impossible. But with your help I reckon we can get pretty close. If you see any errors, be they punctuation, spelling, links that don't work, facts wrong etc, (no matter how small) please let us know so we can fix them.



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