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## New Menu

We've made some changes to the menu system, now you can find a topic, click it and it will open the info for which you're looking. Hopefully, this will make it a lot easier to read. After you've finished one topic and you want to return here, just click the "close tab" button (X) at the top of your page.

You can still read the whole Magazine the old way, see at the bottom of the page.

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## Course Photos.

Back in 2013 we started to catalogue and display [Course photos](#) on our web site. With the help and guidance of the late Ted Ilton, we started with the RAAF Academy and after we'd finished that, because of requests from some of the ladies, we started on the WRAAF recruit course photos. We had help with the WRAAF photos from some of the girls and from a most helpful lady at the museum at Pt Cook and we were able to get copies of most of the 247 WRAAF courses the RAAF ran (the RAAF dropped the W bit after 247 and the girls joined the RAAF).



We applied officially for access to the RAAF's depository of photos which are held in a climate controlled room at Pt Cook (we'd seen them when we were working at Pt Cook some years ago) as we wanted to complete the WRAAF section and start on other groups, such as Pilots and Comms people.

That was when the fun started.

Although given approval initially, all of a sudden excuses began to pop up as to why we couldn't get access. We have been able to build up a partly completed catalogue of photos, mainly because people had sent in copies of photos they have held over the years but try as we might, we couldn't get access to the RAAF's collection.

This went on for years and although to date there has been nearly 245,000 people access the site, we have not received one complaint, in fact we get heaps of "thank you" emails because as far as we know, if someone wants a photo of one of the courses they were on years ago to show to their grand kids, (or whatever), there is nowhere else to go.

In desperation, we asked Ted McEvoy, who had corresponded previously with his MP, the Hon Ben Moreton, to approach him again and see if there was any way a door could be opened and we could somehow get access to the photos. Ted duly did that, he fired off a letter to Ben Moreton, outlining the years of frustration and stone-walling I'd encountered and asked if anything could be done.



Seems Ben Moreton was surprised at the lack of support I'd received from the RAAF as he fired off a letter to the Hon Darren Chester, the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, asking



him to look into it. It seems Darren Chester was also a bit surprised as he promptly replied to Ben Moreton advising that the photos would be made available.



Shortly after that, Ted received a call from WngCdr Grant Taylor, the CO of 2 FTS at Pearce, advising Ted that photos of all RAAF Pilot Courses were held at Pearce and if Ted wanted to, he could come out to Pearce and get copies.

Wonderful news - but a shame we had to resort to those measures to get something of benefit to many.

Ted drove out to the Base on Thursday 25 June and we must say, he was warmly welcomed by Grant Taylor who was very helpful and assisted Ted in every way possible. Once we get the JPGs from Ted, along with the names and course numbers etc, we'll collate them and update the site and it will be available to everyone - at no cost. The Radschool Association does this as a free service to its members.

We suggest you have a look at the site towards the end of July.

Now that we've been given access to the Pilot's Courses, and the sky didn't fall in, we'd like to continue, next group we'd like to attack is the Navigators, we believe those photos are held at East Sale, then the big one - the Radschool Photos.

But one step at a time. A bit thank you to Ben Moreton for getting the ball rolling, thank you also to Darren Chester for opening the door and thank you also to Grant Taylor for making it so easy for Ted.

## Fund raiser.

On the 7th March, we had a fund-raiser sausage sizzle at the Stafford (north of Brisbane) Bunnings store and what an experience that was. Bunnings have to be commended for this, they provide the marquees, the barbecue, gas, cooling fans, rubbish bins, the site, blackboard and even the chalk to write your message on the board, all at no cost. Their only requirement is participants must be a non-profit charitable organisation - which we are.

We were promised another day (7th June) but the Corona Virus fixed that and Bunnings' barbies all across the country were put on hold UFN. We believe we're still on the list to hold another barby sometime this year if/when things are relaxed, and we're still looking for "volunteers" to help out. If you would like to spend a few hours sometime in the future, we'd love to have you. Male or female, doesn't matter, we're an equal opportunity organisation and we've found the ladies are better at organising these sort of things anyway - so come on girls, hands up!!





If you can spare the time, at the moment we don't know when, please fill in the form below and let us know. As soon as we get the nod from Bunnings we'll let you know.

First name:

Surname:

Phone number:

Email address:

Hours available:

Comments

## TPI/EDA travel on public transport.

Remember the big ballyhoo last year on the introduction of the Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant. Remember this?

*We, the people of Australia, respect and give thanks to all who have served in our defence force and their families. We acknowledge the unique nature of military service and the sacrifice demanded of all who commit to defend our nation. We undertake to preserve the memory and deeds of all who have served and promise to welcome, embrace, and support all military veterans as respected and valued members of our community.*

There were pins and new cards and certificates handed out and promises made and the world was going to be a great big wonderful place.

What happened?

As Australia was going to respect and give thanks to and make things easier for its vets, in February this year I wrote to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Darren Chester, suggesting that as all States provide a free travel pass for use on public transport to TPI/EDA vets, why not make it a Federal pass, make it easier on the troops and instead of each State having to provide a dedicated pass, could we not instead use the new Veterans Gold Card, about which all the fuss was made and which is distinctly embossed with TPI. (It is not yet embossed with EDA but could be).





At the moment States issue the pass to people who live in that State for use on transport in that State but if you travel to another State, all you have to do is write to that State's Transport Department, showing confirmation of your TPI/EDA classification and you'll get issued with a temporary pass for the time you spend in that State - I've done it. So why not a Federal Pass?



The Minister took the time and promptly wrote back saying it was a State thing and the Commonwealth couldn't get involved.

You can see my letter [HERE](#) and the Minister's reply [HERE](#).

Well, as it was a State thing, I wrote to each of the State Transport Ministers, asking if they would accept the embossed Gold Card as a transport pass. You can see that letter [HERE](#).

You can see the replies from each State Transport Minister [HERE](#).

We thought it was a good idea and if the NT and Tasmania can do it, surely it's not such a big thing. Perhaps when the next election is due and the Pollies want to be seen as though they do care for Australia's vets, we should bring it up again.

But don't hold your breath!

## 100th Anniversary of the RAAF celebration.

We had to cancel our plans for the big get together in Melbourne next year but that doesn't mean we're cancelling all together. We've decided to hold our celebration next year in the ACT and to hold it over the ANZAC Day period and if you went through Radschool, whether Ballarat or Laverton, no matter what course, male or female, this event is for you. It also includes your husband, wife, boy friend, girl friend etc, who can join in with us in all events except the ANZAC Day March itself unless they have served. We're all getting on a bit and this could be our last hurrah - let's make it a good one.

ANZAC Day in 2021 falls on a Sunday and we're planning to hold several events prior to that culminating in joining in the ceremonies planned around the War Memorial on ANZAC Day, including the Dawn Service, breakfast and the March itself.

We're suggesting you spend 5 nights in Canberra, commencing Wednesday night the 21st April, and leaving the ACT on Monday the 26th.

Here's what's planned.



## Wednesday 21st April.

An informal get together at the [Ainslie Football Club](#) that night. We hope to have a handout for everyone, setting out what's planned, etc.

## Thursday 22 April

We've arranged with the Army for a conducted tour of [Duntroon](#). This is a marvellous base, full of tradition and wonderful old buildings and is definitely worth a visit. This will start at 10.00am and should finish about 12.00midday. After Duntroon, we're planning we get together for lunch, unfortunately, the Corona problem has meant we haven't been able to get to Canberra to organise this, but once things return to normal we will and we'll let everyone know.

## Friday 23 April.

We've arranged a conducted tour of the AWM after which we can all lunch at [Poppy's Cafe](#) at the AWM. After lunch we'll try for a conducted tour of Parliament House - but we can't confirm that until we can get to Canberra.

## Saturday 24 April.

We've also been in touch with the ACT branch of the Air Force Association and have got approval to dedicate a plaque, remembering Radschool, in the RAAF Grove which is on the Federal Highway just inside the ACT boundary - see [HERE](#). We submitted a claim to DVA for funds to cover costs, but it was refused (see [HERE](#)). We're pursuing other sources of funds and if we can't do any good, we might be forced to ask for donations. More later.

As there's limited parking on the highway, we'll arrange a car pool system which will operate from the Ainslie Football Club car park to get everyone out there. Refreshments will be served after the dedication after which we plan returning to the Club for lunch. The rest of the afternoon is free until about 4.00pm when we can meet up again at the AWM for the "[Changing of the Guard](#)" at the tomb of the Unknown Australian Soldier, followed by the Last Post ceremony where we will lay a wreath. If the WRAAF ladies wish to join us, we will lay two. After that the day is yours as it will be an early start tomorrow.

## Sunday 25 April

Being ANZAC Day we propose attending the Dawn Service followed by the ANZAC Day March. The Dawn Service starts at 5.30am, but they suggest you get there at least 30 minutes prior to that - so no sleep-in that morning. After the Service, breakfast is served in ANZAC Hall at the War memorial, see [HERE](#). The Dawn Service and the following breakfast are wonderful and very moving events.



The breakfast costs \$45 per head and tables are arranged for 10 people. Click [HERE](#) for a sample menu. We'll have more on this after our trip to Canberra in August.

We've been in touch with the ACT Sub-branch of the RSL and have approval for us to march under the Radschool Banner. The March starts at 10.30am and will finish overall at the War Memorial at 12.30pm - that doesn't mean you're marching for 2 hours. The route for the March is along Anzac Parade, see [HERE](#), we don't know the length of the march but we'll know more after our trip down to Canberra in August. If you are not able to march, but would still like to attend, we can possibly arrange to have you carried in a vehicle, let us know in the form below. Sorry, but we can only arrange a vehicle for those with active service. We'll have more info on when and where to form up etc later.



The Dawn Service and the ANZAC Day March at the AWM are two huge events and should be on everyone's bucket list. After the March, in the tradition of ANZAC Days everywhere, we can all get together at a club for a "debrief". We're talking with the RSL for a suitable venue, more on that later too.

So we can get an idea of numbers, we know it's still a fair way off, but if you think you can make it, please fill in the form below:

First Name:

Surname:

Phone:

Email address:

Will you be partnered?

Will you need a vehicle for the March?

Comments:



## Buying a new car?

If you're a Radschool member and contemplating buying a new car, we could save you thousands. The Radschool Association has done a deal with Australia's biggest car brokers whereby you can purchase a car (your choice of make, colour, specs etc) at fleet discount prices.

One of our blokes made use of this facility recently and bought a Toyota Rav4 and saved thousands. You can too!

To see further details, go to the Radschool Assoc home page ([HERE](#)) then click on "New Car Purchase".

## Discounts.

Current financial members can now receive a 12% discount on the base rate of the day when hiring a car from Thrifty. If you're thinking of hiring a car or an SUV or a people mover, this could save you heaps. If you're a member, send us an email [HERE](#) and we'll send you the promo code.



## Charity Classification.

Early this year our Association was classified as a Charitable Organisation - see [HERE](#). This doesn't mean that donations to the Association are Tax deductible, yet, but we've applied for that and will advise if and when it occurs.

We are registered with the The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) which is the national regulator of charities. Their web-site is [HERE](#). Being a Charitable Organisation, we don't pay tax.

We have to submit a report to the ACNC each year, ours is due 31 December. For information, following is the Balance sheet and P&L of your association WEF 31 June 2020

[Balance sheet.](#)    [Profit and loss.](#)

## Membership.

We've decided to go with the following membership.

- Full membership for \$35.00 to 30 June 2021.



There's no more annual Membership, only full Membership which will expire on the 30 June 2021.

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.**  
Good decisions come from experience and experience comes from bad decisions.



## Vietnam Vets day - 18 August.

Due to the Corona virus most Vietnam Vets Day commemorations around the country have been cancelled but all is not lost, we've made some enquiries and there is a distinct possibility of holding a commemoration ceremony at the Kedron Wavell Services Club, (Brisbane) starting at 4.00pm, and finishing with a sit down dinner that evening. At the moment it is open to all ex-RAAF Vietnam people and we could also be joined by some Ex-Army blokes too.

We've submitted forms to the Qld Police for approval for an event and for a temporary road closure (along Kittyhawk Drive) for a short march to the Club and as soon as we hear back we'll let everyone know more details under separate cover.

## 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.

Thankfully, Ken Morris, who lives over in the West, proof reads our print before it goes public and points out our many errors, Thanks Ken.

## Costco Offer.

Costco was founded in an old hangar in San Diego in the USA in 1976. It started life as the "Price Club" and offered items to small businesses at a reduced price. It soon found by including non-business customers, its clientele increased greatly which meant it could buy more and buying more meant buying for less which meant it could sell for less which made it more attractive to buyers who bought more which meant buying more etc etc.



Its operating philosophy has been simple. Keep costs down and pass the savings on to its members. Since becoming Costco in 1997, the company has grown worldwide with total sales in recent fiscal years exceeding \$64 billion.

Its warehouses carry about 4,000 SKUs (stock keeping units) compared to the 30,000 found at most supermarkets. By carefully choosing products based on quality, price, brand and features, the company can offer the best value to members.

Costco opened its first Australian store in Melbourne in 2009 and now has 12 stores through all states of Australia, except for Tasmania and the NT.



Costco is very conscious of the hardship and dedication of the Australian service men and women and recently put a deal together for the benefit of members of the Radschool Association.

[Go to page 20](#) for the deal.



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