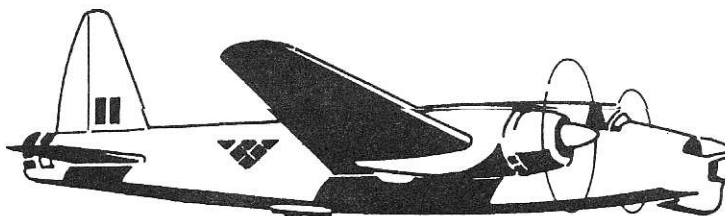


458

SQUADRON NEWS



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4 5 8 S Q U A D R O N O F F I C E - B E A R E R S .

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Squadron Treasurer: Peter Alexander (NSW) --Australia- Ted. Jewell (W.A.),
Squadron Secretary: Graeme Coombes (A.C.T.) --Ron. Russell (Vic),
Squadron Hon. Auditor: Bert Thompson (NSW) --Canada- Bryan Quinlan (B.C.)

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CANADA---THE SQUADRON PRESIDENT'S VIEW. Col. Fereday writes--

The touring party when they assembled at the Airport, Sydney, were saddened by the news that one of the party was in hospital--Ted. Kennedy. (Ted, after surgery is recovering, according to most recent report received--Ed.) We wish him well. Eric and Dorothy Munkman were at the airport to farewell the group. On arrival at Honolulu, we were met with leis and the smiling face of the hostess of the Sheraton Princess Kaiulani Hotel. Three days of glorious weather followed, spent in sight-seeing trips to Pearl Harbour, roaming in the International Market.

At Calgary we were joined by Peter and Eileen Leonard (U.K.) and by Charlie Forman (Canada) and they accompanied us for the rest of the tour. From Calgary, a five day 'bus tour of the breath-taking scenery of the Rockies with overnight stays at Banff, Jasper and Kamloops. We had a most breath-taking trip by cable car over Hell's Gate on the Fraser river followed by a salmon lunch. At Kamloops we were delighted to have our first meeting with Canadian Tony Mauro and his wife, Jean.

On Sunday 27th July, the primary purpose of the tour was achieved when we met and lunched with the following Canadian and U.K. members and friends:

Mick and Margaret Reid, Bert and Gladys Markland, Norm and Joyce Duke, Jock and Margaret McLeod, Fred and Marjorie Marsh, Tony and Jean Mauro, George and Nell Powell, Bryan and Joan Quinlan.

After lunch we had the International Reunion there in Vancouver. The Canadian members presented the Squadron Council with a specially made, hand carved message stick--a most generous and appreciated

Canada (cont.) gesture. (Tour Secretary Stan.Longhurst is looking after it for us. Fred Strom brought it back for us-ED.)

....the opportunity was taken to shop in Vancouver and to visit the exciting spectacles and pavilions at EXPO. On the tuesday evening --29th July--the touring party from Australia with the Canadians and U.K.members still in Vancouver had an excellent dinner in the revolving restaurant at the top of the Holiday Inn. Truly, a Reunion that all those who were able to participate will long remember. The Canadian members felt confident that, as a result, better communications will emerge between them personally and with the Squadron Council.

Most of the Australian members commenced their homeward journey on July 30th but some (like myself) went off to other parts of Canada, to the U.S. and other countries. The touring party had been most fortunate throughout in enjoying very good weather, and the accomodation was excellent, including a one night stay at the Pan-Pacific Hotel, the newest and, perhaps, most expensive hotel in Vancouver.

After the reunion I travelled to Whitehorse in the Yukon Territory, where I spent a few days staying with Mrs. Lee Kinsey, the widow of Merv. Kinsey. Merv was on the Squadron in 1943 as a W.A.G. in F/O Neilson's crew. I happened to meet him in Winnipeg in 1980, and kept in touch until his untimely death from a heart attack a few years ago. Lee would greatly appreciate receiving the Squadron News....

Canada is certainly a country where comradeship, friendship, and scenic beauty are to be found readily.... Col. Fereday.

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VICTORIAN FLIGHT NEWS.

from Stan. Tarczynski.

The Melbourne Cup Day barbeque at Joan and Ron. Russells' was the first gathering since our Annual General Meeting and dinner at the end of May. Those in attendance were our hosts, Joan and Ron., Kath and Harald Martin, Elaine Timms, Dot and Jack Fleming, Betty and David Evans, Beat and Ken. Morkham, Mavis and Mick Singe, Bill Hurford and Stan Tarczynski and his brother George, Jean Dickson, Ern. Laming and Helen Arnel and Vin. Clohesy. The latter was a great surprise as he lives in Hamilton, just under 300 kilometers away. Unfortunately his wife, Nancy, has not been well for some time and is confined to hospital.

As there is no other news from Vic. Flight, Ron. Russell very kindly contributed the following on his visit to U.S.A. with Joan. They departed by Qantas to Vancouver, via Fiji, and Honolulu on Feb. 22nd at 4.p.m. and arrived at 4.p.m. on Feb. 22nd! Travel to-day!

Through Vancouver Island to Seattle and they visited the Boeing plant and the St. Helens area. On to San Francisco where they did the usual tourist things--cable tram, Fishermans's Wharf, etc. A variation was the parade for the Chinese New Year, consisting of local organisations, including a band preceded by a large banner reading "The Gay and Lesbian Association". By car, they went to Los Angeles, via Monterey, Carmel, and Hearst Castle. The main interest in L.A. was the Getty Museum, Hartington Library, Universal Studios and Disneyland. Through to Las Vegas, where they saw "Chorus Line" at a dinner theatre. Then on to Grand Canyon via Hoover Dam during which time they drove through a heavy snow storm at 3,000' plus... They travelled to New Orleans via Phoenix and enjoyed a jazz session at Preservation Hall and a visit to the French Quarter... Northward to Williamsburg and Jamestown--recreated and preserved as it was in the 1700s, being the first settlement in America by Europeans. A week in Washington was too short, taking in Arlington, the Lincoln Memorial, White House, and Smithsonian.

They travelled to New York by Greyhound--a city which has all the bad signs of neglect--dirty, unsafe, roads not maintained. In the Qantas office he was included in a hold-up by four Hispanics at a jewellery store. One of the assistants was shot. Police chased down 5th Ave and caught one in the Qantas doorway. While wrestling on the ground one of the policemen was shot in the arm. Ron was kept in the office for some time.

Vic.Flt News (concl'd). They flew out of New York with no regrets. Thank you, Ron. We'd like to hear some more.

To Ern.Laming with warmest congratulations! Upon departing after the BBQ festivities of the Melbourne Cup, Ern.Laming--our W.O.D. and past Squadron President, confided that he and Helen Arnel will be getting married on his birthday on January 28th, 1987. Congratulations from us all! (AND from the whole Squadron, Ern.!-ED.)

The Cup Sweep. Incidentally, the two Cup sweeps we ran for a little more than the two bob sweeps throughout the day were won by the Tarczynski brothers.

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THE PASSING OF MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:Obituaries.

458ers will learn with sorrow and mourn together the passing of the following:

Betty Bruce. Betty, English-born wife of well-known 458er Bob Bruce, has passed on after a long illness. Betty over many years always attended 458 functions and became as well known and as important a part of 458 as Bob himself. NSW members attended her funeral where Padre Fred McKay conducted the Service; Our sympathy to Bob, to son Stephen and family.
Doug.Bennett.

458 pilot and cricket-playing member of the 458 team of earlier years, worked with the NSW Irrigation authority for many years. While circumstances prevented our seeing very much of him in later years we remember him well and send our sympathies to Thamar, his wife;

Alf.(Slappy) Hammond. Alf most well-known to all, both in wartime years and post-war, died recently. 458 attended his funeral service. Alf, a Fitter, worked on the Sydney Harbour Bridge for many years. He attended, until he had health problems in recent years, all 458 affairs, including the first train journey to Perth for the first All-States Reunion there. He was a keen bowler. We shall remember him. Our sympathies to Enid and the family;

Johnny Rosenburg. 458 well-known wartime pilot flew in peacetime with T.A.A. He served in New Guinea and in Australia, being based at different times in Brisbane and Melbourne. When flying duties allowed he was a regular and loyal attender of 458 functions. Padre Fred McKay was flown by T.A.A. to Brisbane to give the eulogy (by invitation of the officiating Catholic priest). Fred had a long friendship with Johnny. 458ers and many others attended the funeral. Our sympathy to his widow and son;

Alan (Pontoony) Piggott. Another active and well-known NSW member of 458, Alan had suffered much ill-health for many years. He was an active committee member in the formative years and recently returned, until health forbade, to committee membership. He was very active in many spheres during his lifetime, including the R.A.A.F. Association (he was a State and Federal Councillor) and bowls, being the inaugural Secretary of a Ryde Club. Our sympathy to Kitty, her daughters, grand children and great grand-child, and other family members.

Like the Flowers of the Forest they pass from our midst !

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CORNSTALK TALK. from Cy.Irwin.

This report is saddened by the news of the passing of members. We offer our sincerest sympathies.

At the Athens Star. The Athens Star Restaurant at North Sydney was the venue for a very enjoyable dinner-out evening on 3rd. September---Greek style. The 30 member party was able to hear at first hand a report on the Canadian visit--and for

Cornstalk Talk (cont.)

Squadron Council to receive the gift of a Friendship Totem Pole from our members in Canada. Also discussed at the Dinner was the fortunes of our two teams of bowlers who had participated in the annual Air Force lawn bowls day at West Lindfield. No trophies but a good day.

Our next Committee meeting will be held at the Pitt Club on Wednesday 19th November. High on the agenda is continuing discussion on the hosting of the Squadron's All-States Reunion in 1987 by N.S.W. Flight. The Reunion Secretary, Jock McGowan, has been tireless in his early arrangements, and a bumper reunion is promised. Also on the agenda will be an end of year and Xmas get-together for Squadron members on 9th December (where we expect Eric Munkman and Stan Longhurst to be honoured by presentation of R.A.A.F. Association Certificates of Merit. This will be held at the Pitt Club, 49, Market Street, Sydney at 7 p.m. for 7.30. Cost likely to be \$16 per head. Members are asked to give this function full support. This will be the only formal notice given. For bookings, please 'phone Cy. Irwin (798-3585) or Eric Munkman (451-0824)

To conclude, we members in N.S.W. would wish Squadron members and families in other States and countries a happy, enjoyable Xmas--- and may 1987 be good to all. Cy. Irwin.

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CROWEATERS' CAUCUS.

From Geoff. Esau.

While there is little to report Flight-wise from S.A. there has been plenty to report during G.P. Week in spite of the couple of wet days. The 2nd Grand Prix was a great credit to the organisers and Adelaide was bursting at the seams. The Fleets were in harbour and their helis and the RAAF helped with a great show over the Race Track each day. Parachutes, F 111s, F 18s, etc, on the go between races.

S.A. Flight is having a get-together on Sunday 16th November from 1 to 5 p.m. Venue is the Aviation Institute at the Airport.

Personal Pars.

Kevin Tait has moved to 16, Walker Street, Somerton Park, 5044 ('phone 294-9922. (Hope the 1991 America's Cup is fought offshore, Kevin !).

Bert and Lorna Ravenscroft recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary, and I believe their family ensured that they enjoyed the occasion. Congrats from S.A. Flight to you both.

Your Flight scribe has been back at work in the Dept. of Ag. for a couple of months to help out after 4 years retirement. Happily, only a couple of weeks to go before returning to the shelf !

Best wishes and regards. Geoff. Esau.

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THE 1987 ALL-STATES REUNION, NELSON BAY/WILLIAMTOWN.

Here is a brief update of the Reunion progress to-date: planning is well advanced and we have fixed a programme which should appeal to all.

So far, we have 47 starters, 7 probables, and 3 non-starters. These are from N.S.W. 27, Q'land 8, S.A. 5, Vict. 3, W.A. 3, A.C.T. 1. We have booked 74 rooms at five Motels and 6 on-site vans. Prices vary. The Programme is:--

Sunday 11th October	Arrival Reception at the Nelson Bay R.S.L., 6.30 p.m.;
Monday 12th October	Golf and bowls--non-players can barbeque on beach;
Tuesday 13th October	A catamaran trip on Port Stephens with lunch at the oyster barn--alternative food available;
Wednes: 14th October	Back to Williamtown Airbase--a two hour conducted tour of the Base with close-up inspection of the F 18s. At night a Reunion dinner in the Nelson Bay Bowling Club.
Thursday 15th October	In the morning, the Squadron Conference will meet. Others get over the Night-before. Then all OUT TO THE ROSE FARM for a very interesting

All-States Reunion ,1987 (cont.)

visit with a final Dinner of Pig-on-the Spit with all the trimmings.
Friday 16th. October. Stand down.

Transport is being arranged back to the Motels to miss the Booze bus, after each function.

The Official Entry Form will be with the FEBRUARY SQUADRON NEWS. All prices will be shown and you are urged to get the form to the mail quickly.

The Reunion Secretary is:-- Jock McGowen, P.O. Box 110, Beverley Hills, 2209.

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FROM Q.FLIGHT.

And from Jim. Holliday.

Clive Wyman wants to express publicly through the Squadron News his appreciation of the spontaneous and warm welcome he received from 458 members in Western Australia. Recently he had to make a visit to Perth and on arrival telephoned Ted. Jewell who suggested a welcoming drink. Clive arrived at the small pub in North Perth with a friend, an ex-R.A.F. man from England, where they were welcomed by a goodly bunch of 458 members from Perth and its environs. Clive's friend summed it up when he stated that something such as this would never have happened in England! Clive was deeply touched and, even now back in Brisbane, has yet to find words to express his appreciation.

On the Gold Coast. Bob. Dangaard's 1,500 km. travel from Mareeba to holiday at the Gold Coast in early October prompted Peg and Gordon Cuthbertson to host a mini-Reunion. The Footes, the Baxters, Chas. Warren, and Holda and Frank Wilks were there. Must have had some fun because Joan Foote says her sides are still sore. Incidentally, Bob. Dangaard dug up Erle Hetherington before leaving, and says he found Erle "as spritely as ever with hair going nice and white."

Erle himself writes that he hopes to make the N.S.W. Reunion. Says Clive Thorpe has "a bit of ticker trouble a few months ago, and a "truck hit him recently. But seems recovered O.K."

I remarked at the Adelaide Conference on the great number of our members who have involved themselves in ex-service Organisations, Legacy, and in Community Affairs and who have received recognition for their selfless service. Here is another: the 1986 Congress of the R.S.L. in Canberra awarded George Reed, the Gold badge of Life Membership and a framed citation from National President and Secretary of the R.S.L. for outstanding service to the R.S.L. and to Legacy. Yes, George is still Hon. Secretary of the Tully branch and V/President of Far Northern District, Queensland. A well-deserved recognition for some 40 years, not only as local secretary but as a District official, travelling hundreds of miles each month.

Personal Pars. Isla and Bert Garland have just returned from a visit to their son in England, leavened with a leisurely tour of beautiful Britain and a tour of Europe.

Enid McKay writes that Dud, with two of his sons-in-law, spent nine days recently at Lakefield National Park, in the Gulf country, fishing, camping, etc. Marvellous time, but the comforts of padded lounge chairs and spring beds were greatly appreciated on return.

A stay in hospital and subsequent post-treatment for Kitty Baxter and Alick Ewens, and both now fit as fiddles. Evelyn and Jack Lewis received a letter from Bryan Quinlan written after the final day of EXPO. He states that 42,000 attended the last day, making a total attendance of 22 million.

Finally, I have been threatened with the sack if I don't report about myself--booted out, neck and crop. At the time of writing, I have been home five days after 6 weeks in hospital and two ops. The first op. discovered what has been puzzling me and the medicos for some 15 years. I'm now minus half a pancreas and on my way to a trouble-free future. I take this opportunity to express my thanks to all Q.Flight ==that's 100% of those who knew of my illness==for their visits, cards and telephone enquiries and messages (and many were S.T.D.). I have dictated this to my wife, Peg, who kept Q.Flight rolling.

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SANDGROPPERS' NEWS.

From Ted.Jewell.

It has been quiet here in W.A. since the last News. There was a B.B.Q. arranged for a day out in Kings Park in September, but with terrible weather at the time we had a poor response to our notice. Those that did attend had a very good day---no rain.

At Christmas. For our usual Xmas function we are going out to dinner at the Village Inn, Mt. Pleasant, the same spot we went to last year, where everyone had a great time. I am looking forward to that coming event: we are hoping to have about 40 members and wives turn up.

Wyman in the West. We had a quick visit from Clive Wyman a little while back--he was over in the West to attend a Conference. Elsie and I met Clive at his hotel the day he arrived and arranged to show him a few spots of Perth. We went to Kings Park, to the Air Force Association Museum and the America's Cup area, though we couldn't see much of the yachts. Clive had a friend with him who also came with us for a few drinks and lunch. We had a good yarn about old times. The day before Clive left to return home a few of us went to one of the local hotels for a few drinks and lunch with him. Those present were Ted and Elsie Jewell, Bill Clues, Charlie Davis, Henry and Vera Etherton, Ray and Marg. Turley.

Coming Events. For the All-States Reunion in N.S.W. we have three sets of starters as far as I know--Jim and Lucy Palmer, Ray and Marg. Turley, Ted and Elsie Jewell.

As this will be the last News before Xmas, I would like to wish all 458 members and wives a very merry Xmas and happy New Year.

-Ted.Jewell.

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THE BRITISH BULLETIN. FROM Sid.Thompsett.

How time flies ! When I last wrote it was, hopefully, the start of our summer but here we are again at the end, with, regretfully not too much good in between. Not very much news to write about--only to say that I hope everyone who went to Canada had a very enjoyable time. I know that Peter Leonard and his wife, Eileen, together with Norman and Joyce Duke went to Canada but earlier this year I had a call from Peter Lee's nephew to find out about the Reunion as he was looking into, with other members of the family, paying for his uncle to travel to Canada but I don't see his name mentioned among those who went. A couple of the lads have written to me recently giving me new addresses:

Mr and Mrs Ken (Chico) Mercer
Burngate Cottage
Barton Ferry,
Milford Haven,
Dyfed, WALES.
(Tel. 0646 600537)

Reg Humphries,
5, Fernleigh Close,
Barton-on-sea,
Hampshire,
BH25 7BB, ENGLAND.

I myself have been under the weather a bit these past three months having radio-therapy but am pleased to say that is all behind me now and I can look forward to the future....I noted that Bill Swann mentioned the raising of the Wellington from Loch Ness. It will be of interest to know that Norman Duke is actually engaged in the restoration of this aircraft and if anyone in U.K. is available to help in this, contact Norm. Duke for details:

N. Duke,
"Orchard Cottage",
Guildford Road,

(Tel Cranleigh 272134). Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8PK, England.

Best wishes to you all. Sid.

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