



South Australian Division

Presidents Report 4/2011

Greetings all, in this report I am happy to advise that on 15 September (Battle of Britain Day) I was privileged to be invited to the unveiling of The Battle of Britain Honours Board, with a list of all Australians who took part in this historic episode during the WW2. The ceremony was conducted in the new Officers Mess at RAAF Base Edinburgh. The board was unveiled by the Officer Commanding Edinburgh; Air Commodore Noel Derwort CSC. The motivator behind the manufacture of the board was none other than our well known member, Bob Cowper DFC* Lgn Hon (Fr) and it was fitting that he recited the ode during the ceremony. Well done Bob. The board is destined to be housed at the RAAF Museum at Point Cook Vic and will add to the Current display.

The Veterans Advisory Council (VAC) is currently addressing a number of issues relative to SA Veterans, including transport and parking concessions in SA Health hospitals, particularly the Repatriation General Hospital. The sub committee appointed by the VAC has been engaged in extensive discussions at various levels of the State Government. Many parking concessions have been agreed by SA Health, including: concessions for volunteers, ex-service functions at the RGH Chapel, those required to attend for treatment on a regular basis and those visiting next of kin in the Daw House Hospice. The Council was also pleased to note that negotiations to secure the long-term tenure of the Womens Memorial Playing Fields at St Marys between the State Government and the Womens Memorial Playing Fields Trust are proceeding satisfactorily..

AAFC

On Sunday 2 Oct 2011, I was privileged to attend the 70th Anniversary of the formation of the ATC/AAFC. The parade was held at Torrens Parade Ground and attended by a good crowd of parents & friends. Not only was it an historic day for the Cadets; but also marked the acceptance of the new AAFC Banner to replace the original ATC Banner; and the retirement of the current OC WgCdr (AAFC) Barry Wright.

The new OC is WgCdr (AAFC) Peter Gill. Peter and his family are well represented within the AAFC with his wife and daughter also holding positions with the AAFC (SA), plus a son serving in the RAAF. Well done Barry and welcome Peter.



South Australian Division

Change of Name

From inception, Central Reserve has served as a branch for members not wishing to become actively involved in or partake in activities associated with other branches. This branch is also the preference for country members and those who find it difficult to attend organised activities. To bring SA into line with other Divisions the Council have agreed to change the name from Central Reserve to: Headquarters SA Branch effective immediately. There will be no action required by members.

Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Regards

Dave Helman