



## South Australian Division

### Presidents Report Feb 2017

Another year has gone by and we are now facing the challenges afresh. At our last National General Meeting; the subject of awards was raised. The Council reviewed the criteria for the award of the Air Force Association Trophy. This trophy was historically awarded to the most proficient Air Force Reserve Squadron. However, in 2010 the award was deactivated following the disestablishment of Reserve Training Wing and the integration of that group with the Permanent workforce of the Air Force.

The Air Force Association National Council considered that the award should be re-established with the aim of encouraging effective management of reservists, provide support to the ADF's Total Workforce Mode (TWM) and promote the Air Force Association. In collaboration with Director-General Reserves – Air Force (DGRES-AF) revised selection criteria for the award was Endorsed, with some minor alterations.

That revised criteria was:

**Eligible Units.** Following the integration of Reserve Units almost all Air Force organisations contains Reserve Establishments. Accordingly, those units employing Reserve Personnel would be eligible for the award. The following criteria has been suggested in assessing nominations for proficiency:

The Ratio of PAF and Reserve positions, The Ratio of PAF to Reserve strength, Job sharing arrangements using Reserve Personnel, contribution to unit capabilities by Reserve Personnel, mandatory training compliance and the integration of Reserve personnel management into unit governance: for example, Unit Standing Instructions and Business Plans, demonstrating the unit's embracing of the Total Work Force Model (TWM) concept *Notable achievements through effective use of reserve personnel.*

All Air Force units can become involved, both formally and informally, in their local and supporting communities. The involvement of Reservists is an important demonstration of community support. It is pleasing to note that DGRES-AF supports the reactivation of the Air Force Association Trophy and endorses the revised selection criteria. The winning unit receives a perpetual trophy to be held by the unit for one calendar year.

**Annual General Meeting:** All members are advised that the AGM of the RAAF Association (SA Division) will be held at the **Combined Ex-Services Mess** Torrens Parade Ground Victoria Drive Adelaide SA commencing at **1400Hrs 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017**. All financial members are invited to this important meeting. This meeting will be very important as amendments to the State Constitution will be tabled for approval.

**AAFC Annual Promotion Parade** I had the pleasure of attending the parade held at RAAF Edinburgh on 28<sup>th</sup> December. The turnout of all cadets was exemplary and the standard of drill was equal if not better than that expected of Permanent Air Force members. The efforts put in by AAFC staff was a credit particularly when the time allowed for preparation is considered. The AAFC once known as the ATC has since inception in 1941, been a great source of recruits seeking a career in the Air Force and based on my observations this trend will continue.



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**OAM** I was happy to learn that Wally Beale was amongst the Australia Day Honours list. I was fitting that he has been recognised for his efforts over many years and on behalf of all RAAF Association members I congratulate Wally well done.

Until our next News, "Stand easy"

Dave