



South Australian Division

President's Report #2 2018

Since my last report we have had the Anniversary of the formation of the RAAF. The RAAF in company with our Association arrange the ceremony with RAAF providing the manpower for the catafalque. This year marked the ninety seventh anniversary. With only two years to go for our centenary, plans are already in place to observe this significant milestone across Australia. I have arranged with the ANZAC Day Council for the RAAF to lead the ANZAC Day March in Adelaide and I understand arrangements have been made in other states for a similar observation. We also joined with the RAAF for the annual Air Force Plaques & Bomber Command ceremony, with members of 462 Sqn (RAAF Edinburgh) providing the manpower for this function. While no longer a flying Squadron, the members have a strong connection with the original Sqn, and they are upholding the tradition, history and honour of those members who did not survive the War. This function was well attended by current serving members, Association members and the public. We were also pleased to have our patron His Excellency The Governor resplendent in his 24 Sqn Air Commodore uniform and his delightful wife as distinguished guests. The ceremony was followed by light refreshments in the Drill Hall.

June has become rather busy as the 15th marked the observation of the 99th anniversary of the epic flight by the Smith Brothers from England to Australia at the North Road Cemetery. This ceremony was also well attended and the Association again hosted light refreshments for distinguished guests at the Combined Ex-Service Mess.

Our remaining important date for the year is the Battle of Britain Ceremony which will be observed on Saturday the 15th September, also at the Air Force Plaques commencing at 1100hrs.

Air Force Firefighters claim Project

National Council under the umbrella of Vice President Richard Kelloway is currently involved in the claim by Air Force Firefighter's claim for recognition of exposure to toxic substances during training/employment at Point Cook and other sites. The National Council is committed to supporting the progression of claims submitted by individuals.

National is also formulating a plan for the proposed project dealing with Defence family crisis accommodation

The Combined Mess continues with monthly luncheons in the Mess. The lunch commences at 1130hrs and goes through till about 1430hrs. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at a cost of \$20 per head. This includes a two- course meal and one free drink, beer wine soft drink. It is proving very popular with members. They usually have several current serving members attend and they give a brief talk on their duties. Booking for these luncheons is essential.

Until next time

Stand Easy Dave