



Par Oneri de Caelo

The Clipped Wings

Summer 2007

ADAA Web Site at: www.australiandiggers.com/users/adaa/

Issue 4/07

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Your Membership Status can be found at the bottom center of the mailing wrapper.

Annual

Subscriptions

are now overdue for the 2007-2008 financial year. Please check your financial status on the bottom of the wrapper and if not in advance, send your \$20 to Neville. His address is just to the left of here

Myola Day Activities 2007

Myola Day 2007 NSW

Due to the Tasking and Involvement of 176 Air Dispatch Squadron in support of the Aust/US Exercise being conducted at Shoalwater Bay Training Area in Queensland and many other tasks, the ADAA Myola Day activity at RAAF Base Richmond was cancelled.

Denis McCann

Ed

176 AD Sqn Xmas Function

The usual annual Squadron Christmas function and presentation of the "ADAA Soldier of the Year" award will not be held this year. Due to operational demands, the unit has been on standby for service (peaceful mission) overseas. Instead a dining-in night was held on Thursday 29th November. Two members of the ADAA were invited to be guests of the Squadron and I (Denis McCann) and Bruce Wearing received invitations. More on that "down the page".

Denis McCann

Ed

President's Report

Having spent quite some time in hospital having new knees fitted I was unable to attend the reunion at the Kedron-Wavell Services Club on 24 November 2007. Fortunately Gary

was there to stand in as host. Approximately 28 people turned up including some younger ex ADers and one or two older ones climbed out of the woodwork. WO2 Jock McGravie arrived and obtained some more information for the AD Book.

Ed on behalf of the President

BRISBANE SMOKO
24TH NOV. 2007

The numbers attending our Quarterly Smoko's are slowly building up with 28 attending at Kedron-Wavell Services Club Brisbane.

The President was unable to be there owing to having both knees replaced. There was quite a cross section attended, Peter Blyth, Les Power, Graeme Buchanan, Cyril Clark, Bill Ramsay, John Knack, Allen Mason, Bill D'Arcy, Kemm Baber, Traveller Munt, Alan Dalton, Carol Skewes, Peter Munson, Bob Beasley, Rob Tutt, and not forgetting their partners.

Garry McGravie, the serving WO2 who has undertaken to write the history of Australian AD was present to brief the membership on his progress, several draft chapters were laid out for comment and identification of unnamed members in photos spanning 50 years of AD. Garry received more material for his book, plus He pumped members for additional verbal history.

Overall it was a good function with a notable increase in Ex Officers who have been conspicuous by their absence in the past.

The next Smoko is planned for RAAF Amberley, hopefully with the assistance of 9 Regt. RACT who command 176 A.D, they will relocate over Xmas 07/08

Gary Cole

Past-President's Report

How time flies when you are having fun. (Or is that time flies the older we

get?) Here it is nearly Christmas and it seems only yesterday we were celebrating Australia Day.

The Festive Season is upon us and as Aussies and Ex Diggers there are a few things we should do.

Firstly, look after our family, friends and ourselves. Tell people that you care, that our way of live is important to us and we are prepared to guard it in any possible way even in our retirement.

Take care of yourselves now and into next year. What can you do to improve yourself and those important to you in the New Year?

Secondly, we must remember those Servicemen and women who are serving overseas. It's them now who defend our freedom.

If you believe they should not be there then tell your local politician but remember that they are there to do a job. By all accounts they are doing a fantastic job and deserve our thoughts and prayers.

Thirdly, we should thank all those who helped us during the year, remember those old mates that we haven't said "Giddy" to for a while and help those of us who are worse off than us.

Have a great Season. Don't drink or eat too much and look after yourselves. What the heck, go for it and stay off the roads!

Have you looked at Pat Slee's Website yet? Well really it's your Associations website and Pat does a good job keeping it up to date. The address is on the front page of this newsletter and I recommend you look it up. Why not leave a message to some of your mates?

Something to look forward to! WO2 Garry McGravie has been in the process of getting the Air Dispatch history into print. He's done a wonderful job seeking info from all the olds and bolds, photos, anecdotes and trivia to cover our illustrious past.

He tells me that the first draft will be out next year and pending the securing of a publisher we should see the final effort late in the year. I'm looking forward to reading a copy and if his effort is anything to go by then it will demand a place on your bookshelf.

Your President and Committee have been hard at it to keep your Association ticking along. The AGM date has been set for the ANZAC period next year with a venue likely to

be Sydney (probably Penrith /Richmond area).

I urge all of you to attend and have your say on what you want from the Association. Agenda items will be called for by Nev Varley, the Secretary in plenty of time for you to get them to him. Costs are being kept down so make a commitment to be there and show the flag.

I know some of you are not in favour of overseas reunions but next year's promises to be worthwhile. As you know it's to be held in Vietnam in the September period. Barry Gannon has put a lot of work into the itinerary so far with lots to go.

We need indications as to who intends or is at least planning to be there. I know I had trepidation about going back but from the reports that I get from guys who have returned, the people, the country and the attitude to Aussies is terrific. We are all getting older and this is a good chance of "closing" that episode in our lives. Think about it and organize a few mates to go with you - all are welcome.

Well that's about it from me. I wish you and all those close to you a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Lucky New Year.

See you all next year,

Brian I.

Secretary's Report

The Annual General Meeting of the Association is being planned and will be held on the evening of the 24th April 2008. The venue is yet to be finalised and location availability will of course determine timing etc. I can say that it will be in the Penrith area to allow participation in the Anzac Day Dawn Service and March either with the serving members of the Squadron or in the main Sydney march.

All members of the Association, financial or otherwise will receive an official notification of the AGM along with a form asking for nominations for committee positions. They will also receive a proxy voting form, however only financial members will be able to vote by proxy or at the AGM.

The notification to non-financial members is to prompt their memories. The notification of the AGM will set out the agenda and the only business that can be conducted at the AGM is that which is received prior to the meeting as "a notice of motion". No other business can be transacted.

The committee has decided that an AGM will be held every two years rather than on an "ad-hoc" basis as in the past. To do this will require an amendment to our constitution and the proposed amendment will be distributed along with notification of the AGM

I urge everyone to consider nominating for a position on the committee. This could be the single most important AGM we have had. I will not be seeking re-election, nor will the Senior Vice-President Bob Hutton and we need the services of a Treasurer.

In the event that no committee positions are filled a motion calling for the winding up of the Association will be prepared in accordance with the Department of Fair Trading in NSW. I'm not going to bore you with my reasons other than to say I think it is time, no doubt a few will agree. There are other things I want to do while health and mobility permit.

Nev V

From the Unit
176 Air Dispatch Squadron
Wrap-up of 2007

The end of 2007 is fast approaching and what better way to wrap up a busy year than to reminisce over the recent months and highlight the achievements of all members at 176 Air Dispatch Squadron.

At the completion of EX Talisman Sabre, in July 2007, members from the Squadron returned to Richmond ready to tackle various tasks. The first of these tasks was the C130 Heavy Drop Trials conducted from July to September 2007. In order to get the Hercules C130J aircraft certified to airdrop platforms, various loads ranging from minimum weight 8 ft platforms to maximum 32 ft platform loads were rigged by 1 AD Tp and 2 AD Tp. The Parachute Riggers from 39 Aerial Delivery Platoon also worked tirelessly to ensure the Air Dispatchers had enough parachutes available to support the extensive airdrop load program. The drop schedule was busy and many late afternoons on the Drop Zone were had by all including the Commanding Officer of 9 Force Support Battalion, Lt Colonel Ashleigh, who enjoyed viewing the multitude of airdrops. In the end a significant achievement was reached culminating record breaking airdrop of a 32 ft Platform weighting

in at 40,000 lb. This load was the heaviest load dropped from a RAAF aircraft in Australia.

The Parachute Riggers continued their efforts throughout August 2007 conducting various Aerial Delivery Equipment inspections at Oakey and Adelaide. The Platoon also provided support to Special Air Service Regiment for a Military Freefall course. Whilst the soldiers worked busily, the Seniors and Officers of the Squadron attended the 9 Force Support Battalion Birthday in Bendigo in which 15 Transport Squadron put on a good night.

The Air Dispatchers were put through the paces in September 2007 supporting the RAAF for the C130J Operational Conversion Course. This task was to support RAAF pilots and loadmasters gain their aerial delivery qualifications. A range of A22s and compacts were dropped during the course. As well as supporting the Hercules Aircraft, a Crew was sent to Townsville in supported of 38 Sqn. Utilising Caribou aircraft for Exercise Northern Station in which they represented the Squadron in providing them with Compacts and LAPES (low altitude platform extraction systems). The Officers and Seniors then represented the Squadron at the annual RACT Corps Conference held at Bandiana. Lt Glover (1 AD Tp COMD) provided an interesting and important presentation to the Head of Corps (Brigadier Saul) on 'The Future of Air Dispatch' which made for good thought and discussion.

For the majority of October the whole Squadron worked together in attending Exercise Pelican, a two week Infantry Minor Tactics exercise. The exercise consisted of a Range week at Holsworthy Barracks and an enduring deployment to Lithgow. The field phase of the exercise was realistic and afforded all Squadron members the opportunity to work on their basic soldier skills. The enemy and friendlies patrolled in harsh terrain and conducted a myriad of tasks including Observation Points, Ready Reaction Force tasks, Vehicle Check Points and Snap Ambushes. The two week deployment ended with a Platoon attack on a compound possessed by the enemy. Both 1 Platoon and 2 Platoon planned and executed their individual plans with 2 Platoon (Air Dispatchers) capturing the compound. At the completion of the exercise, Squadron members then travelled down to Puckapunyal, VIC, to say goodbye to 26 Transport Squadron

and the Commanding Officer of 9th Force Support Battalion. However, it was not all work as the annual sporting competition, Wagoner's Cup, was battled out between the Squadron and 26 Transport Squadron.

The Squadron started out strong winning the Rugby Union and Netball on the first day in which many great plays occurred and a lot of heart was displayed. It was unfortunate that on the second day of playing the Squadron was defeated in Australian Rules Football. The final and deciding game played was Soccer in which the Squadron was defeated by one goal in the games last minutes. All of the Squadron members who participated in Wagoner's Cup played with pride, determination and are now a step closer to bringing home the trophy in 2008.

On return from Puckapunyal to Richmond it was back to work with a second Operational Conversion course for the C130J on the books. The rigging had been completed and the parachutes packed. However, bad weather had minimised the amount of dropping to occur. To wrap up the year the Squadron is conducting a Dining-In Night for current members of the Squadron to thank the soldiers for their efforts in 2007.

On behalf of the Officer Commanding 176 Air Dispatch Squadron I thank the Air Dispatch Association for their involvement in 2007 and wish them and their families a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year. We look forward to working with the Association in the New Year and providing you with various experiences that have occurred at the Squadron.

By Lt Sara Robertson



***Dining-in Night at
176 AD Squadron
29th November 2007***

An invitation from the OC 176 AD Sqn was received by myself and Bruce Wearing who both accepted and attended.

Also in attendance were the 9FSB CO Lt Col Ashleigh and the RSM WO1 "Red" Barron, and RQMS Sgt John Davis.

With unfortunate timing, parts of Papua New Guinea suffered serious flooding as a result of Cyclone "Guba". This resulted in a call for assistance and 16 members of the

Squadron led by Lt Sara Robertson, were sent north.

The main purpose of the Association's involvement was the presentation of the "Soldier of the Year" Award. The announcement took place at the dinner and Private Matthew David was the declared awardee. Unfortunately Pte David was one of the team that was sent to PNG in the morning prior to the presentation.

He was, however, notified by the OC of the award minutes prior to stepping onto the aircraft. That's one happy chappie going off to help people less fortunate.

Congratulations Pte David from the ADAA.

A proper presentation is to be arranged in the near future after the team returns from PNG.

A number of promotions were performed:

Lt Glover to Capt Glover
Private Marcus to LCpl Marcus
Private Szilyagyi to LCpl Szilyagyi
LCpl Dowd to Cpl Dowd, (not Tony)
LCpl Chamberlain to Cpl Chamberlain,
LCpl Dembon to Cpl Dembon.

On behalf of ADAA, congratulations to all and I apologise if I have misspelled any names.

RSM Barron spoke of his pride in the unit while the CO, Lt Colonel Ashleigh, having some years ago served in the unit as Ops Officer, referred to 176 AD Squadron as "Home". He spoke very highly of the professionalism and high skill standards of the men and women of this unique unit. He urged the members of the Squadron to strongly consider membership of the Association as, as he put it, a place to return to meet up with your past colleagues

The OC thanked the Association for its involvement and seeks to retain close ties between the two groups.

Gleaned info of no strategic importance:

Unit Strength approx 160 incl riggers
Females on strength about 10 percent.

The old habit has not been lost, a Christmas tree was "obtained" by Pte Amy McFarlane who acted for the evening as my hostess, and excellent hostess. Pte McFarlane also, through some kind of challenge between herself and the OC, arrived halfway through the dinner wearing a mini santa dress.

Bruce Wearing was the paparazzi for the evening and has provided some excellent shot of the evening's proceedings. Check out the web page at

www.australiandiggers.com/users/adaa/

Biscuit Bombers

If you have any questions about the Biscuit Bombers, send them via Les Power who is the BB/ADAA Liaison Officer. Contributions to this column would be welcomed and appreciated.

Ph: Les Power on 07 3264 5188

Pensions Matters

Now that the Government has changed, we need to look to ensuring that our local representative carries forward with the promises made by both major political parties during the lead-up weeks to the federal election.

In the event that the Coalition has the balance of power in the Senate, it is not a foregone conclusion that the legislation giving the benefits (e.g. full indexation of the pension) will pass both houses of parliament.

In the spring edition of the CW, President Barry wrote about this subject, it is not over until you have the \$'s in the bank. We have been short-changed for the last 10 years plus.

Information from the DVA regarding the September 2007 Pensions appraisal, effective September 2007 the following rates apply :(pf means per fortnight)

Service and Age Pension – Maximum rates

Singles rate	\$537.70 pf
Couples rate (each)	\$449.10 pf

The Service and aged pensions are subject to Income and assets tests. From 20 September 2007, the assets test result is halved, ie, the reduction rate is reduced from \$3 to \$1.50 per thousand dollars of assets. The income test has not changed. This change in the asset test means that a lot of people may be entitled to an increase in their service/aged pensions.

If you are in this category, check it out.

Disability Pension Rates

Special Rate (TPI, Blinded or TTI)	\$938.00 pf
Intermediate Rate	\$631.20 pf
Extreme Disablement Adjustment (EDA)	\$495.40 pf

General Rate - pf

100% \$322.80, Partial rates are paid in 5% steps from 10% upwards based on this amount.

War Widow's and Widower's Pension

Indexed Component	\$537.70 pf
Non-indexed component	\$25.00 pf
Total	\$562.70 pf

Bandied around prior to the election was a story that the non-indexed portion would become indexed – remains to be seen.

Rent Assistance

Maximum amount payable (pf)

Single rate, no children	\$105.40
Couples rate combined, no children	\$99.40

Rent Thresholds

Single rate, no children	\$93.80
Couples rate combined, no children	\$152.60

Single rate, with children	\$123.34
Couples rate combined, with children	\$182.56

For Service and Social Security age pensioners with dependent children, rent assistance is considered a child-related payment and is paid as part of Family Tax Benefit Part A through the Family Assistance Office.

Telephone Allowance

Paid per quarter

Singles Rate	\$22.00
Couples Rate (each)	\$11.00

A bit on tax

For those in small business (as I know a few are) and have concerns about Tax, the table for the 2007-2008 year looks like this (as amended and advised by the ATO)

Taxable Income	Tax Payable
\$0 - \$6,000	Nil
\$6,001 to \$30,000	15% on the amount above \$6,000
\$30,001 to \$75,000	\$3,600 plus 30% on the amount above \$30,000
\$75,001 to \$150,000	\$17,100 plus 40% on the amount above \$150,000
Over \$150,000	\$47,100 plus 45% on the amount above \$150,000

Superannuation Matters

Tax is not payable on lump sum superannuation payouts from "taxed super funds" after you turn 60 yoa. "Things to do":

1. If you don't have super, look at starting an account
2. Make sure your super fund has your Tax File Number
3. Consider transferring other savings into super
4. Check out the Super co-contribution

Self employed persons can now get the Super co-contribution. For every after tax dollar you put into a superannuation fund, the Federal Gov't will add an extra \$1.50 up to a maximum of \$1500 per year.

Don't forget, if you withdraw amounts from your super account, you may need to advise the DVA, as it can effect your "Assets or Income Test" if you are in receipt of a service/aged pension

Ed

Any information given in this publication is for information purposes only and any person wishing to act upon any matter mentioned herein is advised to seek professional advice and must not rely upon this information alone. Neither the editor nor any other member of the Air Dispatch Association may be held liable in the event of improper or negligent use of this information.

Non-ADAA Activities

If you are involved in some kind of activity that may be of interest to members, please let us know by mail or email to the editor at denis_mccann@yahoo.com.au

Ed

Recording our History

WOII Jock McGravie who is producing the AD Book, A History of AD, is continuing to seek information and pics of interest to the members. If you have any photos or stories that you would like to pass on to Jock you can Email him at garry176@optusnet.com.au

Sick Parade

President Barry has been off duty for a while due to having both knees replaced with metal ones. Brave but now he'll be able to stay on them longer for whatever reason - um!!!

Treasurer Henry has also been having surgery to have a hip replacement. He has been inactive for several weeks also, but doing OK. If members have experienced some hang-ups with membership or merchandise, we

apologise. Things are getting back on track.

We don't hear much about the wives/partners, but some time ago Marie Cole while out playing in the garden was confronted by a large brown snake, so being playful, she got bitten. She's OK now.

Pat Mulvey is feeling a lot better recently after a long period of illness.

What was reported in the last edition of *Clipped Wings* as a possible heart problem for Dave Armstrong can now be firmly discounted, although the bad news is that Dave has been diagnosed with Parkinson's. He remains typically upbeat about this and the recent good news is that he is not in any need of medication, which I understand takes a fair bit of getting right with this particular ailment.

Treasurers - Membership Officers Report

Our Financial Position

The balance in our account as at the 31 October 2007 was: **\$ 11,635.26**

Summary of Income & Expenditure For the Financial Year 1st July 2007 to 31 October 2007 was as follows:

Income

Subscriptions	\$ 1,750.00
Donations	\$ 10.00
Proceeds for Merchandise	\$ 536.00
Interest Bank A/C & CC Fees	\$ 18.20
Total Income	\$ 2,314.20

Expenditure

Wreaths/Welfare	\$ 229.31
Newsletter incl Postage	\$ 303.70
Other Postage	\$ 140.00
Trophies and Awards	\$ 0.00
Other Expenses	\$ 949.61
Bank Fees & Taxes	\$ 9.14
Total Outgoings	\$ 1,631.76

Previous Balance of A/C **\$ 11,635.26**

Net Cash Flow – YTD Pos **\$ 682.44**

Current Balance of A/C

As at 31 October, 2007 **\$ 12,317.70**

Details of Other Expenses

Insurance Premiums for Professional Liability Cover \$ 949.61

Number of Financial Members - 146

Denis McCann

On behalf of the Treasurer ADAA

Treasurer's Position Vacant

Due to unforeseen circumstances the position is vacant.

Thank you Henry for filling the role for the last year+. Secretary Neville is holding down the fort assuming the

temporary position until the next AGM when the role will need to be taken up. Some bookkeeping /accounting experience is needed, however training will be available.

Please note the Secretary's report above. The Association needs fresh faces and minds to take it through the next millennium. So if you feel you are qualified to handle the Secretary role or the Treasury role don't be afraid to put your hand up.

Ed

Out of the West ADAA WA

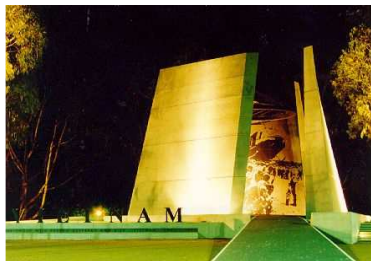
Some of our West Oz members have been travelling to various parts, Rocky and Joan Foxley to UK and parts, Curly and Di Nelson to Malaysia to gather old memories, Lee and Christine Walsh have been touring the North-west and Lin Hay has moved from the boonies to closer to town.

Congratulations Dave and Jenni, 40 years married. Celebrations and Xmas function was held and well enjoyed.

we would extend our collective good wishes to you all for a prosperous New Year.

All the best,

Rocky Foxley



US Riggers Associations



"I Will Be Sure Always"

"THE WORLD IS OUR DROPZONE"

ASSOCIATION OF QUARTERMASTERS



RED HAT CHAPTER

"I WILL BE SURE ALWAYS"

The Red Hat Chapter.

For the information of new readers, **The Red Hat Chapter of the US Army Association of Quartermasters (RHC)** is the official US Army equivalent to our own **Air Dispatch Association Australia (ADAA)**. Their President is retired 1SG Delma Weitman. Our two Associations are formally affiliated.

US Rigger Website.

ADAA computer nuts should pull up the RHC web site at:

www.redhatchapter.com

and sign the guest book. It's a great site, full of Rigger information and photos that is especially nostalgic for those ADs who are qualified as US Riggers or have served with the Yank Riggers somewhere/sometime (especially SVN).

Retired Redhat Riggers.

This group, under the leadership of retired CW4 Roy L Warren is another assembly of a hundred or so ex-Riggers who get together for a reunion every two years. Their website is at: www.rrmc.tripod.com.

ADAA Website.

US Rigger computer nuts should pull up the ADAA web site at:

www.australiandiggers.com/users/adaa

to learn about the rigger fraternity in Oz. Like you, our history also goes back to WW1.

That's all folks.

Clear Skies and Gentle breezes.

AIRBORNE!!

Les Power.

US Rigger Liaison Officer

For Information on RHC/RRA

Please address any questions or comments to our Red Hat Liaison Officer:

Les Power

5 Ireland Court
CASHMERE QLD 4500

Ph: 07 3264 5188

Fax: 07 3264 5188

Email: lespower@optusnet.com.au



*The world is a little poorer,
A "soldier" died today.*

"Lest we forget"

*Following is an obituary of the first
CO of IAASO (Army Air Supply
Organisation)*

**Colonel Ben. H. Bradbrook, OBE
(1925-2007)**

Colonel Ben Bradbrook had a long and distinguished military and diplomatic career. Born in 1925, he enlisted in the British Army in October 1943 to attend a six-month Royal Engineers University Short-course at Cambridge. On completion of basic training, and an Officer Cadet Training Unit course, he was commissioned in December 1944 into the Royal Army Service Corps (RASC).

He was posted in January 1945 to 716 Airborne Light Company RASC in 6th Airborne Division in Belgium whence, having regrouped after the D-Day airborne assault on Normandy, it had been rushed to help block the surprise German attempted breakthrough in the Ardennes Forest.

For a few weeks the parachute platoons of 716 were formed into E Coy 9 Para Bn, and manned a thousand yards of the west bank of the River Maas. Towards the end of February 1945 the Division returned to England to prepare for the long-awaited Rhine crossing.

During this operation he was platoon commander of a jeep platoon and later commanded the carrier platoon which had flown in in Hamilcar gliders.

Shortly afterwards the Division returned to England to prepare to follow the 5th Parachute Brigade to India for the attack on Singapore, but when the Pacific War ended it was re-directed to Palestine. Before embarking, Ben completed his parachute course, receiving his parachute wings on 2nd October 1945.

Ben Bradbrook was promoted to temporary captain and appointed admin officer. During this time the 716 Company took part in parachute exercises and operations against the Jewish Terrorists.

In February 1947 Ben returned to England to join 63 Parachute Brigade Company RASC at Tidworth, moving with the Brigade to Neumunster in the British Zone of Germany a year later. In July 1948 during the Berlin Airlift he was detailed to report to the Blohm and Voss Seaplane Works on the River Elbe in Hamburg where he organized the loading operations, using German barges and DUKWs, of

RAF Sunderland Flying Boats, carrying in special cargoes to Lake Harvel in Berlin. In June 1949 he was appointed an instructor in the RASC Officers' School, teaching Air Supply amongst other subjects.

In 1952, an Army Council Instruction called for officers and NCOs to volunteer for training as light aircraft pilots, those successfully completing the course being seconded to The Glider Pilot Regiment. Ben applied and attended Course No.91 at The Light Aircraft School RAF, Middle Wallop. He passed out on 9th May 1953, being awarded his Army Pilot's brevet - his second pair of wings.

Ben volunteered to join 656 Air OP/Light Liaison Sqn RAF, which was engaged on anti-Communist Terrorist (CT) operations in Malaya. He arrived in Malaya on 21st August 1953.

For the next three years he served in 1911 Light Liaison Flight RAF at Seremban, in Negri Sembilan State, then Benta in Pahang and finally on Singapore Island. He was Mentioned in Dispatches for his service in 656 Sqn.

From September 1956 he was a Ground School Instructor at Middle Wallop, first at The Light Aircraft School RAF, then from September 1957 on the formation of the Army Air Corps at the Army Air Corps Centre. Ben was then appointed Adjutant at HQ RASC Singapore Base District in September 1958 and, in March 1959, he was promoted to Major and OC 55 Company RASC (Air Dispatch), based at RAF Kuala Lumpur, Malaya.

From here the Company was heavily engaged in supply dropping by Valettas of the RAF and Bristol Freighters of the RNZAF, to Commonwealth Forces on anti-CT operations. He qualified for his Air Dispatch Brevet - his third pair of wings - on 14th August 1959.

In November 1960 the Company moved to RAF Seletar, on Singapore Island, where it supported operations by Beverley and Hastings aircraft of the RAF.

A Detachment was established at RAAF Butterworth to continue support of air supply operations in the Thai border region. His appointment ended on a sad note, with a fatal crash on the day following his hand-over, of a Hastings with two Air Despatch crews aboard (from the platoon commanded by the RAASC Exchange Officer, Lt Christopherson).

In May 1961 Ben and his family returned to England and he was appointed an instructor in air transport support and air supply at The School of Land/Air Warfare.

1963 brought the exciting news that his next posting was to be RASC Exchange Officer in Australia. The then DST Australia (Brig Vin Dowdy) had specifically asked for him to raise and command 1 AASO in Sydney, instead of the usual exchange appointment as instructor at Puckapunyal.

Ben and family arrived in Australia in October 1963. Major Peter Blyth (who had been Exchange officer with him in 55 Company) had actually started to get things together for the new unit at Randwick.

1 AASO began to develop its identity when it moved into its own accommodation at Addison Road, Marrickville, with Peter Douglas as 2IC, Stuart Cochrane as Adj and 'Col' Lander as RSM. It participated in a number of army-air exercises, developed its SOPs and pioneered the palletization of standard loads and the use of fork-lift tractors for loading and unloading.

The aim was to make AASO expertise available to all units engaged in any air transport activity. The continued survival of the unit, albeit with a different name, suggests it started on the right lines.

His two-year exchange appointment came to an end in October 1965 and he was posted to the Ministry of Defence in London. After attending the British Transport Staff College, in December 1968 Ben was promoted to Lt Colonel and CO of 26 Regiment RCT in Hameln, West Germany. This appointment finished in June 1970 and his next posting was as Defence Adviser to the British High Commission in Uganda. Before he took up his appointment, however, Brigadier Idi Amin had seized power in Uganda.

The appointment went ahead and Ben remained in this appointment, sometimes in quite difficult situations given the prevailing political environment, until March 1973 when he and his wife returned to the United Kingdom.

He was awarded OBE for services in Uganda, promoted to Colonel and appointed OIC RCT Manning and Records. His final service posting was Defence, Military and Air Attaché

Buenos Aires from November 1976 to November 1979.

Ben finally retired in March 1980 after 35 years service. He continued to serve for another ten years as a Retired Officer, as Inspector of Records in the Directorate of Manning, responsible for the technical efficiency of all the Army Manning and Record Offices. He finally, finally, retired in September 1990.

Colonel Bradbrook died peacefully at his home in Ledbury in Herefordshire on Tuesday 14 August 2007 aged 82. He is survived by Margaret, his wife of 55 years, his four children and seven grandchildren.

Ben's life was one of high achievement and adventure. He was an excellent commander of airborne troops and his knowledge of air support procedures, both from a staff and operational perspective, was convincingly demonstrated in his exchange appointment as the first CO of 1 AASO in Australia. Brigadier Dowdy was a shrewd judge of character and he made the right choice when he asked for Major Bradbrook to be responsible for raising not just a new major RAASC unit, but also a new formal air support capability in the Australian Army.

The continued development of RAASC, and its successor Corps, the RACT, air dispatch units owe much to Ben Bradbrook. For those who knew Ben as a friend he will be sadly missed.

Notice

Editors Note:

The Newsletter Editor would appreciate input/feedback from members on Sick Reports or the Passing of members so that this information can be forwarded on via this Newsletter. Vale Notices can also be sent to the Committee at any time.

Please submit Articles/Items
For publication in the 4/07
"Clipped Wings" Newsletter
by

Thursday 6th March 2008

Email Address:

denis_mccann@yahoo.com.au

Lost Contact

Keep an eye out for the sleepers of the AD fraternity. We are slowly losing ground.

Ed

Merchandise

The Association carries a supply of AD paraphernalia

Lapel Badge - AD Small
Lapel Badge - ADAA
Lapel Badge - Para
Plaque - AD
Plaque - Para
Bumper Stickers
Thermal Coffee Mugs
Belt Buckles
Caps - Black
Caps - Dull Cherry

Ties - Green with gold AD brevet
Shirts - Maroon
Shirts - Chambray

The order form is enclosed

Blazer/Shirt Monogram



The monogram produced by Blue Badger has become part of the AD identity kit. The contractor will modify the monogram in the following manner, for example:

1. Instead of **176** or **RAASC** you can have the **PI/Sqn** or **Corps** of your choice.
2. The **VIETNAM** Scroll can be replaced by the locality of your choice e.g.,
3. **MALAYA/BORNEO/EAST TIMOR.**

Conditions: Money up front
Mail costs up front

Cost: Shirts \$ 11.50
Blazer \$ 28.00

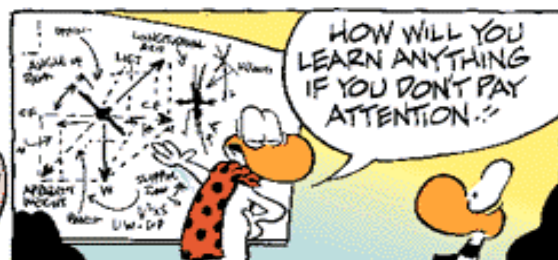
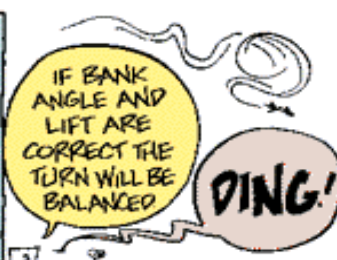
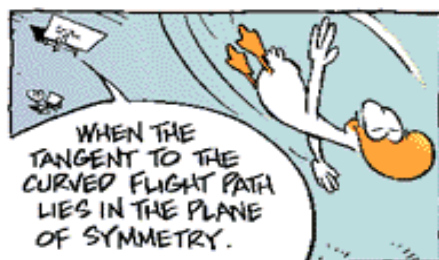
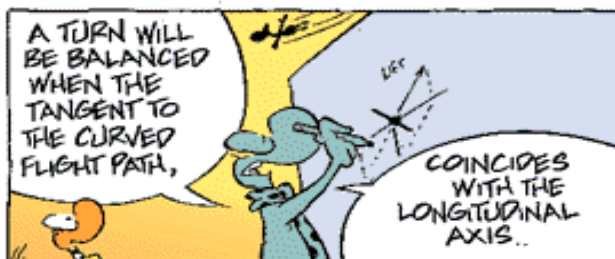
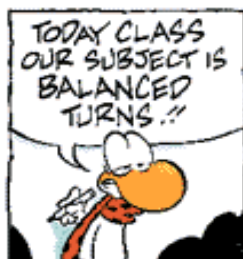
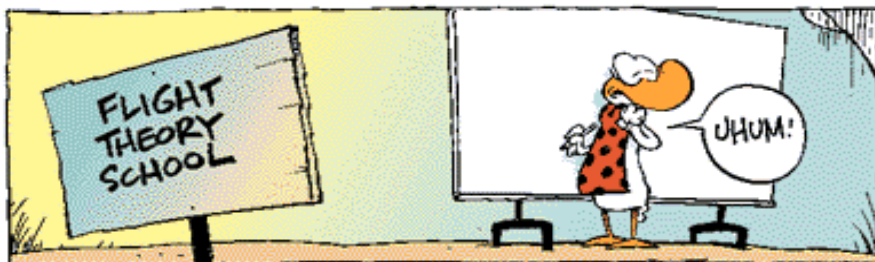
(Allow 4 weeks for delivery)
(includes removal and replacement of pocket).
(These prices may change due to rising production costs over time)

Ring Blue Badger: 02 4996 4492
or Fax on: 02 4996 4492

SWAMP

by Gary Clark

www.swamp.com.au



The Contacts Page

<p><u>US Rigger Liaison Officer</u> Les Power Email: lespower@optusnet.com.au 5 Ireland Ct Cashmere QLD 4500. Ph: (07)3264 5188</p>	<p>Honorary Barrister at Law Mr. Allun Hill</p> <p>Honorary Solicitor Mr. Jim Isabella Honorary Auditor Mr. Bill Hardman Contact with any of these Honorary members should be made through the Secretary, Nev Varley.</p>	<p><u>Biscuit Bomber Liaison Officer</u> Les Power. Email: lespower@optusnet.com.au 5 Ireland Ct Cashmere QLD 4500. Ph: (07)3264 5188</p>
<p><u>NSW/ACT State Representative</u> Bob Hutton JP 35 Leitch Avenue LONDONDERRY NSW 2753 Ph: 02 4572 5085</p>	<p><u>Sth Australia State Representative</u> Frank Zuppar PO Box 1450 ALDINGA BEACH SA 5173 Ph: 08 8556 5565</p>	<p><u>Committee Member ADAA</u> Tony Dowd (Golf Capt.) 15 Lincoln Grove HARRINGTON PARK 2567 Ph 0246482769 Mobile: 0417 432 838</p>
<p><u>Queensland State Representative</u> Barry Gannon (President) 9 Deputor St ROCHEDALE STH QLD 4123 Ph: 07 3341 1796 Fax: 07 3841 3799</p>	<p><u>Western Australia State Representative</u> Dave Armstrong 2 Medford Crt WOODVALE WA 6026 Ph: 08 9409 1252</p>	<p><u>NSW Mid Nth Coast</u> Dennis Dray 153 Marsden St SHORTLAND NSW 2307 Ph/Fax: 02 4951 5406 Mobile: 0400 318 728</p>
<p><u>Vic/Tas State Representative</u> Graham "Pappy" Papworth Unit 2/4 Airlie Rd MONTMORENCY VIC 3094 Ph: 03 9435 1084 Mob: 0434 231 124</p>	<p><u>Northern Territory Representative</u> Nicko Nicolai GPO Box 1656 DARWIN NT 0801 Ph: 0407 942 904</p>	<p><u>Merchandise Officer</u> Paul Mulvay Site 2, Seawinds Villiage ANNA BAY NSW 2316 Ph: 02 4982 1436 Mobile 0429 615 349 <i>Orders for Merchandise are placed through the Secretary</i></p>

Pension/Welfare Officers & Advocates

We have seven members who have experience in the field of Pensions and welfare who have indicated their willingness to assist members requiring their skills, the current list of ADAA Advocates, Pensions/Welfare Officers is:

<p><u>New South Wales</u> DENIS MCCANN JP (Cromer) (Pensions/Welfare officer) Ph: 02 9971 8314</p>	<p><u>New South Wales</u> COLIN DOUST (Penrith) (Accredited Case Officer DVA) Ph: 02 4735 4114</p>	<p><u>Victoria</u> GRAHAM "Pappy" PAPWORTH (Melb) (ADAA Welfare officer) Ph: 03 9435 1084</p>
<p><u>New South Wales</u> BRIAN TOBIN (Bathurst) (RSL Welfare Officer) Ph: 02 6337 3559</p>	<p><i>Notice</i></p> <p><i>Please submit Articles/Items For publication in the 3/06 "Clipped Wings" Newsletter by Thursday 6th September 2007 Email Address denis_mccann@yahoo.com.au</i></p>	<p><u>Queensland</u> DAVID SMOCK (Brisbane) (Pensions Officer) Ph: 07 3821 3999 Fax: 07 3821 2450</p>
<p><u>New South Wales</u> STEVE PEMBERTON (Taree) (Accredited Case Officer DVA) Ph: 02 6553 5072</p>		<p><u>Queensland</u> MICHAEL CROKER (Toowoomba) (RSL Welfare officer) Ph: 07 4638 1727</p>

We are still in need of suitably qualified members in all States who can assist in broadening this network; Please contact The Secretary ADAA if you can assist us in this worthwhile endeavour.

Par Oneri de Caelo

Par = Equal Oneri = Task de = From Caelo = Heaven or Sky

(Equal to the Task from the Sky)