



## Start of a new chapter



Delys Ferguson

When Rona Stalley first moved into RAAFA's Bull Creek community in 1987, residents weren't allowed to hang washing out at the weekend, and 'everything' had to be painted mission brown.

"When I shifted in, everyone had little plots of garden which they tended to regularly, and you needed permission from the office to pretty much do anything," says the 93-year-old, who moved into Air Force Memorial Estate (AFME) when she was in her mid-50s.

"But look, you have to have progress, and although I was sad to leave Harris House, I have very many happy memories and I think we are all really excited to see the new building," Rona adds.

Last month, AFME's Sivyver, Harris, Ingram and Fraser units - known as SHIF for short - were demolished,

heralding a new and exciting chapter for the estate.

But the new era also prompted a trip down memory lane for many.

Another long-term resident, 93-year-old Delys Ferguson, who has lived in her unit at SHIF since 1991, remembers being greeted when she first moved in by a previous resident, who was a very strict ex-headmistress.

"Hilda told us that we couldn't do any washing on a Sunday, but I remember Harry, another resident who lived downstairs at the time, retorting 'don't worry, no one tells me what to do'," she laughs.

"It's funny what you remember, but at the end of the day we had a lot of fun in our unit, everyone was friendly and we were all there for each other even though we didn't live in our neighbours' pockets.

"I'm not sentimental, so leaving my old home at Ingram wasn't hard, but it was made a lot easier by the help we received during the moving process, which couldn't be faulted. I'm so happy with my new two-bedroom unit, I have beautiful views and I'm very happy," adds Delys.

Penny John, AFME Estate Manager, says the demolition of SHIF has gone very smoothly.

"While the residents have been quite nostalgic at times, and several watched the demolition take place, they are also quite excited about the future Stirling building," she says.

"Everyone has been reassured that the mature trees along the creek at Fraser House will remain to create a beautiful outlook from the south facing Stirling apartments. And the garden along the northern boundary will also be maintained

during the construction phase."

Indeed, the position of the new building is certainly a hot topic at the estate.

"The new building is in a wonderful position and the new high-rise is going to have beautiful views, in fact I'd say they'll be the most sought-after in Perth," adds Rona.

"There won't be any other obstructions when it comes to the views, and people will be able to look straight back up the river. It's going to be a great place to see the city lights and also the fireworks on Australia Day."

Further updates on the progress being made on RAAFA's new Stirling apartments will be given in future editions of Air Mail, so watch this space for more information.

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### PURPOSE

Pursuing excellence in care and heritage

### VALUES

Respect; Care; Honesty

### APPROACH

Creating RAAFA communities open to all



# President's view



By Clive Robartson AM

## Queen Elizabeth II

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. I'm sure we all have special memories of the Queen; my earliest was around the age of seven when our primary school marched down to Fremantle Oval to see her drive by in a shiny Land Rover. On a much later visit, I recall taking my children to Leach Highway to watch her cavalcade drive quickly by. She gave us a friendly wave. We can cherish our memories of her long and cheerful life. May she rest in peace. God Save the King!

## Aviators honoured

One of the joys I have as State President is to represent the

Association at RAAF Base Pearce for the Australian Defence Force pilots' course graduation ceremony and to present our Award to 'the graduate who has shown the most improvement'.

Congratulations go to Pilot Officer Angus Johnston of No.266 PC-21ADF Pilots' Course held on 29 July 2022.

No.1 Advanced Flying Training School was relocated to Pearce from Point Cook in 1958. The Vampire was in use as a training aircraft at that time, but by 1969 they had been replaced by the more modern Macchi MB326H aircraft. The unit was then reformed as No.2 Flying Training School (2FTS).

20 years later the Swiss-designed, Australian built Pilatus PC9/A turbo-prop trainer for advanced undergraduate pilot training was introduced and served well until replaced by the Pilatus PC-21 in September 2018.

2FTS provides training in advanced general instrument, night and formation flying, and navigation. A graduate pilot in the ADF must be capable of flying with the skill and confidence necessary to allow ready transition to selected operational aircraft.

The most recent course graduation was No.266 and it was an honour once again to present our Award

and to recognise the outstanding calibre of the young men and women of the Air Force and Navy graduating as pilots from Pearce.

## Aviators remembered

The Association was honoured to have the RAAF conduct a ceremony for the WA relatives of aviators lost 70 years ago when Catalina A24-50 failed to return from a sea-mining mission from Cairns to Sorong Harbour in what is now Papua, Indonesia.

The wreckage in which 10 aviators perished was found in 2018. Early reports suggested that the aircraft had probably struck one of the mountains, especially as bad weather had been reported. No wreckage was found at the time, despite extensive searches.

Recently a brief, warm and caring memorial service was conducted by the RAAF at AFME for the lost crew. It included a presentation on the events surrounding the tragedy, given by senior RAAF Officers, followed by a brief memorial service in the Museum where wreaths were laid under the Catalina.

The family was presented with the Service Medals of one of the lost crew and a uniform buckle found at the crash site. It was a sad but loving closure for members of the family.

## Aviator families welcomed

The Association was delighted to host the Pearce family to our Heritage Open Day on Sunday, 31 July at the Museum with an opportunity to get up close to the Tornado GR4.

The outstanding cooking skills of myself, the State Vice-President, CEO and Head of Clear Skies were put to the test on the barbeque for the sausage sizzle at lunch time.

## Annual General Meeting

This year we have moved the AGM to Friday, yes that's right, a weekday. This is something new and we think it will provide greater opportunity for our members to attend, with the bonus, to stay for lunch in the RAAFA Club after.

Registration opens at 9.30am with the AGM commencing at 10.30am. The Division Council is proposing to present an amended set of Rules/Constitution. A Special General Meeting will immediately follow the AGM at approximately 11.30am where a Special Resolution will be presented. Details are in the centre liftout of this edition in accordance with the current Rules/Constitution.

Your thoughtful consideration and support would be appreciated as we seek to position our Association in addressing the ever-changing world we serve.



## Annual General Meeting 2022

Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) Inc. trading as RAAFA

By Norm Waldie, State Secretary

Friday, 28 October 2022

Registration commences at 9.30am  
Meeting commencing at 10.30am at the RAAFA Club, Bull Creek.

Morning tea will be provided.

Lunch will be available from 12.30pm..

The AGM Agenda and associated documents are available from your local estate office, the State Secretary ([state.secretary@raafawa.org.au](mailto:state.secretary@raafawa.org.au)) or RAAFA Central Support Office.

If you would like to stay for lunch the Club has the following meals available for \$20 each:

- Roast of the day with vegetables
- Grilled fish with roast vegetables
- Quiche with vegetables
- Pie of the day with mash



## Is this your dream?

The Fellowship is to foster aviation education and interest among youth in Western Australia.

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Air Mail story deadlines

28 October for December / January  
6 January for February / March  
10 March for April / May

Please email articles to [airmail@raafawa.org.au](mailto:airmail@raafawa.org.au) (preferred) or post to Julie Stearne, 18 Bowman Street, South Perth WA 6151.



# CEO's perspective



By John Murray

Recent years have seen remarkable change in our community due mainly to the worldwide pandemic, along with the changing expectations of communities and the accountabilities of governments and organisations to those communities.

The Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) Incorporated, (RAAFA) has had to respond to multiple changes that impact on the operation, compliance, and future business needs. Most organisations across the country have had to

undertake a re-examination of how they operate, the appropriateness of their governance structures and how they respond to the increasing legislation and compliance requirements.

I have mentioned previously in this publication the need for us to review our current Rules/Constitution to ensure that we reflect the requirements of these increasing compliance needs.

We recently had an audit by the Australian Charities Not-For-Profit Commission (ACNC) with a request to explain how we, as an organisation, display through action, our entitlement for Public Benevolent Institution (PBI) status. Our charitable status is dependent on how we pursue our benevolent objects in our day-to-day activities. For example, we are required to report how much of our revenue was used to pursue our objects, as stated in our current Rules/Constitution.

The ACNC is currently conducting audits across all charitable organisations, with many now being non-compliant and losing their Public Benevolence Institution and

Charitable Status. This is primarily because organisations are not able to show evidence of their endeavours in the pursuit of their stated objects. RAAFA has fulfilled our requirements with the ACNC, but we need to amend RAAFA's objects within our current Rules/Constitution as recommended by the ACNC to better reflect what we do in relation to our benevolence.

The proposed amendments to the objects reflect the requirements of the ACNC and has been approved by them. Legal advice has also been sought on all the amendments being proposed and has been endorsed as compliant with the Associations Act requirements. These amendments also protect our tax exemptions and Charitable Gift Recipient status.

The additional opportunity to mirror the new membership structures of the National Air Force Association that's being adopted by all States, will provide broader membership options for current and future RAAFA members.

The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety has highlighted the need for increased

responsibility in relation to governance of age care services. This has been further reinforced with recent revisions of the Age Care Act by setting standards required for individuals to be directors of organisations that provide care.

This in turn has led to the provision of increased powers as recommended by The Royal Commission delegated to the Age Care Quality and Safety Commission that undertake the quality and compliance review of all aged care facilities to ensure compliance with the Age Care Standards.

Imbedded in these standards is a requirement for a high-level of quality governance of the provider's business, with reviews undertaken on every occasion that the commission visits (usually 3 times per year) each of our residential care facilities.

I thank you all for your consideration of the proposed amendments at the Special General Meeting to be held immediately following the AGM on Friday, 28 October at the RAAFA Club, Bull Creek.

## Marking Battle for Australia

Every year on the first Wednesday of September, commemorations are held across the country to mark the Battle for Australia.

And this year, RAAFA's AFME invited the younger generation, in the form of students from All Saints College, to give an address to reflect on the bravery of those who served in the defence of the Australian mainland, and in the subsequent land, air and sea battles in the Coral Sea, Papua and New Guinea.

All Saints students David Duff and Genevieve Ho were the two teenagers chosen to give the address to guests and remind those

in attendance of the challenges Australia encountered between 1942 and 1945.

Indeed, the thousands of Australians who engaged in actions against Japanese forces during the Battle for Australia were remembered and, in particular, how their efforts contributed substantially to the defeat of Japan.

A special shout out too, to museum volunteers Alan Guy and Frances Honig (aka Fred and Ginger) who took the opportunity to trip the light fantastic to incidental music played by the school band after the ceremony.



## Stepping down

After almost two decades, Lorraine Halsall has hung up her organising hat from the RAAFA Amity Village Albany social group.

"Lorraine has done a huge amount to help make our community the wonderful place it is," says Cheryl Clark, Amity's estate manager.

"Her dedication, hard work and commitment has been invaluable, and we are so appreciative of all the time and effort she has put into organising countless events, trips, and celebrations."

It was close to 18 years ago that Amity residents got together and decided to form a group dedicated to organising events for the village, and Lorraine Halsall was among them.

Since then, Lorraine has helped organise hundreds of meals, concerts, tours, and special occasions, with the biggest highlights being the numerous Christmas parties and many tours of the Great Southern with various volunteer bus drivers.

"The social group is a wonderful team, we couldn't do it without each other's support," says Lorraine. "I'm very impressed with the new ladies; I think they'll enjoy it as much as I have in the past."

On behalf of all staff and residents, past and present, a huge thank you to Lorraine, for everything you have done to make Amity a wonderfully social place to live.



# Quilting for a cause

The talented women who make up the Southern Village Quilters craft group at RAAFA Estate Meadow Springs have been quilting for a cause over recent months.

The group, which has been going since 2000 and now numbers 22 ladies, meets every Monday and is known for its firm friendships as well as talent.

Secretary Janice Beresford explains that, over the years, many items have been made and donated to charity, and recently the ladies have been busy making quilts for Ukrainian refugees who have found shelter in WA.

"It was Joan Bailey, a long-term resident at Meadow Springs and our group, who saw a story on TV about the Society of Ukraine, whose members were asking for help for the refugees coming to Perth who had fled their homes with very few belongings," says Janice,

who explains the group meets for around five hours every week, which includes having lunch together.

"It was Joan who suggested we start making some quilts for these lovely people who have lost so much and, not only did she inspire us, but we were all really happy to help."

To date, over a dozen warm and beautifully handmade quilts have found their way to grateful Ukrainian refugees, with the group continuing to make more to help provide comfort to many more people in need.



"Anyone who knows anything about quilters will guess that we all have lots of spare fabric that we've collected and stashed over the years, so we thought we'd put it all to good use and we're loving pitching in and quilting for a cause," adds Janice.

Although not everyone lives at Meadow Springs, all participants of the group are RAAFA members who, by their own admission, love quilting and also a chat with fellow group members over a coffee and an 'obligatory' homemade cake 'or two'.



Laurel Diver and Alan Warren remember Doris and Roy

## In loving memory

Members of the Meadow Springs Croquet Club can now take the weight off their feet and pause for thought thanks to a bench that has been installed in honour of Roy and Doris Ralph.

Doris has been remembered as a very active member of the croquet club, with previous president Alan Warren recalling her as a great lady who loved participating and competing.

"I started playing croquet in 2016 and it didn't take me long to realise that Doris knew quite a bit about this game and whether you played with or against her she would always help you," says Alan.

"After belting your ball away, she would very graciously tell you what you had done wrong and the shot you should have played," he laughs.

Going back through the croquet archives, the record shows Doris scored two hoops-in-one in

September 2005, which was the start of an amazing record. She went on to total 116 hoops-in-one during her playing days and won the hoop-in-one trophy on eight occasions.

At the same time, Roy has also been remembered for his work around the estate to help out, including running the 'Rostabouts' recycling group.

"They both did a great deal of good around the estate and the bench is a very thoughtful way to pay tribute to them and honour their dedication and commitment to RAAFA's Meadow Springs Estate," says Alan.

And so, although the much-loved couple are no longer with us, their legacy will be remembered for a long time to come, not least by those who will now have the opportunity to take a rest and relax for a while, thanks to Doris and Roy's bench.

## Bloomin' good sensory experience

Social interaction and meaningful contact are the aims of a new sensory experience focused on enriching the lives of Meadow Springs seniors as part of a new refurbishment of the estate's Wellness Centre.

As part of the project, a landscaper and an arborist were engaged to create a space for residents, families and friends, which is hallmarked by peace and tranquillity.

Wellbeing Officer, Mischa Matthews, said having a newly revamped calm and relaxed space will open up opportunities to run small and intimate activities in the garden, such as relaxation, mindfulness, massage, aromatherapy and morning teas for residents and carers.

"We all want to have meaningful and fulfilled lives but often in our quest to do so, we make ourselves so busy we don't really notice or appreciate moments of fun or relaxation," she says.

"By using light, sound, scents, and colour in and out of our Wellbeing

Centre, we hope to initiate sensations that have both relaxing and activating effects that promote wellbeing, and also provide a space where meaningful interactions can take place.

"Research has shown that touch sensations actually promote concentration and alertness, so the garden should be a very beneficial addition for all of our residents here at Meadow Springs."

In addition, new fencing has been installed to provide residents with an enhanced view of the area.

"Although many people perceive seniors to have an enjoyable and calm life, RAAFA recognise that many seniors are under quite a lot of stress, some live alone, others may have problems with family or illness," Mischa adds.

"So, it's important for seniors to have simple tools in dealing with day-to-day stress, so they can learn how to develop more peace of mind and lessen worry, especially for those residents who are also caregivers."





# Dice and drizzle with a difference

▲ Variety is the spice of life, so they say, and culinary variety is certainly something that seniors at McNamara Lodge are experiencing thanks to a new monthly-themed cuisine initiative, which is the brainchild of the home's care and kitchen team.

The 'cooking different cuisines' initiative has been brought about by the fact that seniors are no longer going to different restaurants because of COVID-19 concerns, so the kitchen team have instead rustled up a host of different cuisines to serve to residents in their own home.

To date, a number of Italian, Indian, Asian, Spanish, Chinese, Irish and Mexican meals have been lovingly made by the kitchen staff, with resident favourites including lasagne, ravioli, curries, stir fries and Mexican fajitas.

Viktoria Szasz, Lifestyle Coordinator at McNamara Lodge, explains there are four houses in the lodge, and every Tuesday residents from one of the homes attends the activity room at lunchtime to sample, sip and savour a new dish, while sitting in the 'restaurant' which has been decorated to reflect the relevant cuisine.

"Residents are also encouraged to dress in the theme of the country whose cuisine we will be sampling, and then we all sit down and enjoy traditional dishes from that nation," she says.

"Essentially this initiative has come about due to the pandemic and the fact that our usual eating out experiences have been curtailed.

"So, we have brought the dining out experience to McNamara Lodge, and not only do the residents thoroughly enjoy it and dress for the occasion, it's also wonderful to see the joy on their faces as they try the different food we've prepared for them."

Trish Jenkins, Food and Beverage Manager, says although making new and very different food can be a challenge, seeing the excitement and joy in the room, along with many happy faces, makes everything worthwhile.

"We pride ourselves on the nourishing and healthy food we prepare at McNamara Lodge, so adding these traditional home-cooked meals, which have been lovingly prepared, has been a wonderful addition to our menu," she says.

"We've had residents who originally hail from India loving lasagne and



**Audrey and Colleen enjoying the mexican theme**

ravioli, and other residents who spent their childhood in Italy trying Indian curries and it's been heart-warming to see the pleasure on their faces as they've tried different tastes and flavours, sometimes for the first time.

"The staff have also embraced the initiative and we've found it to be a really wonderful way of building our little community here at McNamara Lodge, and also strengthening the relationships our residents have with both other residents and our care team."

And these sentiments are very much confirmed by residents.

Senior Elda Devenish says she really enjoys the special lunches. "And having music in the background from different cultures, while we are dining, is also really special," she says.

Resident Norma Maguire agrees. "It's a really nice change and we've all been thoroughly enjoying our Tuesday lunches. The therapy team goes to huge lengths to make us feel special by decorating the room and also dressing in national costumes, they always go above and beyond, without fail."

To which, we say to all the team at McNamara Lodge, Bon Appetit!

## Bad hair days banished

▲ Meadow Springs Estate resident Kerry Hanrahan had a hair-raising experience back in mid-August when she decided to shave off all of her hair to raise funds for cancer research.

And \$5063 later, Kerry, along with her friends and neighbours Margaret Ayaton, Maureen Pickering, Greg Keith and Ken Turner, says she is as proud as punch to have raised such a significant amount for a worthwhile cause.

"I really am wrapped with the result," says Kerry who lost her husband to pancreatic cancer three years ago.

"I've never shaved my head before, and it felt very itchy for a day or two, but cancer has affected my loved ones as well as many other people on our estate, and it was great to get a group together to do something meaningful to help."

Whilst Kerry was the only person to have her hair shaved off, Margaret, Maureen and Greg joined in by brightly colouring their hair, whilst Ken - who word has it has no hair and who sadly lost his wife to cancer last year - joined in the spirit of the fundraiser by bidding for Kerry's shaved locks.



"He ended up sticky taping my hair to his head which he wore for around four hours, and I must say it quite suited him," laughs Kerry, who is also President of the Meadow Springs Branch committee and regularly volunteers for the Friends of the Hospital group, something she particularly loves as a retired Enrolled Nurse.

"We found that everyone was incredibly generous, wanting to help and join in our sellout afternoon tea.

"Everyone pitched in to get prizes for the raffle, which ended up raising over \$1000, and people continued to donate after the event, which was also wonderful."

Congratulations Kerry and team on organising a fabulous event that certainly put the fun into fundraising for a very worthwhile cause!



## All winners to us

▲ The RAAFA Red Devils - aka the team from Vivian Bullwinkel Lodge - took part in the annual Aged Care Games in Joondalup at the start of September.

Competing against eight other teams from around Perth, RAAFA's 'dream team' had been training twice a week since July in passball, hockey, bean bag toss and skittles to get match fit for the contest.

Unsurprisingly, the RAAFA Red Devils showed great sportsmanship and were sitting second on the leader board for the majority of the day, though sadly it wasn't a win for the dedicated team in the end.

However, arriving back at Vivian Bullwinkel Lodge, our competitors were greeted by fellow residents and staff cheering them on for their amazing effort. It is always a great day with everyone enjoying the friendly competition, tasty treats and loads of laughter.

Congratulations to our team for having a red hot go during the games this year. And we're sure no one will be surprised to hear how they're already strategizing, planning and brainstorming how they'll take the cup home next year.



# Tornado whips up nostalgia

■ If there's one thing that RAF Wing Commander Erica Ferguson and the six-member specialist RAF Joint Aircraft Recovery and Transportation Squadron (JARTS) team unanimously agreed upon during their time in Perth, it was that they received a huge welcome, wonderful hospitality and incredible warmth from RAAFA's community.

"We experienced an amazing welcome and great friendship from the Board, staff and volunteers during our visit, and we very much look forward to visiting again and exploring the stories that the team at the museum are set to share," she says.

WGCDR Ferguson and the JARTS team spent a week in Perth in late June, during which time the gifted Tornado GR4 – the only one of its kind in the world on display outside of the UK – was meticulously pieced back together and put on show at RAAFA's Aviation Heritage Museum.

"I had 63 requests from museums for a Tornado, but when I saw how great the stories already being told out of Bull Creek were, and how amazingly skilled and dedicated the volunteers and staff are at Perth's Aviation Heritage Museum, it was quite an easy choice to make," says WGCDR Ferguson, who began her RAF career as Air Traffic Controller and is now Head of RAF Heritage.

And the rest, as they say, is history, with the disassembled Tornado arriving in Perth by ship in May – the culmination of a three-year project headed by WGCDR Ferguson in conjunction with the specialised JARTS team, which was involved every step of the way.

RAF Warrant Officer Keith Davies was the first person to gain a call from WGCDR Ferguson after she had made the decision to gift the military aircraft – which first flew on 28 June 1992 – to the small museum located in the world's most isolated city.

"I remember speaking to WGCDR Ferguson about the prospect of getting the Tornado 9,000 miles across the world, and my reply was 'nothing is impossible'," says the 43-year-old, who was born and brought up in South Wales and who joined the RAF when he was 16 years old.

"And here we are having assembled the Tornado and, in the process, undertaken daily Q&A sessions with the museum volunteers, from pilots to aviation technicians to Vietnam vets, all of whom have been keen to learn more about the aircraft and its story, and also tell us their own unique experiences."

RAF Chief Technician Chris Mee, known by his colleagues as Sven, was responsible for project managing and planning the Tornado's relocation to Perth.

"It was important to try to reduce the cost of shipping for the museum, so it was our aim to flat pack the aircraft into the most efficient area possible and maximise every inch of space," says the 42-year-old who has served in the RAF for over 23 years, and for whom the trip to Perth was his third visit to Australia.

"Seeing the Tornado in its new home is incredibly rewarding, and also having the opportunity to gain some work / life balance and see the city of Perth and many of its attractions while we've been here has also been amazing."

For 35-year-old senior aircraft technician and JARTS team member Matt Stoffell, the highlight of the week was most definitely meeting the museum volunteers and realising the enthusiasm they have for the Tornado.

"For us we are just doing our job and you can get a little blasé about working on the jet, but after chatting to the volunteers and seeing their interest, you have a renewed appreciation for how cool working with the Tornado really is," says Matt, whose trip to Perth heralded his first visit to Australia.

"It was also interesting to hear the adventures of the volunteers and staff when they were around my age, and of course I have to say that holding a koala was a highlight of the week too, that was most definitely therapy for the soul," he laughs.

For aircraft engineering specialist Andy Morrey, whose career in the Royal Navy spans over 20 years, the opportunity to visit Australia as part of the JARTS team has been a memorable experience.



**LtoR front Keith Davies, Chris Mee (Sven), Ted McEvoy, Erica Ferguson, Michael Broad, Craig Roberson, Andy Morrey & Matt Stoffell**

"Being a member of JARTS is truly unique and it's something I love," says the 42-year-old who hails from Bath in England.

"I'm the token Navy guy in the team and this has really been a dream job for me. I've been fortunate enough to go all over the world with the Navy, but this has been an absolutely brilliant experience and I certainly have some amazing stories to tell my 17-year-old son when I get home."

And for RAF Corporal Michael Broad, known by all his colleagues as Broady, the week-long Tornado project, for which he was deputy team leader, went seamlessly to plan.

"As a team, we've reassembled a few Tornados now, so we have the system down well and we were pleased that everything went to time and, luckily, everything slotted into place," he says.

"I think we've all been struck at how friendly and sociable everyone has been, and how happy they've been to chat to us. We are all taking home great memories of our week in Perth, everybody made us feel incredibly looked after."

Significantly, JARTS team member and Sergeant Craig Rogerson has particular history with the museum's Tornado, having undertaken mechanical maintenance on it during six separate tours of duty, while he was based in Cyprus and the aircraft was being used in the Afghanistan conflict.

"I felt quite nostalgic, thinking that assembling the Tornado in Perth is really the last time I get to work on it," says the 37-year-old Englishman

who was born in County Durham.

"I always wanted to work on this aircraft, and always wanted to be on a Tornado squadron, so it's actually a strange feeling to see the jet that I've worked on all over the world, and have helped to look after so carefully, now in its last resting place in a museum.

"But the time we've had in Perth has been incredible, and it's been a great opportunity to hear the stories and tales of other service personnel and relate them to my own.

"I gained a real sense that I'll be telling some of my own aviation adventures and RAF experiences to the next generation in what will probably feel like just a few short years' time."

Sergeant Rogerson's comments meld with those of WGCDR Ferguson, who emphasises how the RAF's heritage is essentially an ethos builder – a handrail that helps the armed forces to garner support during dark and testing times.

"Heritage also gives us an unbridled opportunity to engage, interest, inform and entertain the wider population so that they better understand the role and purpose of their military personnel," WGCDR Ferguson adds.

"And in handing over this aircraft, we hand over a heavy responsibility, not just in terms of its curation, but equally the responsibility to share the stories of this specific Tornado GR4, and of the men and women whose lives have been touched by its magnificence over the past 30 years."

## Flags flying

■ Australian National Flag Day is an opportunity for us all to celebrate with pride the anniversary of the Australian National Flag.

And to do just that, RAAFA held a special event at the Aviation Heritage Museum on the day itself – 3 September – with special guests The Honourable Patrick Gorman MP, Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister, and Sam Lim MP, Member for Tangney.

RAAFA was also pleased to

welcome students from All Saints College, as well as 713 Squadron cadets, with Army and Navy representatives.

During the event, Assistant Minister Gorman launched the new and updated national symbols resources and presented All Saints College students with a range of associated booklets and posters.

Assistant Minister Gorman and Mr Lim then completed an inspection of the cadets, while navy and army

representatives raised the Australian National Flag, the Australian Aboriginal Flag and the Torres Strait Islander Flag.

All Saints' College Year 6 student, Charlotte Lund, then beautifully performed the national anthem.

The Honourable Patrick Gorman MP also donated three new flags to the Aviation Heritage Museum that were



raised in the ceremony, for which we offer our sincere thanks.

Australian National Flag Day, proclaimed in 1996 as a national day, celebrates the first time the flag was flown on 3 September 1901.

# Notice of Special General Meeting

The Division Council hereby:

- (a) calls a Special General Meeting pursuant to clause 10.8(b) of the Rules of the Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) Incorporated ABN 97 352 605 141 (RAAFA) approved at an annual general meeting of RAAFA on 27 October 2018 (Current Rules);
- (b) provides notice of such Special General Meeting pursuant to clause 10.8(c) of the Rules of RAAFA, including the following details:
  - (i) Date: Friday, 28 October 2022
  - (ii) Time: 11.30am
  - (iii) Place: RAAFA Club, Bull Creek; and
- (c) calls such Special General Meeting for the purpose of considering and voting on the proposed Special Resolutions set out below regarding the replacement of the current Rules of RAAFA with the proposed revised Rules of RAAFA marked 'Annexure A' in accordance with clause 23.1(a) of the Current Rules.

## Proposed Special Resolutions

The members of the Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) Incorporated (RAAFA) are to consider, and if thought fit, pass, with or without amendment, the following resolutions as Special Resolutions (as required under clause 23.1(a) of the Current Rules and section 30(1) of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)(AI Act)):

- (a) Subject to the Commissioner (as defined in the AI Act) (Commissioner) approving, and giving its written consent to RAAFA adopting, the revised Rules of RAAFA annexed to the notice and marked 'Annexure A' (New Rules) as required under section 33(2) of the AI Act, the members of RAAFA hereby:
  - (i) adopt, and replace the current Rules of RAAFA with, the New Rules as the rules of RAAFA;
  - (ii) agree that the New Rules bind RAAFA and the members of RAAFA as if:
    - A. they formed an agreement on the part of each member of RAAFA to be bound by and observe all the provisions of the New Rules; and
    - B. such agreement was duly executed by each member of RAAFA and RAAFA itself;
  - (iii) agree that the New Rules are compliant with the requirements under the AI Act, the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 (Cth) in respect of the charitable status of RAAFA and the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth) in respect of the deductible gift recipient status of RAAFA;
- (b) Subject to the passing of the Special Resolutions set out in (a) above, any member of the Division Council is authorised to and must:
  - (i) lodge the New Rules and any other documents required with the Commissioner and must do so in accordance with the timing and other requirements under the AI Act; and
  - (ii) do any other act or enter into any document to give legal effect to the New Rules; and
- (c) Subject to the passing of the Special Resolutions set out in (a) – (b), and further subject to any directions and conditions from the Commissioner, on and from the date on which the Commissioner approves, and gives its written consent to the adoption of, the New Rules, the New Rules are adopted, fully effective and bind RAAFA and each member of RAAFA and the Current Rules cease to apply and are terminated.

## Why the change?

Change raises many questions, like why is the Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) Incorporated, (RAAFA) wanting to update the Rules/Constitution; what does it have to do with me; and what are the consequences if we do nothing?

Firstly, and most importantly, RAAFA wants to assure you there is no need to worry. The changes are to comply with current and future expectations from different regulatory bodies which we have outlined in more detail here.

The lift out lists each change, showing the existing item; proposed amendment and the reason why.

### Background and why

Over the last 12 months or more the aged care and retirement living industry has been inundated with regulatory changes and it has been necessary to review our Rules/Constitution to ensure that it continues to meet the expectations of the different regulatory bodies that RAAFA is required to comply with.

These changes arise mainly from:

- The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety
- Associations Incorporations Act
- The introduction of a new Aged Care Act
- Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) Audits

The outcome has been an ever-increasing expectation around the governance structures of organisations such as RAAFA, as well as increased compliance requirements.

In addition, the ACNC now carries out regular audits of the Rules/ Constitutions of registered charities (which RAAFA is) to ensure that the Rules/Constitution complies with the organisation's specific charitable status. In March this year we were informed by the ACNC that the current

Objects may not be in keeping with its' status as a Public Benevolent Institution (PBI).

### What has changed?

As part of the review, we have updated the Rules/Constitution to ensure that RAAFA remains compliant, by:

- Updating the wording used to match current business standards
- Revising the Membership structure to mirror the National AFA structure
- Modifying some clauses to reflect the recommended Model Rules for Associations in WA
- Updating the Objects of the Association to maintain our charitable status

The changes that are proposed have been reviewed by legal specialists in Perth and have been reviewed by the ACNC to ensure that they comply with regulatory requirements and the charitable status of RAAFA.

### What happens if nothing changes?

As mentioned above, RAAFA was informed earlier this year that the Objects in the current Rules/Constitution may not be in keeping with its status as a Public Benevolent Institution and as such there is a danger RAAFA could lose its charitable status.

The loss of this status will have implications for the exemptions that RAAFA currently enjoys, such as:

- Payroll tax
- Corporation tax
- Stamp duty
- GST
- Local government rates

As well as our Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status with the ATO.

**Continued Page 8**



## What now?

The proposed changes to the Rules/Constitution ensure that:

- RAAFA's Governance remains in line with the expectations of the different regulatory bodies
- RAAFA retains its' Public Benevolent Institution status with the ACNC
- RAAFA's Membership structure matches the AFA National body offering more flexibility for Members
- Keeps RAAFA's cost base down to ensure we continue to provide affordable living solutions for residents

In order for the Special Resolution proposed to pass, 75% of members present and entitled to vote must vote in favour.

Full copies of the current Rules; proposed draft new Rules (Annexure A); table of changes and the proposed Special Resolution are available from your local estate office, RAAFA Central Support Office or RAAFA website (<https://www.raafawa.org.au/news/publications&papers>).

For any queries, please contact the State Secretary ([state.secretary@raafawa.org.au](mailto:state.secretary@raafawa.org.au)).

## Table of Changes

The following is a complete list of changes proposed to RAAFA's Rules. Updates to references to rule numbers are not listed.

Rules' Reference	Current Rules Key: <b>deletions</b>	Proposed Amendment to Rules Key: <b>additions</b>	Reason For Change
Preamble	Air Force Association (AFA) (Western Australian Division) Incorporated. trading as "RAAFA" being the <b>precursor</b> of The Australian Flying Corps and Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) Incorporated is an incorporated association in Western Australia formed by ex-service personnel of the Air Force in Australia and the Commonwealth to recognise, foster and promote the ethos, virtues and culture of service to the nation in the Air Force.  Members agree to uphold the Objects as set out in these Rules, and serve to protect the dignity of their fellow Members and the Western Australian community.	Air Force Association (AFA) (Western Australian Division) Incorporated. trading as "RAAFA" being the <b>successor</b> of The Australian Flying Corps and Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) Incorporated is an incorporated association in Western Australia <b>and was</b> formed by ex-service personnel of the Air Force in Australia and the Commonwealth to recognise, foster and promote the ethos, virtues and culture of service to the nation in the Air Force.  <b>While the Division is a registered Charity, the Objects as set out in rule 3 override any clause or other insertion in these Rules to the extent they are inconsistent with the ACNC Act, to the extent the Act applies to the Division.</b>  Members agree to uphold the Objects as set out in these Rules, and serve to protect the dignity of their fellow Members and the Western Australian community.	To recognise the origins of the Association and the ideals upon which it was founded.  To affirm the Associations position as a Public Benevolent Institution and to protect that status against any future changes in either the Rules or applicable legislation.
1.0 Name	The name of the association is "Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) <b>Inc</b> " and in...	The name of the association is "Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) <b>Incorporated</b> " and in...	Full word rather than abbreviation.
2.1 Definitions	Division Officers means the office bearers of the Division, being the <b>State</b> President, the <b>State</b> Vice President and the <b>State</b> Secretary.	Division Officers: The office bearers of the Division, being the President, the Vice President and the Secretary.	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
	<b>State</b> Executive means the committee of the Division Council comprising the <b>State</b> President, <b>State</b> Vice President, <b>State</b> Secretary, CEO and the Appointed Division Councillor appointed to Division Council for <b>his or her financial</b> expertise.	Executive <b>Committee</b> : The committee of the Division Council comprising the President, Vice President, Secretary and CEO. <b>An additional</b> Division Councillor <b>may be</b> appointed for <b>their</b> expertise <b>as required</b> .	Update to contemporary wording.
	Financial Member <b>means...</b>	Financial Member <b>refers to...</b>	Update of wording for clarity.
	Royal Australian Air Force <b>means to include</b> the Royal Australian Air Force, Royal Australian Air Force Nursing Services, Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force, Women's Royal Australian Air Force, Reserve Forces in support of these bodies, and <b>includes</b> <b>RAAF</b> Honorary Instructors for Air Crew Reservists during the 1939-45 War	Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF): <b>Refers to</b> the Royal Australian Air Force, <b>the</b> Royal Australian Air Force Nursing Services (1940 - 1946), <b>the</b> Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force, Women's Royal Australian Air Force ( <b>formed in 1950 and later absorbed into the RAAF in 1977</b> ), <b>the</b> Reserve Forces in support of these bodies, and Royal Australian Air Force Honorary Instructors for Air Crew Reservists ( <b>including those during the 1939-45 War</b> ).	Update of wording for clarity.
		Addition of the following definitions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Associate Member: A Member defined under rule 5.9.</b></li> <li>• <b>Corporate Member: A Member defined under rule 5.6.</b></li> <li>• <b>Royal Australian Air Force Association of Western Australia (RAAFA): Refers to the trading name of Air Force Association (AFA) (Western Australian Division) Incorporated.</b></li> <li>• <b>Service Member: A Member defined under rule 5.5.</b></li> </ul>	Update classes of Membership to align with the National Constitution and to allow for more flexibility in choosing an appropriate membership for people who wish to become Members.



Rules' Reference	Current Rules Key: <b>deletions</b>	Proposed Amendment to Rules Key: <b>additions</b>	Reason For Change
3.1 Object	<p>The Objects are:</p> <p>(a) to provide and support Members through:</p> <p>(i) <b>advocacy to promote the needs, interests and issues affecting Members, including veterans and ex-service personnel;</b></p> <p>(ii) <b>providing for the direct relief of persons from suffering, destitution, misfortune, helplessness and distress;</b></p> <p>(iii) <b>providing educational opportunities, particularly for the descendants of veterans and those persons interested in aviation, through the provision of scholarships and bursaries;</b></p> <p>(iv) <b>undertaking the care and welfare of and to provide facilities for retired, aged, pensioned and infirm persons and for the provision of relief in the form of companionship, mutual activities and security of community living to counter the effects of the isolation and loneliness of old age, including the provision of homes, accommodation or other care facilities:</b></p> <p>A. <b>for the infirm;</b></p> <p>B. <b>for persons who are by reason of their age, ill health, accident or infirmity wholly or in part unable to maintain themselves by their exertion;</b></p> <p>C. <b>for aged or retired persons; or</b></p> <p>D. <b>for persons who in the opinion of the Division Council are in circumstances which necessitate such care.</b></p> <p>(v) <b>acting in a manner consistent with that of a public benevolent institution; and</b></p> <p>(iv) <b>providing assistance and contribution to any benevolent purpose related to the Objects;</b></p> <p>(b) <b>to promote the ideals and spirit of service in the Royal Australian Air Force by:</b></p> <p>(i) <b>preserving the memory and heritage of the founding Members and comrades who have died, especially in service;</b></p> <p>(ii) <b>promoting the interest of the Western Australian community in aviation, aviation history and Air Force history through the ongoing support of the RAAFA Aviation Heritage Museum of Western Australia;</b></p> <p>(iii) <b>providing and facilitating the periodic meeting and reunion of Members; and</b></p> <p>(iv) <b>commemorating the service and sacrifice of those who have served in the Royal Australian Air Force; and</b></p> <p>(c) <b>subject to the Act, to do all things necessary or incidental in carrying out the Division's Objects set out in rules 3.1(a) and 3.1(b).</b></p>	<p>The Objects are:</p> <p>a) <b>promoting the needs and interests of, and providing relief from the issues affecting Royal Australian Air Force veterans and ex-Australian Defence Force service personnel (and their descendants) who are suffering from destitution, misfortune, helplessness and distress;</b></p> <p>b) <b>providing for the direct relief of other persons suffering from, destitution, misfortune, helplessness and distress;</b></p> <p>c) <b>providing care, welfare, facilities and other forms of relief, including in the form of companionship, mutual activities and security of community living to counter the effects of the isolation and loneliness of old age, including through the provision of homes, accommodation or other care facilities to:</b></p> <p>i. <b>the infirm;</b></p> <p>ii. <b>persons who are, by reason of their age, ill health, accident or infirmity, wholly or in part, unable to maintain themselves by their exertion;</b></p> <p>iii. <b>aged persons; and</b></p> <p>iv. <b>persons who, in the opinion of the Division Council, are in circumstances which necessitate such care;</b></p> <p>d) <b>acting in a manner consistent with that of a public benevolent institution;</b></p> <p>e) <b>providing assistance and contribution to any benevolent purpose related to the Objects listed in subclauses 3.1(a) to 3.1(d) above; and</b></p> <p>f) <b>carrying out any other activities which are ancillary to or otherwise in furtherance of the Objects listed in subclauses 3.1(a) to 3.1(e).</b></p>	<p>The Objects have been updated after receiving advice from the ACNC that following a review, they were of the opinion that the objects did not reflect RAAFA's status as a Public Benevolent Institution.</p> <p>The loss of this status would not accurately reflect the activities of the Association and the benevolent works undertaken.</p> <p>This would also have serious financial implications for Members who are also residents of our retirement villages as the increased costs of operating RAAFA would be passed on to them in order to keep RAAFA financially sustainable.</p> <p>The specific reference to the Aviation Heritage Museum has been removed as the running of a Museum is not considered to be a benevolent activity by the ACNC. Instead the museum is now covered under point 3.1 (f) in the new Rules.</p>
4.0 Powers of the Division	<p>(a) In accordance with the Act, the Division may do all things necessary or convenient for carrying <b>on the business of the Division and in pursuit of the Objects and may...</b></p> <p>as trust funds may be invested under Part III of the Trustees Act 1962; or...</p>	<p>a) In accordance with the Act, the Division may do all things necessary or convenient for carrying <b>out and pursuing the Objects, including to...</b></p> <p>A. as trust funds may be invested under Part III of the Trustees Act 1962 <b>(WA)</b>; or</p>	<p>Update of wording for clarity.</p> <p>Update of wording for clarity.</p>
5.2 Membership Classes	<p>Membership of the Division will be divided into the following 5 classes:</p> <p>(a) Ordinary Members;</p> <p>(b) Junior Members;</p> <p>(c) Life Members;</p> <p>(d) Honorary Members; and</p> <p>(e) Fully Subscribed Members.</p>	<p>Membership of the Division will be divided into the following 8 classes:</p> <p>a) Ordinary Members;</p> <p>b) Life Members;</p> <p>c) <b>Service Members;</b></p> <p>d) <b>Corporate Members;</b></p> <p>e) Honorary Members;</p> <p>f) Fully Subscribed Members;</p> <p>g) <b>Associate Members;</b> and</p> <p>h) Junior Members.</p>	<p>Update classes of Membership to align with the National Constitution.</p>
5.3 Right to receive notice of and attend General Meetings		<p><b>5.3 Right to receive notice of and attend General Meetings</b></p> <p><b>Notwithstanding any other provision of this rule 5, all Members are entitled to receive notice of and attend General Meetings.</b></p>	<p>Update of wording for clarity.</p>
5.4 Ordinary Membership	<p>(a) A person may <b>apply</b> for Ordinary Membership if the person...</p> <p>(b) Subject to rule 9.3, Ordinary Members shall have the right to:</p> <p>(i) <b>vote at all General Meetings</b></p>	<p>a) A person may <b>qualify</b> for Ordinary Membership if the person...</p> <p>a) <b>vi. is not an employee or contractor of RAAFA</b></p> <p>b) Subject to rule 9.3, Ordinary Members shall have the right to:</p> <p>i. <b>attend and vote at all General Meetings</b></p>	<p>Update of wording for clarity.</p> <p>Clarification on a long-standing informal rule that employees or contractors of RAAFA may not also be Members.</p> <p>Update of wording for clarity.</p>
5.5 Life Membership	<p>(a) Where the Division desires to honour a Member, the Division Council may...</p>	<p>a) Where the Division desires to honour a Member <b>of the Air Force Association</b>, the Division Council may...</p> <p>d) <b>Subject to rule 9.3, Life Members shall have the right to:</b></p> <p>i. <b>attend and vote at all General Meetings; and</b></p> <p>ii. <b>stand for election to positions on the Division Council.</b></p>	<p>Update of wording for clarity and around associated rights.</p>



Rules' Reference	Current Rules Key: <b>deletions</b>	Proposed Amendment to Rules Key: <b>additions</b>	Reason For Change
5.6 Service Membership		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A person serving in the Australian Defence Force may, during that service, apply to be a Service Member.</li> <li>b) A person serving in an Allied Defence Force as a Liaison or Exchange Officer to the Australian Defence Force may, during that service and attachment, apply to be a Service Member.</li> <li>c) A Service Member is not required to pay an annual subscription fee, shall have the right to attend any General Meeting but is not entitled to vote or hold office.</li> </ul>	Additional class of Membership with associated rights.
5.7 Corporate Membership		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A business operating within Australia may apply to be a Corporate Member.</li> <li>b) A Corporate Member must pay the Annual Subscription as may be set from time to time by the Division Council.</li> <li>c) The nominated representative(s) of a Corporate Member shall have the right to attend any General Meeting but is not entitled to vote or hold office.</li> </ul>	Additional class of Membership with associated rights.
5.8 Honorary Membership	(b) An Honorary Member shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Division or hold any office and shall not be required to pay an Annual Subscription.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) An Honorary Member shall not be required to pay an Annual Subscription.</li> <li>c) An Honorary Member shall have the right to attend any General Meeting but is not entitled to vote at any meeting of the Division or hold any office.</li> </ul>	Update of wording for clarity.
5.10 Associate Membership		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A person who is not eligible for any other class of Membership may apply to be an Associate Member.</li> <li>b) An Associate Member:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. must be 18 years of age or over;</li> <li>ii. has paid the Annual Subscription (if any) as set from time to time by Division Council; and</li> <li>iii. has the right to attend any General Meeting but is not entitled to vote at any meeting of the Division or hold any office.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Additional class of Membership with associated rights.
5.11 Junior Membership	(b) Junior Members shall have no rights to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) vote at any General Meetings; or</li> <li>(ii) stand for election to <b>positions on the Division Council.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) Junior Members shall have the right to attend any General Meeting.</li> <li>c) Junior Members shall have no rights to:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. vote at any General Meetings; or</li> <li>ii. stand for election to <b>hold office.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Update of wording for clarity.
5.12 Admission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) A person who wishes to become an Ordinary Member or a Junior Member and who is eligible for Membership must complete the application form as prescribed by Division Council from time to time.</li> <li>(iii) payment of the first Annual Subscription (if applicable) to the <b>State</b> Secretary; and</li> <li>(b) Acceptance by the Division Council of an application for Membership is at the discretion of the Division Council which is not required to give any reasons if an application for Membership is refused.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A person who wishes to become an Ordinary Member or a Junior Member and who is eligible for Membership must complete the <b>Membership</b> Application form as prescribed by Division Council from time to time.</li> <li>iii. payment of the first Annual Subscription (if applicable) to the Secretary; and</li> <li>b) Acceptance by the Division Council <b>Executive Committee</b> of an application for Membership is at the discretion of the Division Council <b>Executive Committee</b> which is not required to give any reasons if an application for Membership is refused.</li> </ul>	Update of wording for clarity.  Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
5.13 Transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) has completed the Membership <b>application</b> form;</li> <li>e) has paid the Annual Subscription (if any) set from time to time by the Division Council; <b>and</b></li> <li>f) otherwise meets any eligibility requirements for a Member of the relevant class of Membership;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) has completed the Membership <b>Application</b> form;</li> <li>e) has paid the Annual Subscription (if any) set from time to time by the Division Council;</li> <li>f) otherwise meets any eligibility requirements for a Member of the relevant class of Membership; <b>and,</b></li> </ul>	Update of wording for clarity.
6.0 Cessation of Membership	(a) receipt by the <b>State</b> Secretary or another Division Councillor of a notice from a Member...	(a) receipt by the Secretary or another Division Councillor of a notice from a Member...	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
7.1 Suspension and Expulsion	(e) <b>In accordance with clause 25 of the National Rules</b> , a Member who is suspended or expelled following a decision of the Division Council under rule 7.1(b) may within 14 days after the date of his or her suspension or expulsion, appeal against the decision of the Division Council to the National Council.	(e) A Member who is suspended or expelled following a decision of the Division Council under rule 7.1(b) may within 14 days after the date of his or her suspension or expulsion, appeal against the decision of the Division Council to the National Council.	Amended to avoid having to change the Rules each time that the National Rules are updated.
8.0 Membership Register	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The <b>State</b> Secretary, on behalf of the Division, must comply with the Act by keeping and maintaining in an up to date condition a Membership Register and Members' postal or residential addresses.</li> <li>(b) Subject to rule 19.2(c), upon the request of a Member, the <b>State</b> Secretary shall make the Membership Register available for inspection by the Member.</li> <li>(e) The <b>State</b> Secretary must delete the name of a person who dies or who ceases to be a Member under rule 6 or rule 7 from the Membership Register.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The Secretary, on behalf of the Division, must comply with the Act by keeping and maintaining in an up to date condition a Membership Register and Members' postal or residential addresses.</li> <li>b) Subject to rule 19.2(c), upon the request of a Member, the Secretary shall make the Membership Register available for inspection by the Member.</li> <li>e) The Secretary must delete the name of a person who dies or who ceases to be a Member under rule 6 or rule 7 from the Membership Register.</li> </ul>	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.



Rules' Reference	Current Rules Key: <b>deletions</b>	Proposed Amendment to Rules Key: <b>additions</b>	Reason For Change
9.4 Obligations of Members		<p>Each Member must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Treat all staff, contractors and representatives of the Association or branch (as the case may be) with respect and courtesy at all times;</li> <li>b) Maintain and enhance the standards, quality and reputation of both the Association and Branch (as the case may be);</li> <li>c) Not act in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the objects or the interests or reputation the Association or Branch (as the case may be); and</li> <li>d) Pay any required annual subscriptions.</li> </ul> <p>The Rules of the WA Division forms a contract between each of the Members and the Association or Branch (as the case may be) and each Member is bound by these Rules and By-Laws.</p>	To align the Membership with the ethos and values of the Association having particular regard to founding principles of the Association.
10.2 Quorum	The quorum for a General Meeting shall be 50 Members entitled to attend and vote.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The quorum at all General Meetings is the lesser of:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 25 Members who are entitled to attend and vote; and</li> <li>ii. 5% of Members who are entitled to attend and vote.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the notified commencement time of a general meeting, then:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. in the case of a special general meeting, the meeting lapses; or</li> <li>ii. in the case of the annual general meeting, the meeting is adjourned to:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. the same time and day in the following week; and</li> <li>B. the same place, unless the chairperson specifies another place at the time of the adjournment or written notice of another place is given to the Members before the day to which the meeting is adjourned.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>c) If:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. A quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the commencement time of an annual general meeting held under rule 10.2(b); and</li> <li>ii. At least 2 Ordinary Members are present at the meeting,</li> </ul>                             those members present are taken to constitute a quorum.                         </li> </ul>	<p>In recent years, the number of attendees at the AGM has reduced, to the effect that one AGM was not quorate and was required to be reconvened at a later date.</p> <p>This amendment is to allow for a reduced number of Members for a meeting to be quorate, whilst also retaining a reasonable number to ensure some diversity of opinion is reflected at each meeting.</p> <p>This update also reflects contemporary practice around reconvened General Meetings and the quorum required for those.</p>
10.3 Attendance of Division Councillors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The State President, the Division Council Chairperson and the State Secretary shall attend all General Meetings.</li> <li>(b) The Division Council Chairperson shall take the chair and the State Secretary will ensure that the proceedings are recorded.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The President, the Division Council Chairperson and the Secretary shall attend all General Meetings.</li> <li>(b) The Division Council Chairperson shall take the chair and the Secretary will ensure that the proceedings are recorded.</li> </ul>	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
10.4 Voting	(a) Each Member who is entitled to vote and is present in person at a General Meeting is entitled to a deliberative vote.	(a) Each Member who is entitled to vote and is present at a General Meeting is entitled to a deliberative vote.	Update of wording for clarity.
10.5 Members' Resolution	Subject to the Act and the management powers vested in the Division Council, at least 50 Members who are entitled to vote may give the Division Council notice of a resolution that they propose to move at an Annual General Meeting. Any notice of a resolution by Members must be received by the State Secretary not later than 84 days before the Annual General Meeting.	Subject to the Act and the management powers vested in the Division Council, at least 100 Members who are entitled to vote may give the Division Council notice of a resolution that they propose to move at an Annual General Meeting. Any notice of a resolution by Members must be received by the Secretary not later than 84 days before the Annual General Meeting	With a wide and diverse Membership, increasingly less derived from Service Personnel, this change is to ensure that the Association responds to the wider Membership issues rather than concentrating on issues of concern to very few.
10.6 Agenda Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) All items for inclusion on the agenda paper, including any notice of a resolution that is proposed by Division Council or Members, for the Annual General Meeting must be received by the State Secretary not later than 84 days before the Annual General Meeting.</li> <li>(b) The State Secretary shall send the relevant meeting documentation to all Members not later than 28 days before the Annual General Meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) All items for inclusion on the agenda paper, including any notice of a resolution that is proposed by Division Council or Members, for the Annual General Meeting must be received by the Secretary not later than 84 days before the Annual General Meeting.</li> <li>(b) The Secretary shall send the relevant meeting documentation to all Members not later than 28 days before the Annual General Meeting.</li> </ul>	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
10.7 Annual General Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 31 October each year.</li> <li>(b) The Division Council shall decide the time, date and place for the meeting and the State Secretary shall advise all Members of the time, date and place of the Annual General Meeting at least 112 days before the scheduled date</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 6 months after the end of the financial year each year.</li> <li>(b) The Division Council shall decide the time, date and place for the meeting and the Secretary shall advise all Members of the time, date and place of the Annual General Meeting at least 112 days before the scheduled date</li> </ul>	Change to reflect contemporary best practice that gives flexibility to the Association around the timing of Annual General Meetings.
10.8 Special General Meetings	(c) The State Secretary shall determine the date for a Special General Meeting and advise all Members in writing of the time, date and place of the Special General Meeting, the business to be discussed and any notice of a resolution that is proposed by Division Council or Members, at least 28 days before the proposed date.	(c) The Secretary shall determine the date for a Special General Meeting and advise all Members in writing of the time, date and place of the Special General Meeting, the business to be discussed and any notice of a resolution that is proposed by Division Council or Members, at least 28 days before the proposed date.	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
10.10 Use of Technology		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The presence of a Member at a General Meeting need not be by attendance in person but may be by that Member and each other Member at the meeting being simultaneously in contact by any technology that:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Gives the Members as a whole in those places a reasonable opportunity to participate in proceedings;</li> <li>ii. Enables the chair of the meeting to be aware of proceedings in each place; and</li> <li>iii. Enables the Members in each place to vote on a show of hands and on a poll.</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) A Member who participates in a General Meeting as allowed under subrule (a) is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the Member votes at the Meeting, the Member is taken to have voted in person.</li> </ul>	<p>Change to reflect contemporary best practice that reflects major improvements in technology.</p> <p>This will allow Members to attend meetings from a location closer to their own homes and reduce the need to travel potentially long distances to Bull Creek.</p>



Rules' Reference	Current Rules Key: <b>deletions</b>	Proposed Amendment to Rules Key: <b>additions</b>	Reason For Change
11.1 Composition and Number of Division Councillors	(c) The Division Councillors under rule 11.1(a)(i) will include the Division Officers.	(c) The Division Councillors <b>elected</b> under rule 11.1(a)(i) will include the Division Officers.	Update of wording for clarity.
11.2 Term of Office	(a) The Elected Division Councillors, including the Division Officers, shall be elected for <b>2</b> years by the Members in accordance with the procedures set out in these Rules and shall take office at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting at which they are elected.  (b) The Appointed Division Councillors shall be appointed for a term of <b>2</b> years by the Division Council and shall take office on the date appointed by the Division Council.	a) The Elected Division Councillors, including the Division Officers, shall be elected for a <b>term of 3</b> years by the Members in accordance with the procedures set out in these Rules and shall take office at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting at which they are elected.  b) The Appointed Division Councillors shall be appointed for a term of <b>3</b> years by the Division Council and shall take office on the date appointed by the Division Council.  c) <b>A Division Councillor is considered, upon the passing of the service period determined under either rule 11.2(a) or rule 11.2(b), to have retired as a Division Councillor and is eligible to be re-elected to the Division Council, provided that no Division Councillor may serve more than two consecutive terms, without stepping down for at least one year.</b>	This reflects best practice for Office bearers and whilst the term limits have increased by 1 year, the number of consecutive terms are limited to 2, preventing Office bearers from monopolising their positions.  This will also ensure that new views are regularly being introduced into Division Council thus reflecting the changing demographics of the Members.
11.3 Qualifications of Division Councillors		a) <b>A person is eligible as a Division Councillor if the person is:</b>  i. <b>At least 18 years old;</b>  ii. <b>Not disqualified from being a director of a company or a responsible person of a charity under the Corporations Act or ACNC Act unless they have been given permission to be a responsible person; and</b>  iii. <b>substantially satisfies the skills, and competencies and compliance checks required, as defined by the Division Council from time to time.</b>	This reflects current best practice and ensures that Division Councillors hold at least the minimum standard of skills and competencies to ensure that the Association is meeting all required Governance and Compliance requirements as stipulated by the various regulatory authorities to whom it is responsible.
11.5 Division Council Chairperson	(a) Unless rule 11.4(b) applies, the <b>State</b> President will be the Division Council Chairperson.  (b) The Division Council may appoint an alternate Elected Division Councillor as the Division Council Chairperson if the <b>State</b> President notifies the Division Council that he or she is unwilling or unable to act as the Division Council Chairperson.	(a) Unless rule 11.5(b) applies, the President will be the Division Council Chairperson.  (b) The Division Council may appoint an alternate Elected Division Councillor as the Division Council Chairperson if the President notifies the Division Council that he or she is unwilling or unable to act as the Division Council Chairperson.	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
11.6 Division Council Deputy Chairperson	(a) Unless rule 11.5(b) applies, the <b>State</b> Vice President will be the Division Council Deputy Chairperson.  (b) The Division Council may appoint an alternate Elected Division Councillor to be the Division Council Deputy Chairperson if the <b>State</b> Vice President is the Division Council Chairperson appointed under rule 11.4(b).	(a) Unless rule 11.6(b) applies, the Vice President will be the Division Council Deputy Chairperson.  (b) The Division Council may appoint an alternate Elected Division Councillor to be the Division Council Deputy Chairperson if the Vice President is the Division Council Chairperson appointed under rule 11.5(b).	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
11.7 Nomination an Election Process	(c) The <b>State</b> Secretary shall by way of a notice in an issue of the Official Journal  i. call for nominations for <b>the offices</b> to be filled;  (d) The <b>State</b> Secretary may declare a nomination invalid and the Candidate ineligible for election if the...	(c) The Secretary shall by way of a notice in an issue of the Official Journal  i. call for nominations for <b>election to Division Council</b> to be filled;  (d) The Secretary may declare a nomination invalid and the Candidate ineligible for election if the...	Update of wording for clarity.
11.9 Casual Vacancy	(a)(ii) resigns by notice in writing delivered to the Division Council Chairperson or, if the Division Councillor is the Division Council Chairperson, to the <b>State</b> Secretary...	(a)(ii) resigns by notice in writing delivered to the Division Council Chairperson or, if the Division Councillor is the Division Council Chairperson, to the Secretary...	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
12.1 Powers of the Division Council	(b) may delegate as it sees fit any powers to the CEO, <b>State</b> Executive or <b>another</b> committee of the Division Council.	(b) may delegate as it sees fit any powers to the CEO, Executive <b>Committee</b> or <b>any other</b> Committee of the Division Council.	Update of wording for clarity.
12.3 Duties of Division Officers	(a)The <b>State</b> President  (ii) will sign all documents requiring the <b>State</b> President's signature.  (b) <b>State</b> Vice President  (i) <b>The State Vice President</b> will assist the <b>State</b> President in carrying out the duties specified in rule 12.3(a).  (ii) <b>If the State</b> President is absent from duty or from any meeting at which the <b>State</b> President is required, the <b>State</b> Vice President shall take the <b>State</b> President's place and shall assume whatever authority the <b>State</b> President would ordinarily exercise for that occasion.  (c) <b>State</b> Secretary  (i) <b>The State Secretary</b> is responsible to the Division Council and in addition to other duties specified...	(a)The President:  (ii) will sign all documents requiring the President's signature.  (b) Vice President:  (i) will assist the President in carrying out the duties specified in rule 12.3(a); <b>and</b>  (ii) <b>if the President</b> is absent from duty or from any meeting at which the President is required, the Vice President shall take the President's place and shall assume whatever authority the President would ordinarily exercise for that occasion.  (c) Secretary:  (i) is responsible to the Division Council and in addition to other duties specified...  (ii) <b>if the Secretary</b> is absent from duty or from any meeting at which the Secretary is required, the President shall appoint another member of the Division Council to take the Secretary's place and they shall assume whatever authority the Secretary would ordinarily exercise for that occasion.	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.  Make provision for any instances where the Secretary may be unable to perform their duties and allowing the appointment of another Division Councillor in their stead for that occasion.



Rules' Reference	Current Rules Key: <b>deletions</b>	Proposed Amendment to Rules Key: <b>additions</b>	Reason For Change
12.4 Vacancy of the Office of President	12.4 Vacancy of the Office of <b>State</b> President If the office of the <b>State</b> President falls vacant: (a) the <b>State</b> Vice President shall assume the office of <b>State</b> President until the declaration of the poll at the next Annual General Meeting; and (b) the position of the Division Councillor appointed as <b>State</b> Vice President is considered vacant and shall be filled in accordance with rule 11.8(b).	12.4 Vacancy of the Office of President If the office of the President falls vacant: (a) the Vice President shall assume the office of President until the declaration of the poll at the next Annual General Meeting; and (b) the position of the Division Councillor appointed as Vice President is considered vacant and shall be filled in accordance with rule 11.9(b).	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
12.6 Remuneration of Division Councillor	(b) The Division Council will from time to time prepare a remuneration policy for the remuneration of Division Councillors, which must be presented together with its recommendations for the approval of the Members at an Annual General Meeting.	(b) The Division Council will from time to time prepare a remuneration policy for the remuneration of Division Councillors, which must be presented together with its recommendations for the approval of the Members by <b>ordinary resolution</b> at an Annual General Meeting.	Update of wording for clarity.
12.8 Division Council Advisory Groups	12.8 Division Council <b>Committees</b> (a) The Division Council may form advisory <b>committees</b> for the purpose of advising the Division Council on any matter or for any purpose it considers fit and appropriate. (b) The members of an advisory <b>committee</b> shall include at least one member from Division Council and may include individuals other than its members, where members of Division Council determine that those individuals have the experience, skills and knowledge to contribute to the advisory <b>committee</b> . (c) <b>Committees</b> created by the Division Council are responsible for the purpose and role determined by the Division Council and must report back to Division Council and provide minutes of each meeting to Division Council. (d) Each <b>committee</b> created by the Division Council shall have the power delegated to it by the Division Council but that power shall not exceed the power vested in the Division Council.	12.8 Division Council Advisory <b>Groups</b> (a) The Division Council may form advisory <b>groups</b> for the purpose of advising the Division Council on any matter or for any purpose it considers fit and appropriate. (b) The members of an advisory <b>group</b> shall include at least one member from Division Council and may include individuals other than its members, where members of Division Council determine that those individuals have the experience, skills and knowledge to contribute to the advisory <b>group</b> . (c) <b>Advisory groups</b> created by the Division Council are responsible for the purpose and role determined by the Division Council and must report back to Division Council <b>or Division Council Committee</b> and provide minutes of each meeting to Division Council. (d) Each <b>advisory group</b> created by the Division Council <b>or Division Council Committees</b> shall have the power delegated to it by the Division Council but that power shall not exceed the power vested in the Division Council.	Update of wording for clarity.  Update to more contemporary description of advisory groups and to help distinguish from Executive Committees.
13.1 Frequency	The Division Council shall meet at least <b>every 2 months</b> . Meetings shall be held at the time and place determined by the <b>State</b> Secretary and advised to Division Councillors.	The Division Council shall meet at least <b>six (6) times per calendar year</b> . Meetings shall be held at the time and place determined by the Secretary and advised to Division Councillors.	To reflect current best practice and give flexibility around the timing of meetings.
13.2 Special Meetings	Special meetings of the Division Council shall be called by the <b>State</b> Secretary on the direction of the Division...	Special meetings of the Division Council shall be called by the Secretary on the direction of the Division...	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
13.7 Division Council Meeting Minutes	The Division Council meeting minutes are the property of the Division Council, confidential and not available for inspection by Members.	(a) <b>The Division Council must ensure that minutes are taken and kept of each Division Council meeting.</b> (b) <b>The minutes must record the following:</b> i. <b>the names of the Division Councillors present at the meeting;</b> ii. <b>the name of any other person attending the meeting (and entitled to do so in accordance with these Rules and the Act);</b> iii. <b>the business considered at the meeting;</b> iv. <b>any motion on which a vote is taken at the meeting and the result of the vote.</b> (c) <b>The minutes of a Division Council meeting must be entered in the Division's minute book within 30 days after the meeting is held.</b> (d) <b>The Chairperson must ensure that the minutes of a Division Council meeting are reviewed and signed as correct by:</b> i. <b>the Chairperson of the meeting; or</b> ii. <b>the Chairperson of the next Division Council meeting.</b> (e) <b>When the minutes of a Division Council meeting have been signed as correct they are, until the contrary is proved, evidence that:</b> i. <b>the meeting to which the minutes relate was duly convened and held; and</b> ii. <b>the matters recorded as having taken place at the meeting took place as recorded; and</b> iii. <b>any appointment purportedly made at the meeting was validly made.</b> (f) <b>Division Council meeting minutes are the property of the Division Council, confidential and not available for inspection by Members.</b>	Update to give more clarity with regard to the processes and procedures around the recording of Minutes at meetings of Division Council.
15.1 Establishment of Branches	(b) A Branch must consist of at least 10 <b>Financial</b> Members with a common interest.	(b) A Branch must consist of at least 10 Members with a common interest.	Update of wording for clarity.
15.2 Branch Meetings		(d) <b>Where Branches receive funding from RAAFA or grants, the acquittal process is required as per rule 15.5(b).</b>	Update to ensure that funds of the Association are acquitted correctly.
17.0 Division Delegates to National Council	(a) The <b>State</b> President will be a delegate to represent the Division at National Council meetings and will serve as and when required on the National Council. (b) The Division Council may appoint an alternate delegate who may from time to time be required to represent the Division in place of the <b>State</b> President under rule 17(a). (c) <b>vote at all times in accordance with any directives as may be issued from time to time by the Division Council; and</b>	(a) The President will be a delegate to represent the Division <b>at meetings of the National body of the Air Force Association</b> and will serve as and when required on the <b>governing committee of the National body.</b> (b) The Division Council may appoint an alternate delegate who may from time to time be required to represent the Division in place of the President under rule 17(a).	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.  Remove the inability for Delegates at National Council meetings to vote according to the debate and contributions at that meeting rather than by directive.  Allow for future changes in the structure of the National Council so that this constitution does not need updating to reflect any changes such as they may be.



Rules' Reference	Current Rules Key: <b>deletions</b>	Proposed Amendment to Rules Key: <b>additions</b>	Reason For Change
19.1 Custody of Documents	The records, books and documents of the Division are to be kept at the Division's head office under the custody of the <b>State</b> Secretary or CEO, as appropriate to each of their responsibilities.	The records, books and documents of the Division are to be kept at the Division's head office under the custody of the Secretary or CEO, as appropriate to each of their responsibilities.	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
19.2 Inspection of Documents	(b) The documents listed under rule 19.2(a) shall be open to inspection by Members during the Division's head office opening times.	b) The documents listed under rule 19.2(a) shall be open to inspection by Members:  i. <b>for free of charge; and</b>  ii. <b>during the Division's head office opening times</b>  d) <b>The member must not use or disclose information in a record or document referred to in rule 19.2(a) except for a purpose:</b>  i. <b>that is directly connected with the affairs of the Division; or</b>  ii. <b>that is related to complying with a requirement of the Act.</b>	Update of wording for clarity.
19.3 Copying Records	A Member inspecting the documents under rule 19.2 may sight the documents and <b>may make a copy of or take</b> an extract from the documents at a reasonable cost to be determined by Division Council from time to time, but shall not be permitted to remove any part of those documents from the Division's head office.	A Member inspecting the documents under rule 19.2 may sight the documents and <b>if a copy or an extract from the documents is requested, a written request must be provided to inform the purpose for which the copy or extract is required and declaring that the purpose is directly linked to association business.</b>  <b>A copy or an extract will be provided</b> at a reasonable cost to be determined by Division Council from time to time, but shall not be permitted to remove any part of those <b>original</b> documents from the Division's head office.	Update of wording for clarity.
22.1 General	The common seal will be kept in safe custody by the <b>State</b> Secretary and only used with the express authority of the Division Council.	The common seal will be kept in safe custody by the Secretary and only used with the express authority of the Division Council.	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
22.2 Use by the Division	... the <b>State</b> President and the CEO as determined by Division Council policy from time to time.	... the President and the CEO as determined by Division Council policy from time to time.	Update to more contemporary titles for office bearers of the Association.
23.1 Amending the Rules	(a) Subject to rule 23.1(b), these Rules may not be replaced or amended except by Special Resolution...	a) Subject to <b>sections 31 and 33 of the Act</b> and rule 23.1(b), these Rules may not be replaced or amended except by Special Resolution...	Update of wording for clarity.
23.2 Approvals for Amending or Replacing the Rules	(a) <b>Within 14 days</b> of passing any amendment to or replacement of the Rules, the <b>State</b> Secretary must provide the Department of <b>Racing, Gaming and Liquor</b> with a certified copy of the amended or replaced Rules.  (b) <b>Within one month of passing any amendment to or replacement of the Rules, the State Secretary must provide the Department of Commerce with a certified copy of the amended or replaced Rules.</b>  (c) <b>These Rules take effect when section 17(2) of the Act is complied with and the approval of the Commissioner for Consumer Protection is given to the alteration of the objects or purposes under section 19 of the Act.</b>	a) <b>Within one month</b> of passing any amendment to or replacement of the Rules, the Secretary must provide the Department of <b>Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety</b> with a certified copy of the amended or replaced Rules in <b>accordance with section 30(3) of the Act.</b>  b) <b>These Rules take effect on incorporation of the Division in accordance with the Act.</b>	Update to reflect DMIRS as the appropriate authority for the submission and final approving body for any changes to the Rules of the Association.

## You can go too

They're weird, they're wonderful and many of them can't be found anywhere else in the world. And if you're wondering what we mean, we're talking about the Aussie animals at Perth Zoo.

If you haven't been to our state zoo for a while, you might be interested to know that you can actually go free of charge, thanks to RAAFA's corporate pass, which enables a RAAFA member, resident or staff to attend, along with three other guests, totally free of charge. And if you have little grandchildren under four years old, well they can get in any time for free too.

One RAAFA resident who recently took advantage of this generous offer is well known Cambrai Village local Ron Onions, who visited with his 16-year-old granddaughter, Gracelyn.

"Gracelyn made me go, but we had the best day out together,"

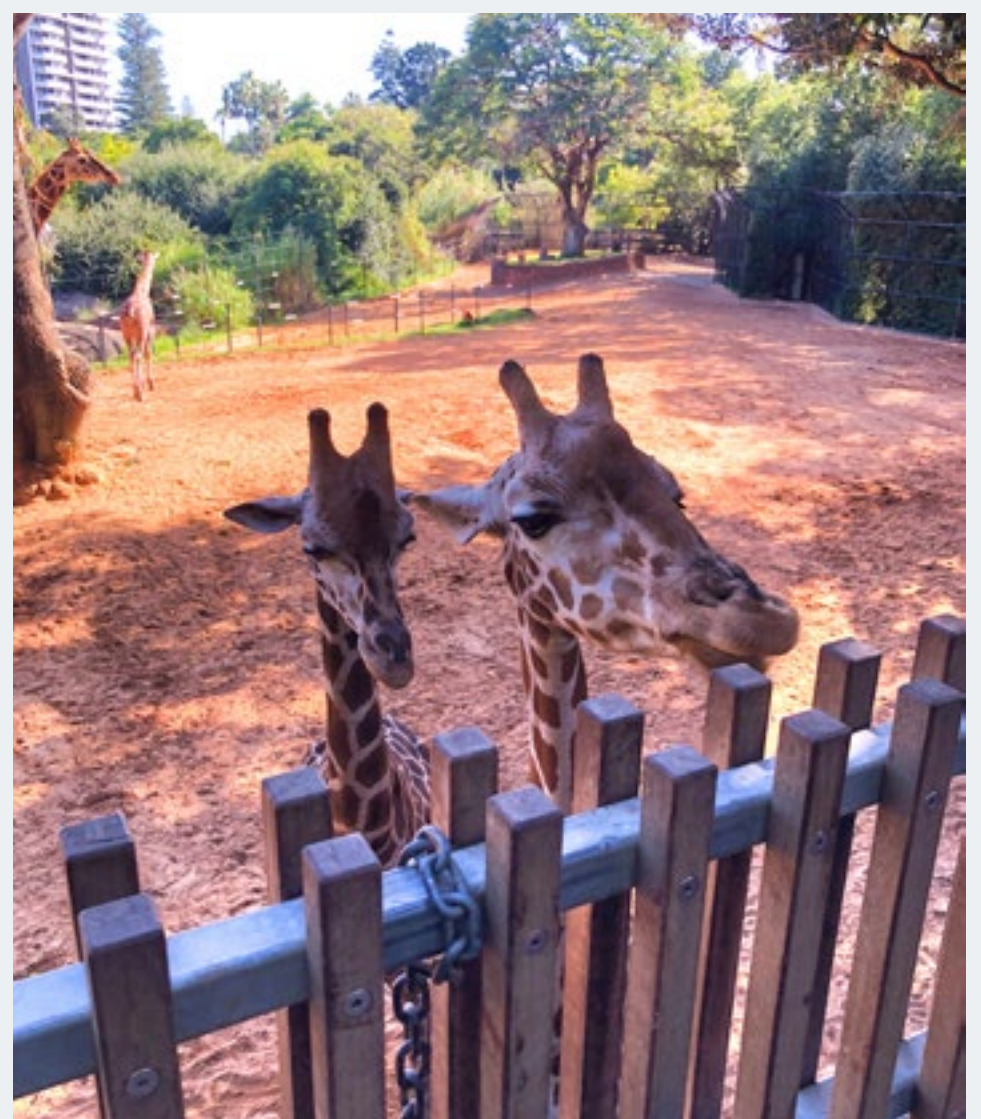
laughs Ron, who says he is keen for more of the RAAFA community to become aware of the free zoo pass.

"We went mainly to hand feed the giraffes which was a fantastic experience, and ended up staying for the day and enjoying some lunch, which was lovely.

"The gorgeous old Tricia might not be there anymore, but I really thought the whole experience was just great. Whoever is running the place is doing a great job."

Anyone from RAAFA who is keen on finding out more information about taking a trip to the zoo, free of charge, can contact Karyn Tulloch at the Central Support Office via the email: [zobookings@raafawa.org.au](mailto:zobookings@raafawa.org.au)

Perth Zoo is open every day of the year (including Christmas Day, Good Friday, Australia Day and New Year's Day), from 9.00am to 5.00pm.





# Serving as a family

Remembrance Day is an important day to reflect for centenarian and RAAFA member Alison Thomson, especially as all of her family served their country during WWII.

And very fortunately for the Edinburgh-born 102-year-old, her entire family survived the war years, including herself, as she too was called up to the Women's Royal Air Force when she was 20 years old, and went on to serve for four and a half years with the WRAF.

"I left school when I was 15 and started work as a shop assistant, but in 1940 I was called up and was sent to do training at the depot at RAF Bridgnorth, before being posted to RAF Lossiemouth in Scotland," says Alison, who still lives independently in her own Mount Pleasant home, despite her great age

"During the war years, I also spent time at Bomber Command stations at Mildenhall and Waddington.

"We were very lucky as a family because all of my brothers and sisters were in the army and Air Force, but we all survived, although I did have a cousin in Canada who was tragically killed in the line of duty."

Alison says that despite the hardships of war, she very much enjoyed her time in the WRAF

working as an equipment assistant, and as a result made friends from all over the world.

"When the war ended I joined the Edinburgh telephone exchange as a telephonist and soon after met my husband Robert who was also in the services," says Alison.

"You could say it was a bit of a whirlwind romance as we met at a dance and then we were married two weeks later. He had to go to Persia immediately afterwards and I was supposed to join him, but as he'd signed up as a single person I wasn't allowed to go, so I had to wait for a year until he came back."

Despite their unconventional start to married life, Alison and Robert were married for over 70 years, during which time they had two children and Robert, a welding engineer, started his own oil and gas business in London, before transferring it to Scotland when the North Sea's oil was discovered.

Subsequently, the couple managed a thriving business that saw 200 welders and inspectors working within the company at the height of its success.

In 1983, the pair immigrated to Australia, where they joined their daughter who had migrated to Perth two years before.



"I came out on holiday when I was in my early 60s to visit my daughter and her family and just loved it, I've never looked back and still very much enjoy living in Perth," adds Alison, who is a regular for lunch at RAAFA's AFME in Bull Creek.

"To this day, I enjoy maintaining my RAAFA connections and regularly meet my ex-service friends, quite often at the RAAFA Club.

"I know a lot of people at the estate, and I really enjoy the camaraderie still, the club is a great place to

spend time and I love catching up with old friends, and meeting new people."

AFME's Remembrance Day service will be held at 11.00am on Friday, 11 November.

Stop press: A belated happy birthday to Alison who reached the amazing milestone of 102 on 12 September, from all your friends at RAAFA.

## Getting to know the RAAFA community

Residents from RAAFA's new Challenger Court retirement estate were flying high recently following an excursion to the Aviation Heritage Museum, after which they went to lunch at the very popular RAAFA Club.

Organised as a welcome to the wider RAAFA community, the trip enabled residents from the Rockingham-based estate to meet and greet other residents at AFME, and learn more about RAAFA's warm, welcoming and inclusive culture.

Head of Clear Skies, Ian Craig, greeted the group of seniors over their morning coffee, before taking half of the group on a tour of the Museum, which for some was also a trip down memory lane.

Volunteer Paul Falconer-West also extended a warm welcome to the rest of the group, before sharing his wealth of knowledge and numerous stories behind the exhibits.

And the response from those who participated was exceptionally positive.

Resident Joan Salter, whose RAAF uncles were bombed whilst serving in Darwin, said the museum took her back down memory lane to the days of the war, and recollections

of the Japanese submarines arriving in Sydney when she was just a child.

"The pride and passion the staff took in their museum and how everybody was just so happy to help us was truly impressive," says Joan. "I particularly enjoyed watching the children interact with the various aircraft, and loved how they were encouraged to climb in and play with certain planes on display."

For Marlene Lawrence, a close family friend of past State President Peter Farden who was heavily involved in the museum, it was an opportunity to see the fruits of his passion and hard work that she had heard so much about.

"I loved the museum and was amazed with all the stories as I strolled around the exhibits," says the former nurse, who once worked at the Civil Flying school in 1966. "The experience also brought back memories of the young, passionate and dashing pilots who had all of their dreams ahead of them."

And for Trevor Ewers, the museum brought back memories of his



LtoR Paul Falconer-West, Marlene Lawrence, Barbara Deveney

childhood on the York Peninsula in South Australia.

"I can remember trainee pilots from the RAAF Base Edinburgh screaming low overhead with their Spitfires, sending schoolchildren laughing and on to their bellies," he recalls.

"Having served in the Cadets, Citizen Military Force and also having been conscripted into National Service as Infantry, the visit to the museum made me also realise how fortunate I was not to have faced the difficulties of war."

And word has it that, following the trip, residents of RAAFA Challenger Court have been talking up a storm about their museum excursion, with many keen for a second trip sometime soon.

## A swimming time

Many residents at Cambrai Village may not realise what has been going on quietly behind the scenes for many years to keep the pool in tip top condition.

Maureen Crafter and her late husband moved into Cambrai in April 2000 and immediately took an active interest in village affairs.

This has included volunteering to monitor the pool, checking chlorine and water levels when the grounds and maintenance staff were not in the village, especially on weekends and public holidays.

Division Councillor, Charles Page, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Maureen for her swimming contribution.





# Smooth sailing for Stewart

89-year-old Stewart Elston has had a passion for the ocean for as long as he can remember.

"I always wanted to go to sea," says the born and bred Sydneysider who was the middle of three boys. "Ever since I first began learning to read I chose books about ships and boats, it was all I ever wanted to do."

But following his passion wasn't all smooth sailing, as Stewart was unsuccessful in his application to join the Navy after failing his medical examination due to asthma.

"I was completely downhearted as I'd passed all of the other exams, and at the time my family was keen for me to become an accountant. I didn't know what accountants did, but I definitely knew I didn't want to become one," laughs Stewart, who also spent many years in the Sea Scouts as a young lad.

"So I got a job in the school holidays working for a greengrocer, and one day I knocked on a customer's door and a young man answered who explained that he was a sea cadet who was home on leave.

"I immediately threw in the job with the greengrocer and spent the rest of the school holidays visiting every shipping company I could find. That proved life changing, as soon after I was back at school and got summoned to the headmaster's office who explained he had just received a call from a man at a shipping company to ask if I wanted to start work the following week.

"The rest, as they say is history, but needless to say I became a seafarer and eventually a Master Mariner."

Stewart spent the next 12 years sailing the world's oceans - 10 of which were needed to become a fully qualified Master Mariner.

"I had many adventures over that time but two stand out in particular," he says.

"One was when we were caught in a typhoon; I can vividly remember standing on the bridge of the ship and watching as the bow was buried deep in the water and the only thing I could see was the mast, and then feeling the vessel rear up and shake itself off like a dog. It's times like that when a ship really comes to life and almost becomes a living creature.

"Another memorable experience was when the crew I was with were desperately trying to find the entrance to the Panama Canal in very heavy rain. I was asleep at the time, but suddenly woke up and felt there was something wrong. I went up to the bridge and realised the crew were lost and unsure in which direction to sail. Because I had sailed there before I could remember the landscape a little, and fortuitously there just happened to be a flash of lightning which enabled me to see the headland in the distance. We changed direction from the rocks ahead and I was able to direct the crew safely to land.

"I think if you've been at sea long enough, you develop a sixth sense which is why I'd bizarrely woken up and felt something wasn't right. We were very lucky that day."

It was while he was overseas that Stewart met his wife, Maris, who was working in a London hospital as



a radiographer, having trained in her hometown of Perth.

"We met in the Down Under Club which was full of homeless Australians in London," Stewart laughs. "We both caught different ships home and arrived back in Perth on 12 December 1960, and we married a few days later on 17 December."

After having three children, during which time Stewart worked as a Port Inspector, he decided that there was no way he could go back to sea with a wife and young children, so he applied for a job as an Air Traffic Controller, a role that took him and his family to Melbourne and Launceston, and then back to Perth over his 28-year career.

But despite his many years of working in aviation, his passion for

the ocean has never left him. And so, even today, Stewart drives to the South of Perth Yacht Club each week, where he's joined by his skipper of 25 years and a 'young' crew - the youngest of whom is aged 65 - to go sailing.

"I'm the oldest but I still sail for enjoyment and just love being on the water; anyone who has spent time on it will tell you it's both frightening and beautiful," he says.

"When you stand on a ship watching 25-metre waves, you realise how insignificant you are. Being on the ocean is undoubtedly the most enlightening thing and it's a passion I've never lost.

"I feel very fortunate that, even though I'm nearing 90, it's an experience I'm still able to continue to enjoy every week of my life."

## Flying high in a new role

The new manager at RAAFA's Aviation Heritage Museum admits he's excited to head up what he describes as one of Perth's best kept secrets.

48-year-old New Zealander, Trent Norris, remembers going to the museum when he first moved to Western Australia many years ago

with his Perth-born wife, but admits he hadn't been back until he visited for his job interview.

"I previously worked for the WA Museum as its commercial operations manager across Perth, Fremantle and our regional museums in Kalgoorlie, Albany and Geraldton," says Trent, who was

born and raised in a small dairy and farming community about 50km south of Auckland.

"During the 13 years I worked in that role, I was also seconded for a period as the Perth Museum Manager.

"And then when I saw the Aviation Museum job advertised, I jumped at the opportunity.

"When I came here for the interview and had a look around I was blown away. The museum has a phenomenal collection and the volunteers here are a wealth of knowledge, it really is a fantastic place to visit and I'd urge anyone who hasn't been here for a while to pay us a visit and see for yourself."

Trent admits to always having had an interest in aviation, notching up around 40 hours of flying when he was working towards his pilot licence as a young man, before the funds unfortunately ran out.

"I've always loved aviation and, although I don't have an Air Force

background, flying is something I'd love to pick up again one day, perhaps when the kids have left school," says the father of two - a 16-year-old son and 14-year-old daughter.

"I'm still on a steep learning curve, but the whole team here is exceptionally helpful, incredibly friendly and the volunteers have just the most remarkable stories, which at times are astonishing to hear.

"Our recently acquired Tornado is the most amazing aircraft. It makes a fantastic addition to our museum and is yet another reason why anyone reading this who hasn't visited us for a while should drop in, perhaps with their grandchildren in tow, and have a look for themselves."

Located at RAAFA's Air Force Memorial Estate in Bull Creek, the Aviation Heritage Museum is open every day of the week from 10.00am to 4.00pm (except Good Friday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).





# Celebrating veteran centenarians

The RAAFA team was as pleased as punch to host a special centenarian birthday celebration for ex-service men and women, as well as members, recently.

In total, 14 centenarians, six of whom included veterans and their families, attended a private celebration at AFME, which included a presentation and morning tea hosted by RAAFA executives and Royal Australian Air Force representatives.

"We felt it important to honour both our veterans and senior members who have reached such an incredible birthday milestone," said Ian Craig, Head of Clear Skies.

"These individuals have witnessed so much in their lives, including two World Wars, the landing of the man on the moon, and a myriad of world-shaping events."

Those invited ranged in age from 100 to 106 years young, and all were RAAFA members or veterans who reside across our retirement living

and residential care sites, as well as the broader community.

Clive Robartson, RAAFA's State President, said the event was a wonderful way to be able to recognise so many RAAFA members who had reached their centenary, many of whom had provided honourable and extensive service during WWII.

"Those who attended are simply wonderful people who, incredibly, some were born during the First World War and embody such a huge amount of history and who have extensively contributed to both Australian life and also their community," said Clive.



"It is hard to imagine the incredible lives they have lived and the changes they have seen and it was an honour to spend time with them

and to chat about their lives and memories."

## Award honour for Kylie

Registered nurse Kylie Russell is very much part of the RAAFA family.

Kylie was instrumental in launching RAAFA's homelessness program earlier in the year - the Andrew Russell Veteran's Living (ARVL) program - which is named after her late husband who was tragically killed in the line of duty in Afghanistan.

And so we were delighted to hear that Kylie - who is a RAAFA Division Councillor and works at the University of Notre Dame - had been nominated for a prestigious award by the Loyal Societies of Western Australia, to mark the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee year.

The Western Australian Cook Society's Queen's Platinum Jubilee Award is awarded to someone considered to lead by example and who is dedicated to the service and care of others, as exemplified by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

The accolade recognises a person who has volunteered a significant amount of their time, without the thought of personal gain, and who demonstrates the same sense of service and humility which the late Queen has exemplified throughout her reign.

And we were delighted to hear that, during an event at The Weld Club in Perth at the end of August, Kylie was bestowed the award, which recognises the tireless work she has undertaken to improve veteran legislation and compensation payments and ban landmines, as



**Kylie Russell with the Governor, the Hon Chris Dawson APM**

well as her unwavering commitment to nursing services in the army reserve and to counteracting homelessness in WA.

"It was such a surprise to receive the award and I was both delighted and humbled to be presented with it," says Kylie, who has worked as a volunteer nurse in East Timor during her service career, and also served in the Army Reserve 13th Brigade as a nursing lieutenant.

"I'm incredibly grateful to be acknowledged for my voluntary work in the veteran space, it's certainly very close to my heart and something I feel incredibly passionate about, and will do for the rest of my life, I'm sure."

Congratulations Kylie on receiving this prestigious award, from all of your friends, colleagues and supporters at RAAFA.

Stop Press: This article was written prior to the sad passing of Her Majesty the Queen.

## Removal company commended as they're sent packing

Five-star service can be hard to find these days, so when you're on the receiving end, it can be worth shouting about.

Pete's Removals has helped to pack up, move and unpack the worldly possessions of dozens of residents who previously called Sivyer, Harris, Ingram and Fraser units at AFME home, prior to them being demolished recently as reported in our page 1 story.

And time after time, the feedback offered from the residents who they've helped to move has been glowing.

"All the team were very thoughtful and nothing appeared to be too much trouble," says RAAFA's Retirement Living Coordinator, Debbie Beever.

"They really were excellent people to deal with, the staff were awesome and they were all very patient, which was obviously important to RAAFA.

"I can honestly say that no one had a bad word to say about them, they were incredibly hard-working and everyone who dealt with the team hasn't stopped raving about them."

These sentiments are backed up by one of AFME's much loved residents, who was recently moved by the small family business.

"They were wonderful young men who genuinely seemed to care," says AFME's Jean Oliver.

"Not only did they do a great job packing everything up, but they also unpacked everything and arranged it beautifully, I couldn't have been happier."

When told of the glowing reports about his staff, business owner Peter Hubeck said he was thrilled.

"I'm very lucky, I have great staff and they are lovely blokes," says Peter, who runs his business out of a factory unit in Bayswater, where he's ably supported by his 'better half' and bookkeeper Annette.

"The job that we do is physically hard and I appreciate that, it's why I look after my team and cook the guys breakfast in the morning. There's always bacon, eggs and coffee on the go, and then after work we often have a drink or two and talk about what worked that day and what we could have done better. It's how we continue to improve.

"Put simply though, it's been an absolute pleasure working with RAAFA. I think we moved close to 40 people and I know my fellas have enjoyed working with the residents out at Bull Creek, they've been an absolute pleasure to relocate."

For anyone looking for a great group of guys to help them move house at any point in the future, Peter's Removals can be contacted on 0400 018 345.



# Remembering on Remembrance Day

More than 100 years on from the end of WWI, residents and staff at AFME's Alice Ross-King Care Centre will remember members of the armed forces who served and died in the line of duty, ahead of Remembrance Day on Friday, 11 November.

Now aged 103, born and bred West Australian, Tom Newby, will attend a commemorative ceremony at the centre, as one of the declining number of Australians who served in the WWII conflict.

Aged just 21, Tom chose to enlist into the Army in August 1941, when

Australia came under increasing threat by the Japanese.

It meant packing his bags and undergoing training, where, serendipitously, he joined the 4th battalion in New South Wales, after a mortar bomb accident killed 14 young men who needed to be replaced immediately.

Tom subsequently spent time training at Rottneest Island, where he helped to build the island's wartime tunnel system and other underground shelters. This was followed by further training at Moora where he was involved with the coast guards. A little later, he received jungle training near Townsville and was then sent to New Guinea for 29 months, only leaving in March 1946, many months after the war had ended.

Tom, who was born and lived much of his life at Broomehill in the Great Southern, went on to marry his future wife Betty, and the couple had three daughters Mary, Joan and Anne.

"Dad didn't talk about the war years for a long time, but in the last decade or so he has opened up a lot more, and he's got very much more involved in things like the ANZAC march in the city," explains youngest daughter Anne.

"I know two of dad's best friends from the battalion were killed in the first week in New Guinea by a grenade, and that very much affected him.

"Remembrance Day as well as ANZAC day is an important and emotional day for dad. It's great to see the team at Alice Ross-King Care Centre taking the time to commemorate the exceptional contribution of all Australian servicemen and women for their bravery and selflessness."

Stop Press: A belated happy birthday to Tom, who reached the amazing milestone of 103 years young on 17 September. All of your friends at RAAFA wish you health and happiness, as you embark on your 104<sup>th</sup> year!



## WRAAF Branch WA

### Gwyn Braun

(For all 'Women of the Air Force')  
g1b3au@hotmail.com

The committee was re-elected at the Branch AGM in July.

### Upcoming events

Tuesday, 4 October, 11.30am, Wildflowers in Kings Park, BYO lunch.

Friday, November, 4.30pm to 6.30pm. Club Raffle roster at RAAFA Club Bull Creek. Afterwards stay for dinner, and a time to share what we are doing in our busy lives.

Tuesday, 8 November, 6.00pm Annual duck race. Please note the change of date to the second Tuesday of the month.

The Meg Olive room, AFME. Come along to be part of the spring duck racing season.

Tuesday, 6 December, 12noon, Christmas function. Keep the date free for some end of year fun.

Details are published in the WRAAF Newsletter. If you are interested in attending any of the events please email me if you are not on the Newsletter mailing list.

## Cambrai Village Branch

Welcome to the new branch committee elected at the August Branch AGM:

President - Geoff Sherman

Secretary - Sandra Livingston

Treasurer - Joe McKenna

Committee - Kevin Hill, Alana Hill, Ron Onions, Yvonne Cotton, Bob Cotton and Bill Beattie



**LtoR standing: Kevin Hill, Alana Hill, Ron Onions, Yvonne Cotton, Bob Cotton**  
**Seated: Sandra Livingston, Geoff Sherman, Joe McKenna**

## RAAFA Connect



For those who may not be familiar with the service, RAAFA Connect specialises in quality care for individuals with Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) and Veterans' Home Care (VHC) eligibility, as well as private services, home care packages and Commonwealth home support.

In other words, RAAFA's personalised in-home care service has been designed to support you to live a healthy, safe and independent life while remaining in the comfort of your own home.

Nurse Manager, Lorraine Sloan, says RAAFA's in-home support division offers clients a range of individualised services.

"We will work with the client to coordinate a support plan tailored

to their individual needs," says Lorraine.

"We are here to help clients remain as independent as possible to assist them to remain living in their own homes, and we would welcome a call from anyone who would like to discuss our services further."

RAAFA Connect nurses and support staff work together to improve a person's ability to stay at home. They do this by listening carefully to the needs required and coordinating a personalised service that specifically suits an individual's needs.

For more information on how RAAFA Connect can help you call 9288 8470 or [connect@raafawa.org.au](mailto:connect@raafawa.org.au).



# Club Bites

## MEADOW SPRINGS CLUB 9582 5375

The Beaufort Restaurant located in the RAAFA Club is a relaxing space to enjoy lunch with family and friends or groups.

All bookings for lunch, dinner, functions and short stay can be made at the bar.

### Weekly specials

Monday, Roast \$14.50

Tuesday, Morning tea and chat, 10.30am (gold coin donation for coffee)

Tuesday, Fish and chips lunch \$14.50

Wednesday, Club night - meal \$15.00, games night including bingo

Thursday, Movie afternoon on the big screen, includes tea, coffee and movie treat 2.00pm

Thursday, Kelly's pool from 3.30pm

Thursday, Happy hour, 4.30pm to 6.30pm

### Function facilities

Available for hire to all RAAFA members. Choose from the Beaufort Restaurant and Middleton Hall, which have a fully integrated audio and visual system, dance floor, cash bar and commercial kitchen ready to cater for any special event.

### Short stay accommodation

Time to get out and wonder out yonder!!!! Why not come down to beautiful Mandurah and enjoy the great outdoors, staying in one of our fully equipped short stay accommodation units.



Meadow Springs Bowling Club open day attended by the Hon David Templeman MLA (front right)

## MERRIWA CLUB

### Blue Gum Cafe

Pop down for one of our daily specials or sample something off the menu. Now open Wednesday 11.00am to 2.00pm and Thursday 10.00am to 2.00pm.

### Specials

Wednesday, Roast lunch \$15.00

Wednesday, Happy hour 4.00pm

Thursday, Morning tea from 10.00am

Thursday, lunch specials \$15.00

### Events

2nd and 4th Friday, Bistro night (bookings essential)

1st and 3rd Tuesday, Club night \$15.00 parmi or pasta (includes beverage)

2nd Monday, 2.00pm to 3.00pm afternoon tea scones jam and cream

### Short stay accommodation

Do you have family or friends that want to visit but you just don't have the room? Why not stay in our fully equipped short stay accommodation units. Bookings at Estate Office.



## CAMBRAI CLUB

9304 5400 or if unattended  
0417 922 658

### Specials

Tuesday and Wednesday, Happy hour 4.00pm

2nd Tuesday, Chicken Parmiti \$14.00, 6.00pm to 7.00pm Picardy Restaurant (bookings essential by 12noon Friday prior)

Wednesday, 2 course roast dinner \$23.00, 6.00pm Picardy Restaurant (bookings essential by 12noon Tuesday)

Wednesday, Morning tea, 10.00am to 11.00am

Friday, Bar/Bistro lunch, 12noon with offal option 2nd Friday (bookings essential)

Friday, Happy hour, 5.00pm (when function on)

### Events (check Club for details)

1st and 3rd Fridays - generally sundowner or function, 5.00pm



Derick Gooding

## BULL CREEK CLUB 9311 4460

Open for light breakfast and lunch Monday to Friday and dinner every Friday. Check Club for details.

### Weekly specials

Monday to Friday, light breakfast 9.00am to 10.00am

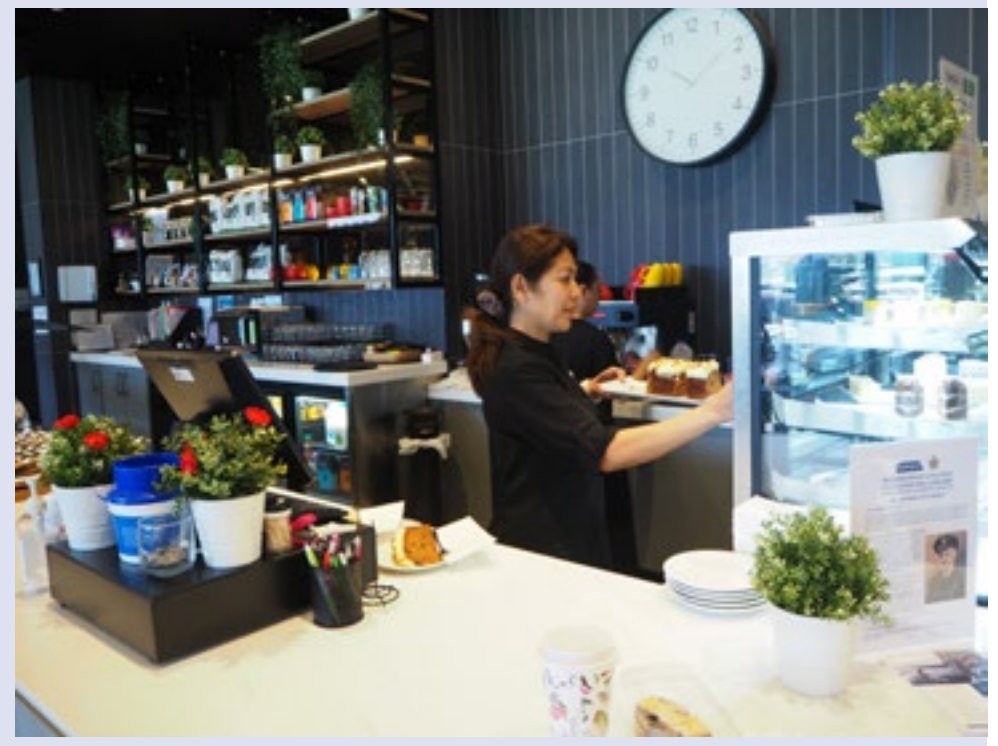
Monday, Roast \$17.00

Tuesday, Fish and chips \$17.00

1st and 3rd Thursday, Lamb shanks \$22.00

2nd and 4th Thursday, Lambs fry and bacon \$17.00

Monday and Wednesday, Happy hour 4.00pm





# RAAFA Wellbeing Team

## CAMBRAI VILLAGE

Vanessa Priestley  
9304 5280

## RAAFA ESTATE MERRIWA

Suzanne Free  
9400 3778

## AFME

Jo Oliver  
9311 4562

## ERSKINE GROVE

Angeline Carleton  
9586 4309

## RAAFA ESTATE MEADOW SPRINGS

Mischa Matthews  
9582 5369

## RAAFA AMITY VILLAGE ALBANY

Ceridwen Fitzpatrick  
9841 8311

### Merriwa Estate

#### Exercise right

Our Friday classes, Exercise Right for Active Ageing, run by exercise physiologists from ECU have been a great success. These classes assist in improving your balance, maintaining your independence, and making everyday tasks easier.

We have multiple classes running to

provide everyone easily accessible options to maintain strength and fitness, and most importantly age well.

The feedback has been great, as has the attendance - but there is still room for you to enjoy the benefits too. So, if you feel like trying out a class or giving your body the best chance at ageing well, come and join in. Contact Suzanne, for more information.



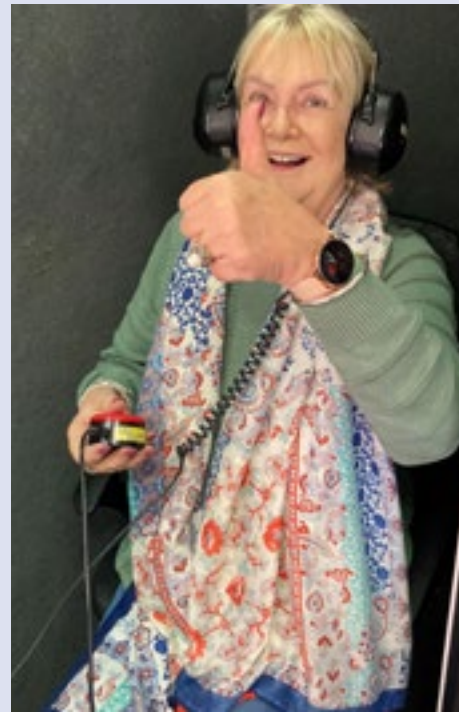
### Erskine Grove

#### Seasons sing

Our wonderful volunteers Paula Loser, Alex and Marlene King together with Angeline cooked up a storm for everyone to enjoy following another entertaining morning with Cas Sweeney.

#### Hearing Australia

Sherry was visiting her sister at Erskine Grove and joined in to have a free hearing test provided by Hearing Australia. This health check service for residents was coordinated by Wellness Officers at Erskine Grove and Meadow Springs Estates.



Residents getting involved with RUOK? Day

### Meadow Springs

#### Can you recognise a scam?

With the aid of ACCC and Channel 7 Spotlight, we put on a presentation to help residents recognise a scam sooner rather than later and the steps they can take to protect themselves.

Unfortunately, seniors account for approximately 30% of fraud victims in Australia.



### Cambrai Village



Book stall at the Trash-2-Treasure morning



The team at RUOK? Day