

# DS

August 2016



**Newsletter  
of the  
RAAF  
STAFF COLLEGE  
ASSOCIATION Inc**

GPO Box 1204 Canberra ACT 2601  
[www.raafsca.org](http://www.raafsca.org)

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MR D.I. WADE

**\*\*\*\* LUNCHEON SEMINAR \*\*\*\***

**Friday, 23 September 2016**

**at the Royal Canberra Golf Club, Yarralumla**

**Speaker: AIRCDRE Margot Forster, CSM  
Commandant, Australian Command and Staff College**

**'Evolution of ACSC(J) since the amalgamation of the three  
single Service staff colleges'**

**(via separate Luncheon Notice & Registration Form)**

From the President

Our Spring 2016 meeting comes earlier this year to coincide with the celebration, in Canberra, of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of No 30 RAAF Staff College Course. 30 Course has long been the most strongly represented course at our regular lunches. I expect that to be even the case at our 23 September lunch. Along with other Canberra-based Association 'stalwarts' I look forward to welcoming as many as possible interstate-based 30 Course members.

Of course, as always our last Association lunch for the year coincides with our AGM, which we always seek to keep as brief as possible. The agenda and papers for the AGM have already been sent to members so in keeping with that 'painless as possible' promise, I trust we can go into the meeting taking the papers as read, the very limited time for the AGM being best made available for any questions and for the formal motions to be put.

By way of a President's Report, I am very happy to report that 2016 has been another year of business as usual for the Association. We have continued to enjoy other's company in an excellent venue at a price now unchanged for the last few years. We have also continued to enjoy excellent support from high quality speakers, (Head Force Structure Review/Head Force Structure Review, AVM Neil Hart in March; and ASIO Head, Duncan Lewis in July). We will end the year on a similar high note with Commandant Australian Command and Staff College, Air Commodore Margot Forster, CSM. Margot is only the second RAAF ACSC Commandant since the College's formation in 2001, (the first being founding commandant Air Commodore Peter McDermott), and is the first female commandant. I look forward to such high calibre speakers continuing to support our Association lunches in 2017.

I regret that after a rise in membership last year, this year our numbers have dipped. This is a challenge for us all. Your committee needs to continue to work with current staff college DS and course members to encourage them to at least sign up, so that they will have an awareness of our Association when they are better positioned to attend our lunches. I also encourage all current members to remind former course mates and other eligible colleagues and friends that they are always very welcome to join us.

I wish to acknowledge the ongoing commitment and efforts of outgoing committee members (who I understand are happy to continue), Paul McMahon, Frank Kelly and David Wade, and of course our very diligent auditor, Russ Walls. I also acknowledge the excellent ongoing support we receive from the staff at the Royal Canberra Golf Club, and thank both them, and Association members, including past Presidents Ken Tuckwell and Noel Wainwright, though whose Club membership we are all able to enjoy the RCGC's excellent facilities.

To conclude my report, I encourage you to keep an eye on the Association's website for advance advice about future lunches, as well as some inside Defence-related news that may be of interest to you. From the hits the website receives from other parts of the world our Association's website seems to have already attracted a wide, and in some cases, unexpected following!

Finally, I take this opportunity to remind members, who are also members of the currently inactive Australian Defence Colleges Association, that a meeting of ADCA members will be held on 7 October to determine the future of the ADCA. One option under consideration is for the ADCA to be wound up, in which case decisions will need to be taken about how the ADCA's funds, currently amounting to about \$64,000, will be distributed. As you can imagine, a number of worthy organisations have already expressed an interest in this significant opportunity. Should you be an ADCA member, and should you wish to have a say in the future of the ADCA, you may wish to attend the meeting on 7 October. Further details, as they become available, will be posted on the RAAF Staff College Association website.

As always, I look forward to seeing you at the Royal Canberra Golf Club on Friday 23 September.

Regards,

Ian Pearson

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