

# DS

June 2017



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

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

**Patrons:**

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**Secretary:**

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**Treasurer:**

MR D.I. WADE

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

**Friday, 21 July 2017**

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

**Speaker: Air Marshal 'Leo' Davies, AO, CSC**

**Chief of Air Force**

**'Air Force – the next three years'**

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

From the President

Historically, and for good reasons, our mid-winter meeting has attracted the lowest turnout of members. Many of you have moved to warmer places for the cold months, while those who have remained in Canberra may have decided that venturing out into the Canberra chill is not an attractive prospect, and therefore have not nominated for our July gathering of hardy souls.

Along with fellow committee members I want to change that attendance pattern, and to this end I trust you will agree that our choice of guest speaker, for those of you who will be in Canberra, will more than justify the effort of rugging up and venturing out to join us for lunch.

[Air Marshal 'Leo' Davies](#) will join us on 21 July as Chief of Air Force, co-patron of our Association, and RAAF Staff College graduate. Given these credentials, in addition to what I am sure will be an inherently interesting presentation, I trust you will want to join fellow members in making Air Marshal Davies feel very welcome on 21 July.

My next point concerns a minor administrative matter, specifically who sits with our guest of honour at our lunches. The short answer is that apart from the incumbent Association President, the matter is resolved in a different way for each lunch. My preference is that, to the maximum extent practicable, the opportunity is shared between all members who wish to do so. Before each lunch, the guest of honour is asked if there is anyone in particular from the attendance list with whom they wish to be seated. After that it comes down to who amongst those attending asks to be seated with the guest of honour. In short, the seating arrangements are open to the extent that there are seats available after satisfying the guest of honour's wishes. Should you particularly wish to sit with the guest of honour, please indicate accordingly when you send your lunch acceptance. Our Secretary will tally the requests and they will be satisfied, to the extent that seating permits, on a first come, first served basis. Finally on this matter, a brief word of caution. It has become customary for someone seated at the 'top table' to offer a few words of thanks to the guest speaker. Be prepared to do so if you wish to be seated with the guest of honour!

Last, and certainly not least, I want to make special acknowledgement of a very generous gesture earlier this year by the members of No 30 Course. As you may recall, last year 30 Course conducted a highly successful 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion. Our Association had the good fortune to be part of those celebrations when our final lunch for the year coincided with 30 Course's reunion activities and pleasingly, that enabled out-of-town Association members (and their wives), to attend our lunch. Subsequent to the anniversary celebrations, Beryl Free wrote to me, sending a cheque to our Association for \$504.92, the residual funds after reunion activity costs were met, 'as a gesture of our appreciation for your continuing efforts to keep the memories of RAAF Staff College alive'. This very generous gesture reminds us that 30 Course members have always been strong supporters of our Association. Responding to Beryl on your behalf, I wrote that 'Pending consensus at the AGM, I expect that the \$504.92 donated by 30 Course will be used to the direct benefit of RAAF Staff College Association members. Specifically, I envisage those funds will go a long way to ensuring that we can preserve the current format, and most importantly, the current cost of our regular lunches for the foreseeable future. That said, I expect we will all be equally open to other ideas that might arise at the AGM.'

An interesting, and I trust very well attended lunch is ahead of us on 21 July. As always, I look forward to seeing you then.

Regards,

Ian Pearson

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