

DS

November 2018



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

GPO Box 1204 Canberra ACT 2601
www.raafsa.org

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MR D.I. WADE

The 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

12:00 hours

Thursday 29 November 2018

at the Royal Canberra Golf Club, Yarralumla

to be followed at 12:30 pm by a luncheon

Speaker:

Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin, AC (Ret'd)

'Reflections of a CDF - The Changing Nature of ADF Operations'

(Please see separate notice and meeting papers included with this newsletter.)

From the President

First of all, many thanks to our hardworking Treasurer, David Wade for providing you with an early heads up about our forthcoming AGM and lunch, and advance notice of the invitation extended to RAAFSCA members to attend the Australian Command and Staff College's Air Force cocktail party on Wednesday 21 November. Along with some administrative details and a very important (good news) update about the cocktail party, much of what I will have to say in this edition of DS will come as a reminder for you to submit notice of your intention to attend our 29 November AGM, (that will start at noon, and finish as soon as possible thereafter), and our lunch where our guest speaker is the Association's co-patron and recently retired Chief of the Defence Force, [Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin, AC](#).

We are particularly fortunate that Air Chief Marshal Binskin is able to address us. Given his chosen topic, 'Reflections of a CDF – The changing nature of ADF operations', I expect he will have some very interesting insights following his extended time in the RAAF and ADF's most senior leadership roles.

As indicated above, I expect our AGM will be a very brief affair and to that end, a brief recap on our past year, which has followed the time-honoured format of lunch with a guest speaker. Immediately after our last AGM in August 2017, then Defence Housing Australia senior executive, and Association member Vern Gallagher gave us an update on DHA's activities – a huge contrast from our experience with married quarters. In March this year recently returned Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, Air Commodore Tony McCormack briefed us on his experience with the United Nations in South Korea while in August this year noted historian, Doug Hurst spoke to us about the Far East Air Force. In short, we have enjoyed interesting presentations on a very diverse range of topics, in a comfortable setting with good food, wine and company. Long may that continue although of course we are always receptive to any thoughts you may have about a different format, or particular speakers you may wish to have present to us.

David and Frank will provide their updates either with this edition of DS or at the AGM. As always all positions on the RAAFSCA Committee are open for election at the AGM, and so that this doesn't scare you off from attending our next meeting I understand all current committee members, whose ongoing commitment and efforts on your behalf I acknowledge, are willing to stand for re-election. I also acknowledge the ongoing commitment by our very

diligent auditor, Russ Walls who has recently completed our FY 18 financial audit in accordance with ACT Government requirements. Finally, having slightly changed our menu option this year to a red meat default I also acknowledge the excellent ongoing support we receive from the staff at the Royal Canberra Golf Club, and thank Carey and her very pleasant team for their ongoing outstanding support, and the Club for the recent change to its rules allowing the RAAFSC to access the Club for our meetings without imposing on past Presidents Ken Tuckwell and Noel Wainwright for their sponsorship as RCGC members.

Before moving on to the Air Force cocktail party I draw members' attention to David's important update on the changed BSB number (833-205) for lunch payments. I (and no doubt David) would be most grateful for you making the necessary changes to your records so your payment comes to the RAAFSCA, and David isn't spending time chasing lost payments.

RAAF Cocktail Party at the Australian Defence College. As David advised in his email, the Australian Command and Staff College has very kindly invited RAAF Staff College Association members to its Air Force cocktail party on Wednesday 21 October. The important update that I am very pleased to be able to pass on to you is that thanks to the generosity of Air Force staff and course members at the Australian Command and Staff College, RAAFSCA members are invited to attend the evening as non-paying guests.

The key administrative details are as follows:

What: A relaxed cocktail-style evening to encourage interaction between course members, the Air Force senior leadership team, and special guests.

When: 1830 - 2200, Wednesday 21 November

Where: Australian Defence College Mess (accessed via Kirkpatrick Street, off Cotter Road, just south of the intersection with the Tuggeranong Parkway)

Dress: Lounge suit (unless you still have your Mess Kit (Navy Blue Jacket) or Red Sea Rig and prefer to wear that).

Who else is attending: Air Force course members, Australian Defence College staff, invited members from the Air Force senior leadership team. Also in attendance will be the RAAF Band to provide appropriate entertainment. **(Please note this is a members only night, ie, no partners.)**

Security: Members will be signed in at the front gate according to the finalised list of nominations. Photo ID (eg, driver's licence) is required. My strongest advice is to obtain a retired members pass if you don't already have one to greatly simplify access. The necessary form and other relevant information is on the Members' Notices page of the RAAFSCA website.

Nominations: Please advise our Secretary, Frank Kelly (fkelly@lowreyindustries.com.au or SMS to 0428 266 134) of your intention to attend by no later than close of business on Tuesday 13 November.

This is an excellent initiative by the Commandant of the Australian Command and Staff College, Air Commodore Matt Hegarty, a regular attendee at our lunch meetings, his staff and course members. I encourage as many of you able to do so to take up this very kind invitation which will give you the opportunity to meet the current and future leaders of our Air Force, and to build the relationship between current and future members of our Association. That said, I greatly regret that I will be unable to attend since I will be overseas. Indeed, this edition of DS is being typed while I sit in my cabin at sea in the waters of North Asia. However, I am scheduled to return to Canberra on 27 November and look forward to seeing you at the Royal Canberra Golf Club on Thursday 29 November, for what promises to be an excellent start to the annual 'silly season'. (Or perhaps, for those able to attend, that start will be the cocktail party on 21 November!)

Regards,

Ian Pearson

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