

# DS

June 2019



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

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

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MR D.I. WADE

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

Friday, 12 July 2019

at the Royal Canberra Golf Club, Yarralumla

Speaker: Air Vice-Marshal Gavin Turnbull, AM

Soon to retire as Deputy Chief of Air Force,  
and past Air Commander Australia

**'Perspectives of a former Deputy Chief of Air  
Force and Air Commander Australia'**

( nominations via separate Luncheon Notice & Registration Form )

From the President

I trust this edition of DS finds you well and continuing to dodge the dangers of the current flu season. As we approach the winter solstice and its eventual promise of longer days, the depths of the Canberra winter will be upon us for some time yet. I trust that the warmth of the company offered by our forthcoming lunch on 12 July will provide a welcome respite from the chilly days we are currently experiencing.

Since our March lunch, (at which Air Commodore Phil Champion provided an excellent overview of strategic developments in the Indo-Pacific region), four of us represented the Association as guests of the Air Force staff and students at the cocktail reception held at the Australian War College (formerly the Australian Defence College) Mess, Weston Creek in April. There the welcome was warm and hospitality generous, the evening providing an excellent opportunity to further develop links between our Association and prospective members, as well as getting excellent updates on what is happening in today's Air Force. I have written to Air Commodore Matt Hegarty to thank him and his team for the evening and for his excellent continuing engagement, as Commandant of the Australian War College, with the RAAF Staff College Association.

In case you have not caught up with Air Force's forthcoming change of command arrangements I can tell you that the current Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal 'Leo' Davies, AO, CSC will hand over command to Air Marshal Mel Hupfeld, AO, DSC (currently Chief of Joint Operations), at a parade to be held in Blamey Square from 1000 hours on Wednesday 3 July. For those wishing to attend this important event in Air Force's history, a 'DEFGRAM' containing all relevant details is attached. Meanwhile Air Vice-Marshal Steve Meredith, AM, DSM, currently Head Force Integration, will succeed Air Vice-Marshal Gavin Turnbull, AM as Deputy Chief of Air Force. On your behalf I have written to Air Marshal Davies to wish him well for his retirement from the Air Force and thank him for acting as our co-patron over the past four years. Similarly I have written to congratulate Air Marshal Hupfeld on his appointment and to invite him to act as our co-patron. I am very pleased to advise that Air Marshal Hupfeld has responded with *'I would be honoured to accept'*.

I am also very pleased to advise that we are very fortunate to have secured as our next guest speaker, Air-Vice Marshal Gavin Turnbull, AM. At the time of our 12 July lunch he will have just retired from the Air Force as Deputy Chief of Air Force, and immediately prior to that appointment, was Air Commander Australia. I have no doubt that Air Vice-Marshal Turnbull will have much of great interest to reflect upon as he shares with us his perspectives on those two very senior Air Force appointments in particular.

Finally, our hard working Treasurer has reminded me that I would be remiss if I did not remind you to double check the RAAFSCA's BSB number for your lunchtime subscription. The old BSB, after some delay, has officially expired. For all future payments to the RAAF Staff College Association, PLEASE use the following BSB: 833 205.

As always, I look forward to joining with you on Friday 12 July for what promises to be a bright spot in the middle of Canberra's winter: a very interesting guest presentation, an enjoyable lunch and of course each other's company.

Kind regards,

Ian Pearson

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