

# DS

March 2021



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

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## \*\*\*\* WARNING ORDER \*\*\*\*

### *Change of Venue*

### **National Press Club, Barton**

From the President

I am writing to give you advance notice of a change of venue for our mid-year lunch on Thursday 22 July with the Deputy Chief of Air Force, [Air Vice-Marshal Stephen Meredith](#) as our guest speaker.

After making the necessary arrangements with our normal venue for our July lunch we were advised by the Royal Canberra Golf Club (RCGC) that unfortunately the Westbourne Room which normally accommodates us had been double-booked, and therefore not available to us on 22 July. While RCGC staff were very apologetic, and kindly offered a number of alternative dates, none worked with DCAF's very full diary. Keen to retain AVM Meredith as our speaker, we investigated alternative venues. As it has turned out, the National Press Club is able to accommodate us for lunch on 22 July and do so at a rate that allows us to charge members \$55 per head – hopefully a welcome development for all!

After making the decision to use the [National Press Club](#) for our next lunch I attended an Australian Aviation Club lunch there with several members who are also members of the RAAF Staff College Association. All with whom I spoke agreed that the 'offer' at the National Press Club measured up very well against the excellent service we have become accustomed to at the RCGC.

On a related matter, those of you who attended our last lunch at the RCGC will recall how difficult it was to find a car parking space that day. (Friday is the busiest weekday there.) I found it confronting to watch the difficulties experienced by a number of our more senior members making their way from the distant carpark, located near the RCGC entrance, to the Westbourne Room. Having checked the parking at the rear of the National Press Club at around 1145 (when most of us are normally arriving for lunch), I would not expect members to experience the same difficulties there. I am also very happy to advise that while we normally have to depart our meetings at the RCGC from the dining room, National Press Club staff have advised that any of our members who wish to linger for another coffee or glass of wine after lunch are very welcome to avail themselves of the lounge facilities, irrespective of whether or not they are National Press Club members.

Between now and 22 July I encourage you to become familiar with the location of the National Press Club, and in particular the location of the entrance to the car park (behind the NPC building) on Bourke Street. The next edition of DS will contain further details about accessing the National Press Club. Those who accept for the lunch will be sent details for accessing the carpark via the coded boom gate.

As always, between releases of DS I encourage you to monitor our [website](#) for updates, and of course I look forward to seeing you and your guests at the National Press Club on Thursday 22 July for a timely update on what is happening in our Air Force. In the meantime, I trust you will have the opportunity to become involved in some way in the celebration of the [Royal Australian Air Force's Centenary](#) – surely a great achievement for one of the world's oldest Air Forces, in which we have had the good fortune to serve.

Best wishes,

Ian Pearson

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