



RAAF ASSOCIATION – TOWNSVILLE BRANCH

NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2018

President:

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Next Branch Meeting

Sunday 14th January 2018

1000 Hours

Townsville RSL, Charters Towers Road, Hermit Park

Next Raffles

Friday 19th January 2017

1730 Hours

Townsville RSL, Charters Towers Road, Hermit Park

New Members

On behalf of President Barbara and all members of the Branch a very warm welcome to the following new members. We hope that you enjoy the association and look forward to seeing you at our branch meetings and functions.

Paul Howard. Paul joined the RAAF in June 1996 and still serving at RAAF Townsville as the Base Aviation Safety Officer. His category is Joint Battlefield Airspace Controller (JBAC) or, as the majority would know them, Air Traffic Controller.

Christopher Wootten. Chris joined the RAAF in August 1985 as a Motor Transport Driver then served as a Cinema Operator when the MTD mustering was disbanded and then as a Clerk Supply after the Cinema Operator mustering was disbanded until he left the Air Force in 2004. Chris and his wife live in Collinsville.

January Birthdays

On behalf of the President and all members, I wish the following members a very Happy Birthday this month.

Ken Tweedie DFC	8 th January
Mike Hayes	9 th January
Gillian Krink	12 th January

If I have missed anyone for this month, please forgive me and have a Happy Birthday.

Profile – Ken Tweedie DFC

Ken is 95 years of age this year and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) while flying as a Navigator on Lancaster bombers with 460 Squadron of Bomber Command during the Second World War. In 2015, Ken was awarded the French Legion of Honour - ***Chevalier*** for the role he played in the liberation of the French Republic during World War II.

RSL Raffles

The Townsville RSL has once again invited the Branch to hold fund-raising raffles at the RSL on seven Friday evenings throughout 2018. These first raffle for this year is on Friday 19th January commencing at 1730 hours.

We can always use an extra person or two to help with selling tickets and possibly stay on for dinner afterwards.

Battle of the Coral Sea Service

The Branch has been given approval to use the RSL Bus to attend the Battle of the Coral Sea Memorial Service at Cardwell on Sunday 6th May 2018. I will advise of further details as they become available.

Membership

During 2018 I urge all of you to try and recruit at least one new member for our Branch as this is the only way that we can continue to grow and to fulfil our role as a viable Ex-Service Organisation. There are a lot of new programs and that are being instigated throughout the Townsville region for currently serving and ex-serving members and their families and we need to be involved in these incentives.

I will personally try and arrange a meeting in the near future with the Wing Commander Phil Godfrey, the Senior Australian Defence Force Officer RAAF Townsville to see how we as a Branch of the RAAF Association can be more involved with those currently serving members of RAAF Townsville.

Until the next newsletter, kind regards to all and please stay safe.

Ted Mildren