



RAAF ASSOCIATION – TOWNSVILLE BRANCH

NEWSLETTER – JULY 2018

Branch Patron: Air Commodore Tony Jones

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Next Branch Meeting & Branch AGM

Sunday 12th August 2018

1000 Hours

Townsville RSL, Charters Towers Road, Hermit Park

Next Raffles

Friday 31st August 2018

1730 Hours

Townsville RSL, Charters Towers Road, Hermit Park

Next Social Event – 28th Anniversary Dinner

Friday 31st August 2018

1900 Hours

Lavarack's Restaurant, Townsville RSL

July and August Birthdays

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

2 nd July	John Canning
4 th July	Thomas Campbell
9 th July	Lyn Kerwin
29 th July	Linda Janetzki

3 rd August	Laurie Darwin
12 th August	Tony Fifield
13 th August	Angus McDonald
18 th August	Alan Johnson
22 nd August	Wayne Melrose
31 st August	Michael Krink

If I have missed anyone for either of these months, please forgive me and have a Happy Birthday.

In Hospital

I have been informed by Matthew Campbell that his father, Thomas (Tiny) Campbell, who is a Branch member is in the Mater Hospital following surgery to amputate his remaining leg from just above the knee following medical complications. Thomas will be in hospital for some time to come as he will require extensive rehabilitation and would welcome visits by any members.

We hope and trust you will get well soon Thomas.

Branch Birthday Dinner

As discussed at the July meeting, we intend to hold a dinner at Lavarack's Restaurant, RSL Townsville to celebrate the 28th Anniversary of the formation of the Townsville Branch on Friday 31st August at 1900 hours. I have made a booking but will require an indication of who may be attending by Sunday 12th August and confirmed numbers by Tuesday 28th August 2018.

This event is open to family members and friends.

Legacy Week

This year the Branch is taking control of the sales of Legacy Week items at The Avenue Shopping Centre on Kern Brothers Drive on behalf of Legacy from Monday 3rd September to Saturday 8th September 2018. This means that we will need to a representation of branch members there every day from 0830 hours am until approximately 1700 hours Monday to Friday and 0830 hours to 1200 hours on Saturday.

We will be supported by uniformed personnel from RAAF and/or Army.

The only exception is that on Friday 7th September the Branch is hosting a Memorial Service at Kissing Point at 0900 hours to honour of the thirteen RAAF personnel who lost their lives when Catalina A24-52 crashed on landing on Cleveland Bay. I have spoken with Legacy with regards to this service and will be making alternative arrangements for that morning.

Can I please ask that the membership support the Legacy Week activity as this is a major fund-raising event for Legacy and it is our way of supporting this wonderful cause. Please contact me either by e-mail or telephone and let me know of your availability. My suggestion is that we have two members per day with one from 0830 hours to 1230 hours and one from 1230 hours to 1700 hours.

All members and families of the Townsville Branch are invited to attend the **Official Launch of Legacy Week** at Strand Park on Sunday 2nd September from 1400 hours until 1700 hours. There will be a free sausage sizzle and drinks will be available for purchase. The members of the Branch are invited to attend this function and if attending, please wear your RAAF Association shirt if you have one.

Memorial Service – 7 September 2018

A Memorial Service is being organised for 9.00am on Friday 7th September 2018 to honour the thirteen RAAF personnel who lost their lives when 11 Squadron PBY-5 Catalina A24-52 crashed on landing on Cleveland Bay on 7th September 1943. This date is the 75th Anniversary of this accident is is a very significant date in the history of Townsville during World War 2.

The Service will be held at the existing Memorial that is in place near the Rockpool on The Strand.

We have received great support from The Senior Australian Defence Force Officer, Wing Commander Phil Godfrey who will be supplying the Base Chaplain to conduct the service and a Catafalque Party along with some uniformed personnel. There is a very good possibility that 11 Squadron will also provide a PA-8 Posiedon Maritime Patrol Aircraft for a flypast during the event. The PA-8 is the aircraft that is replacing the P3-C Orion Maritime Patrol Aircraft in the RAAF.

All members and families are invited to attend.

2018 Rotary Art Union Raffle

The Rotary Art Union Raffle has been drawn with the prize going to C. Stevens of Alligator Creek and the book sellers prize going to C. O'Sullivan of St Brigid's Parish. Participation on the art union returned \$954.00 to the Branch, which is a fantastic result. A big thank you to all who participated, your support is very much appreciated.

Veterans and Veterans Counselling Service (VVCS)

I have attached as a separate document, the VVCS North Queensland Group Programs July – December 2018. The events advertised in this program are available to all members of the RAAF Association who have served for one or more days in the ADF.

If you wish to participate in any of the programs, please contact VVCS by telephone or by e-mail as advertised on the attached program.

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

Ted Mildren