



## **RAAF ASSOCIATION – TOWNSVILLE BRANCH**

### **NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2018**

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### **Next Branch Meeting & Branch AGM**

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018

1000 Hours

Townsville RSL, Charters Towers Road, Hermit Park

### **Next Raffles**

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018

1730 Hours

Townsville RSL, Charters Towers Road, Hermit Park

### **Next Social Event - Lunch**

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018

1130 Hours

The Avenues Tavern, Kern Brothers Drive, Kirwan

### **March Birthdays**

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

8 <sup>th</sup> March	Col Gardner
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Ron Cooper
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Michael Hartley

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

### **Lunch**

The Branch will be holding a lunch at the Avenues Tavern on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April. I will require numbers by Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April to finalise the booking.

## **Annual General Meeting**

As previously advised, the Annual General Meeting of the Townsville Branch will be held on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 10.00am at the Townsville RSL, Charters Towers Road Hermit Park. The AGM will follow the March meeting.

Following the AGM, there will be two staff members from Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS) who will give a short presentation on the services that are available to you as a currently serving member, ex-serving member or family member through VVCS. In effect, one days service could make you eligible for the services that VVCS provide.

There will be a light lunch consisting of mixed sandwiches, tea and coffee served after the meeting.

## **Branch Birthday**

The Townsville Branch will have been in existence for twenty-eight years on the 30<sup>th</sup> August and we will be looking at hold a dinner on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August. This is still very much in the planning phase and a venue is yet to be decided on.

## **St Benedict's School**

Following a phone call with Mrs Penny Collins, Principal of St Benedict's Catholic School, I have been told that the official opening of the school which will include the blessing of the plaque that we have donated to the school in honour of those RAAF personnel who served at the Bohle Airfield will probably be held in June of this year.

While the Catholic Education Office and Mrs Collins wanted the official opening to be held during Term 1 of the school year they are having trouble co-ordinating dates that suit the local State and Federal politicians who will be attending this event. (I will make no further comment on that!)

As soon as the date has been finalised, I will pass it on.

## **ANZAC Day 2018**

I have registered that we will be marching as a group on Anzac Day in the city parade from Strand Park to Anzac Park. This parade steps off at 0900 hours with form-up at 0830 hours.

**Note: There is no mid-morning service at Anzac Park after the parade however there is an opportunity for people to lay wreaths/books after the parade at 1000 hours.**

Other details for Anzac Day are:

Townsville Dawn Service: 0530 hours – Anzac Park

Thuringowa Dawn Service: 0540 hours – Thuringowa Cenotaph, Riverway Parklands

Thuringowa Parade: 0830 hours – Form-up at Weir State School, Ross River Road

0900 hours – Step off

0930 hours – Mid-Morning Service, Thuringowa Cenotaph

Details of services in other areas will be passed on after the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 18 April 2018.

## **Medal Mounting**

As previously mentioned in both the Meeting Minutes and Newsletters, Tony Kealley, owner of Monsta's Medals has been a great supporter of the Townsville Branch in recent years. Tony has mounted the medals of our two World War 2 veterans, Ken Tweedie and Thomas Campbell at no cost. If you require medal mounting then I highly recommend Tony. His contact details are:

Office Phone: 4779 6992

Mobile: 0407 242 200

Address: 7 Wisteria Court, Annandale

If you use Tony's service, please let him know that you are from the RAAF Association.

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

*Ted Mildren*