

Newsletter 37

Issued February 2004

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# Welcome to a NEW YEAR

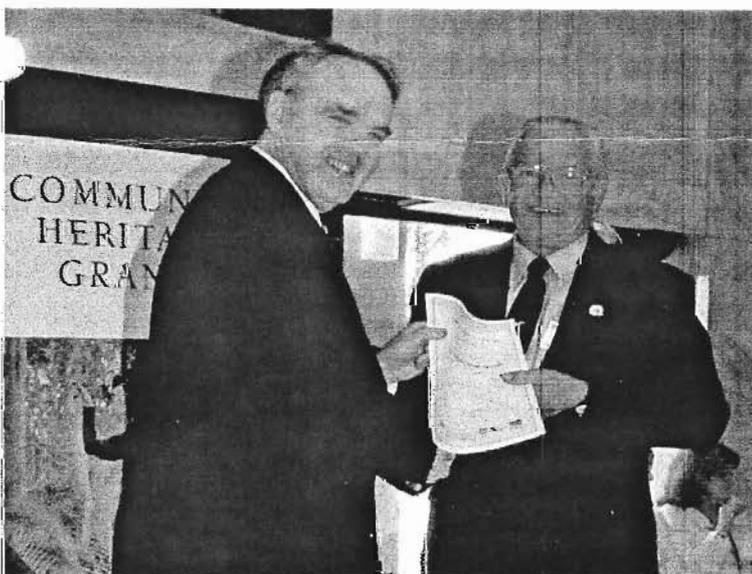
And what is better than to start a new year  
with **good news.**

We are pleased to say that we have been recognised by the Federal Department of the Arts and Sport (after previously being granted a membership of Museums Australia last year) who have provided your museum with a grant through the Heritage Grants Commission for the preservation of our film and photographic stocks.

This award, and the presentation event, was conducted in Canberra in late November 2003, just after the last newsletter was being published, and unfortunately too late to be included. But it was a great Christmas present for the club.

The grant made was for \$3,000.00, which we will use to improve, protect and preserve our still photographs, repackage and purchase protective negative sleeves and consider the purchase a digital scanner to convert these negatives into positives and store them on digital CD-ROM disks. The residual monies will be used to restore our 8mm, 16mm and 35mm film stocks again converting these to digital CD-ROM and DVD-ROM whilst improving the storage and preservation facilities.

At the certificate presentation ceremony, the Minister for the Arts and Sports, Senator Rod Kemp, was presented with one of our Club badges as a gift from our members.



Club President and Museum Custodian, James (Jim) Meehan, seen here at the presentation ceremony receiving the official certificate for the grant from Senator Rod Kemp, the Minister for Arts and Sport.

Senator Kemp accepted and acknowledged our club badge, which he later pinned to his lapel and joined the festivities after the ceremony.

We are extremely grateful for the grant and it will enable our work to proceed a little more expeditiously.



# Social Outing–TAA \ Australian 25 year club members and guests

The Club has organised another social outing for Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2004, this time to the Flemington Race course, with a novel twist of catching a coach, to catch a ferry for a one hour cruise before again boarding the coach for a trackside tour of Flemington.

This will be followed by a two course luncheon, a tour of the Hillstand, then back on the coach to return to the city by approximately 3.30pm

**Date 24<sup>th</sup> of march 2004**

**Cost per member \ spouse \ partner \$ 23.00 per person**

**Non members or guests \$30.00 per person**

**Pickup points will be Airport West (International hotel) 09.00am**

**Therry Street (Rear TAA HEAD OFFICE) 09.30am**

**Seats are limited due to the passenger capacity of the river transport – Please book early**

**Closing date for acceptances will be 11<sup>th</sup> of March 2004.**

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Please return this section to

Mr. Ross McDonald

Events co-ordinator

TAA 25 Year club inc

11<sup>th</sup> Floor

50 Franklin Street

Melbourne 3000

Preferred pickup points (please indicate with X)

Airport

Therry

If paying by cheque please make it payable to TAA 25 Year Club Inc.

Enclosed payment for .....members and or ..... guests on cheque \ Money Order \ other.

**We know it will be another great day out.**

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## TAA's History and Flight in Australia.

As part of our museum display we have created a slide show to run in the museum at the front door so that it attracts attention. Well this has attracted attention and we are reliably informed that many employees in the building have viewed this and even requested a copy when it is completed. The version running is the basic set-up, but includes background music (TAA themes circa 1954 sent to us by Peter Taylor – Public Relations Manager) and aircraft noise (DC3 start-up, DC4, DC6, Electra and Boeing\DC9).

The show currently runs for two hours, and can be run on any computer using Windows 98, or later

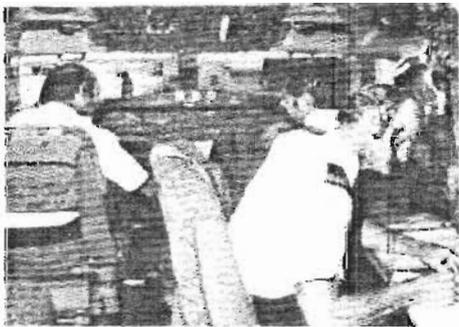
Once completed we propose to donate a copy to the National Library of Australia to demonstrate that the grant has been put to good use by reproducing many photos from our negative collection with the new scanner purchased with part of their funds.

Our ultimate aim will be to offer this for general sale to raise funds for the completion of the preservation of the various movie films, which will be the most expensive part of these activities.

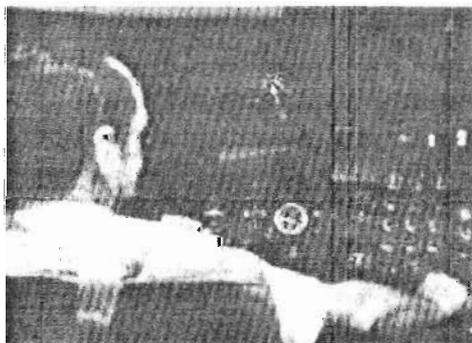
It is also anticipated that financial members may obtain copies at half the retail sales cost, which will be set by the committee.



A touch of History – VH-TJA – extracted from a promotional booklet issued by TAA in 1964, which we have at the museum, and it is in pristine condition. Reflecting back in time, VH-TJA introduced the “whispering T-Jet”, although if you were in the last rows in economy, if you whispered nobody heard you, and if you were in the front rows you had to whisper as everybody heard you.



**Men at work** – The cockpit of the Boeing 727-100 at Tullamarine with the crew performing the pre-flight cockpit checks, whilst Engineers, Porters, and Traffic Staff, sort themselves out, as seen through the front windows of the aircraft.



**Man at Work** – One of the recovered photographs is of the TAA Boeing 727 simulator, seen here with Captain Frank Fischer at the controls. TAA introduced the first Boeing 727 –76 (100), which was also used to train pilots from other airlines.

We have very little information on the simulators so if anyone can assist with the history of these we would be eternally grateful



Another photograph recovered, and still to be digitised for clarity is this one of the management team, believe to be at a management meeting concerning the choice of wide-bodied aircraft available for TAA future introduction in the 80's. Frank Ball, reg Bailey, Lionel Thrift, Lloyd Hargarves, Bart Woodgate, Lyn Mc Kenzie, Bill Barnes, Ian Miller with Les Fitzgerald.

## Belated Christmas Joke – received from Russia

A Russian couple were walking down the street in Moscow one night, when the man felt a drop hit his nose. "I think it's raining," he said to his wife.

"No, that felt more like snow to me," she replied.

"No, I'm sure it was just rain" he said.

Well, as these things go, they were about to have a major argument about whether it was raining or snowing, when just then they saw a Communist Party official walking towards them.

"Let's not fight about it," the husband said, "let's ask Comrade Rudolph whether it's officially raining or snowing."

As the official approached, the man said, "Tell us, Comrade Rudolph, is it officially raining or snowing?"

"It's raining, of course," he replied, and walked on.

But the woman insisted, "I know that felt like snow!" to which the man quietly replied:

"Rudolph the Red knows rain dear."

## Friends of ANSETT Museum.

We have recently made contact with the FRIENDS OF ANSETT MUSEUM, established by an ex Ansett employee, Alan Bunker, who held various managerial positions in Ansett, including Manager, Canberra, Manager SA & NT, Traffic Manager etc, in an endeavour to both assist him in establishing his museum, and pass on items that we have, or will be sent to us which we will not include in our collection.

This is not conducted under the old rivalry tradition and competition of yesteryear, but in the co-operative spirit that existed when TAA and Ansett existed in the same terminal in Melbourne.

Alan says that all donations are gratefully acknowledged, and asks that should you come across items of interest, them please remember him and pass this on through our museum.

Allan's phone number is 83075282 or e-mail [adbunker@hotmail.com](mailto:adbunker@hotmail.com).

# Ansett museum pitched

By Jennifer Gram

ANSETT MUSEUM, a project to preserve the history of the airline, is being pitched to the public.

Alan Bunker, former Ansett manager, is the driving force behind the project. He has been collecting items for the museum since he left the airline in 1999.

The museum will be housed in a building in Melbourne, and will display a collection of items from the airline's history.

Bunker says the museum will be a place where people can learn about the airline's history and the people who worked for it.

The museum will also be a place where people can see the items that were used by the airline, such as uniforms and luggage.

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Alan Bunker with a photo of white nurse, Sir Robert Ansett

## **Christmas Luncheon**

This year we again celebrated a Christmas luncheon at William Angliss attended by many surviving partners, held on 10<sup>th</sup> of December, and we are pleased to report that this was well attended.

Unfortunately as we get older our growing membership is the surviving partners and we will continue to support them with our social outings and other events that may bring just a little more joy.

## **Photographs -**

Recently we received a number of personal photographs concerning the early years of TAA, which were forwarded to the museum by family members who did not want to see them discarded or destroyed as they represented the working life of a family member, who had passed away.

These have now been catalogued and will be displayed in one of the albums being created identifying the contribution made by the individual to the section in which he / she was employed.

It is surprising that these photographs which in many cases do not identify the event portrayed in the photograph, permit a better insight into not only the people but the working conditions, work environment and difficulties under which we worked in those early years.

We are most grateful and accept these “Moments in Time”, that will be added to our already extensive photographic collection.

## **Membership reminder**

Some members may have overlooked renewing their membership subscription, and on the envelope containing this newsletter there is a code in the left hand corner of the address sticker. If you are financial the last digit will be a **4** and if it is less than 4 then we ask you to consider continuing your association with the newsletter distribution, by bringing your membership up to date.

Unfortunately, with rising costs of postage and other supportive materials, members who have not renewed for two years will have to be removed from the mailing list.

It is unfortunate, but we do not have many alternatives.

## **Vale**

**Capt Bill Waterton** - Flight Ops - December 2003. Melbourne

Bill was known by most people in the airline as one of the originals (46'ers) who had resigned from ANA to join TAA. A colourful career, a colourful character, with a never-ending passion for flying and saving money, for after he retired he continued to ply the skies in his “Harvard”, and was often seen at airshows and various airfields.

The passing of yet another piece of history unrecorded, but a notable contribution to our history for it was Bill who gave us the first set of wings used by pilots in TAA back in September and October 1946.  
Thanks Bill.