

# Newsletter 44 November 2005

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**Staff travel online** – All staff who use the internet to view flight schedules or make on online bookings should be aware that the security requirements of the staff travel system requires that you access the site at least every 2-3 months otherwise your password will be invalid.

If the password becomes invalid you will have to contact staff travel by mail or fax and a new password will be issued within a few days.

**This could prove inconvenient if travel is required urgently so we encourage everyone to access this site as outlined above.**

## **9<sup>th</sup> of September 2005 Anniversary – William Angliss Dinner**

Once again we managed to gather those dedicated, loyal and ageless (or –ing) members of our club for a night of ‘tall tales and true’ of the years our airline battled to expand and introduce air services and air travel to every corner of our nation.

RIGHT - Pre-dinner drinks gathering prior to entering the dining room. Bev Mc Millan is seen here seated and enjoying an ‘aperitif’, Margaret Coles (Hostess section) is standing in the background talking to Alan Nock (Supply), whilst Dorothy Tuff (Finance) is on the right. This year was indeed another enjoyable night.



It is indeed pleasing to see so many members and section work areas represented at these dinners, - engineering and maintenance, Supply and Provisioning, Finance, Airport Traffic and Administration, - and this year with Don and Ann-Marie Withers representing senior management.

Our thanks to the ‘crew’ at William Angliss, a young group now learning the skills necessary for success in this field.

As far as the participants at this function go, all reports are that everyone enjoyed themselves, enjoyed the 3 course meal, and appreciated the pre-dinner drinks, followed by red and white wines and soft drink with the meal.

Thank you all for making this a wonderful evening, and again, thanks to the efforts of our entertainment committee in making this a memorable evening. Ross McDonald and Frank Sullivan.

Next year would be the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our airline – look to future newsletter for the activities to celebrate this big event – with a little bit of luck **you** may be surprised.



### Recognise both or either of these two reprobates?

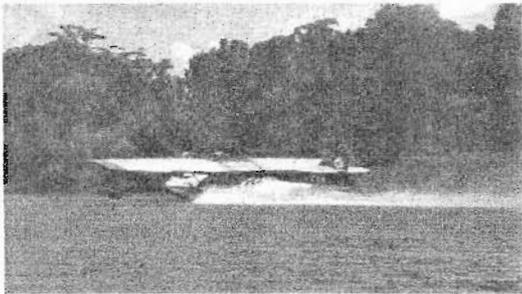
It really is a small world! Whilst caravanning up through outback New South Wales and Queensland, we (and I include my navigator? (wife) and part-time cook) found a secluded caravan park at a place called Cania Gorge (near Monto, QLD), where we set up camp and “retired” ready for a “red” wine and a read.

Not there an hour, but showered and refreshed I return to the van and in my absence along comes another ‘grey nomad’ and promptly parks right beside my caravan.

He looked familiar, and low and behold, it was Pat Broad and wife Beth, also ‘on the road again’ and enjoying the ‘retired life style’.

Needless to say we spent a few good days together exploring the local walks and drives before again going our separate ways. It really is a small world

### PHOTOGRAPHS from the PAST.



The museum has been receiving a lot of personal photographs from members and we are adding to our growing list of our history over the years.

We are about to create a ‘limited edition’ of photographs designed to be used as a screen saver for the aviation enthusiast and in particular our members who have access to this computer age.

We will publish this in the newsletter where it is ready for distribution. Catalina departing D’Albertis Junction.



Another interesting photograph was provided by Capt. Alwyn Smith of the DC3 at Lae, being JATO’ed (Jet Assisted Take-Off) with Capt Bob Slater at the controls.

I am lead to believe that the usual sedate ‘take-off’ was revised by the ‘JATO’ bottle and the usual cockpit procedures appeared not to be able to keep up with this now “rocket’DC3. (another story)

And another unique photograph.



We not only had the world’s first camera mounted camera, as fitted to the Boeing 727 VH-TJB, but we became a little more adventurous by mounting a camera on the tail of VH-AES our original DC3.

Although the quality is not as good as the professionally mounted one, they say a picture is worth a thousand words, so we have included this picture as proof.

VH-AES ‘Hawdon’ continues to fly today and it is hoped that we will be able to arrange for this aircraft to again take to the skies on the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of TAA in 2006. More information in following newsletters.

These a but a few of the pictures now held in the museum and when our 35 mm slide expert gets back from holidays we will process a few more of the recently acquired slides.

## Newsletter distribution –

We have been able to reduce the cost of newsletter distribution by the use of the internet e-mail system, and for all members on this service, we will endeavour to make sure that the colour photographs are of good quality. Members who receive this by post unfortunately will receive the black and white copy where the photographs are not always reproduced in high quality.

If you don't use the internet but have family members who do then it may be that they will agree to use their address to receive this service on your behalf. If so then please get them to e-mail the [taamuseum@bigpond.com](mailto:taamuseum@bigpond.com)

## JOKE

Paddy goes into a shop and asks for Irish Sausages, and the Assistant looks at him and asks, "Are you Irish?"

Paddy says, "If I asked you for Italian Sausage, would you ask me if I was Italian? or, if I asked for German Bratwurst, would you ask me if I was German? Or if I asked you for a Kosher Hot Dog, would you ask me if I was Jewish? Or, if I asked you for a Taco, would you ask me if I was Mexican, Would ya, ay? Would Ya?"

The assistant says, "Well no".

"And if I asked you for some Bourbon Whiskey, would you ask me if I was American? What about Danish Bacon, would you ask me if I was Danish?"

"Well, I probably wouldn't."

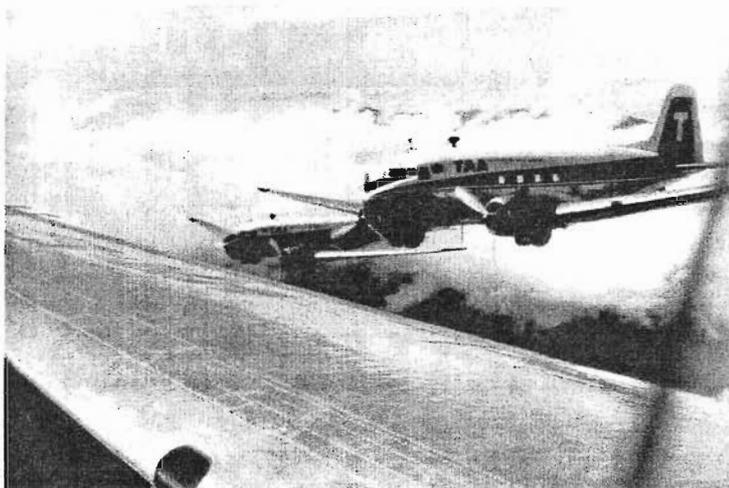
With indignation, the man says, "Well, all right then, why did you ask me if I'm Irish just because I asked for Irish Sausages?"

The Assistant replies, "Because you're in Bunnings."

## New Guinea Employee Re-union September 2005.

Brisbane was the scene for the "Club Balus" reunion this year and I am pleased to say that many ex New Guinea staff made the effort to attend. Representatives from Melbourne included Alan Nock, Port Moresby Supply Dept.

The re-union was organised by Richard Seeto who was very pleased with the 170 people who attended, but sad that insufficient time was available to talk to all in attendance. As usual the "usual suspects" relived old memories.



Our museum benefited also as Richard sent two pictures of a formation of three DC3's. From the colour scheme this would have been after 1972, so if anyone can throw some light on the reason or where these aircraft were going then we would include this information on the picture frame, or if you know the crew names then this would also be included.

One aircraft (in middle of group) is registered VH-SBO which may help.

Contributions from these members to our newsletters would be appreciated.

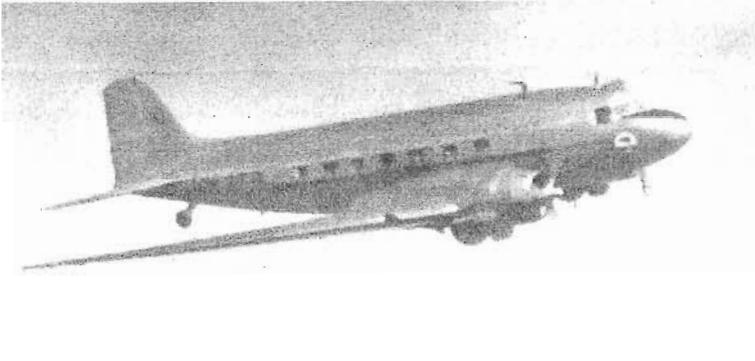
## Pictures from the past – Computer Screen Saver

Tired of the usual screen saver that came with your computer, - well we have put together a series of pictures covering the years 1946 through to 1993 with numerous shots of all the aircraft operated by Trans-Australia Airlines and Australian Airlines.

These can be transferred to the My Pictures folder and included into the screen saver files so when you are away for a few minutes these pictures will be displayed on the screen, or it can be used as a slideshow without sound.

Cost to Club members \$8.50 which also includes postage. Cost to the public \$ 20.00 PLUS postage.

All monies go to the museum for items that we find for sale in the general marketplace.



## Stories from the past.

We have over the years endeavoured to encourage employees, especially foundation members and those who joined in the late forties and early fifties, to record their history for inclusion in our personal records and histories section. Alas to say that we have lost so many good members and great stories to time and lack of effort, assuming that they thought that it wasn't necessary. We had some great story tellers of those early years epitomising the spirit of the airline that today, and in today's aviation environment, would have emphasised the loyalty and dedication of this period and the character of the people of the time.

**Not all is lost**, as one such individual has gone one step further and covered his entire life's memories in a booklet form called -



“Blue's Story”, reflecting on the life of William Duncan (Blue) Young, whose story included 34 years working for TAA. I won't relate the contents of the booklet, but point you to the website where this history resides. It is - [home.iprimus.com.au/graceandblue/index.htm](http://home.iprimus.com.au/graceandblue/index.htm)

[From a young bloke who was born in Ireland to a Dinky Die Aussie now with a Queensland lilt.](#)

[For those who knew 'Blue' and would like to contact him he e-mail is \[graceandblue@iprimus.net.au\]\(mailto:graceandblue@iprimus.net.au\) and he has a few copies of the booklet remaining.](#)

[LIKE TO ADD YOUR STORY - START NOW and FORWARD IT ON.](#)

**OUR FIRST OUTING FOR 2006**

**DATE TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> February 2006**

**Destination – Queenscliffe by the sea.**

Coach to Drysdale, then by train to Queenscliffe, with lunch being served at the VICTORIA HOTEL  
Returning to Drysdale by train and then coach back to Melbourne, arriving Therry St. approx 5.30PM.

Cost per member / Partner               \$ 25.00 per person  
Guest / non member                       \$ 32.00 per person

Again seating is limited so book early to save disappointment.

PICKUP POINTS   THERRY ST           0830   (Rear of QANTAS House)  
                          AIRPORT WEST   0900   (between Safeway petrol & Skyways Hotel)

CLOSING DATE 24<sup>th</sup> January 2006 and we will confirm your booking by phone 2 weeks before departure (due to Christmas break by volunteer staff)

-----Return this section to -----

Mr. Ross McDonald   Events Co-ordinator   **QUEENSCLIFFE 2006**  
TAA 25 Year Club Inc  
Level 11  
50 Franklin Street  
Melbourne 3000

Member / Partner name/s ..... Contact phone number.....  
Non-member / Guest .....

**My pickup point will be   THERRY ST                           or   AIRPORT WEST (circle one only please)**

Enclosed is my Cheque / Money order / other for \$..... Cheques / Money orders to be made payable to TAA 25 Year Club inc. please.

**Typoglycemia. Or How's your eyesight?**

I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulaclty uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid. Aoccdrnig to rscheearch taem at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a word are, the olny iprmoatnt tihgng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm.

Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Such a cdonition is arppoatiely cllaed Typoglycemia-

Amzanig huh? Yaeh and yuo awlyas thought slpeling was ipmorantt.

**Computer joke – Help desk phone conversation** -Customer: Hi, good afternoon, this is Martha, I can't print. Every time I try, it says "'Can't find printer". I've even lifted the printer and placed it in front of the monitor, but the computer still says it can't find it...

## TAA travel bags.

We have recently acquired another rare carry bag to add to our collection, that of the DC9 introduction back in 1967, adding to the variety issued by the airline and now held in the museum. We hold only a small number of the bags issued but what we have has provided yet another avenue to display and portray our airline over the years. Our collection includes two bags depicting our part in the development and expansion of services in Papua New Guinea, and the original 3 separate colours of brief case style bags issued when these were first introduced. Got an old one in the cupboard that you would like to donate ????

## Vale

**Jack Price** - Printing & Publications Melbourne – September (14<sup>th</sup>) 2005.



Many will remember Jack for his participation in running the TAA print Bureau both at Essendon and at Tullamarine. Jack served on the TAA 25 Year Club Committee for many years and a current member at the time of his death.

When Qantas assumed control in 1993 Jack continued his dedication by assisting Judy Flower in the then museum creation down under the up ramp to the rooftop carpark at the rear of 50 Franklin Street, and later when this activity was undertaken by our volunteer group, Jack assumed the responsibility to ensure that every member received a newsletter when printed.

Jack had a colorful history, born in Richmond, Melbourne in 1925, he had a good grounding for survival by the time he enlisted in the RAAF in 1943, and being part of an advance party sent to Bouganville TPNG in March 1945, and later joining TAA in 1954. Jack had not been in good health for some time and died peacefully in the Melbourne General Hospital on 14<sup>th</sup> of September.

### So long old friend

**Capt. John Smith** – Flight Operations – (Oct'49-Sept 69 retired when on DC9's) – May 2005. (82 yrs)  
(advised by his daughter) John retired whilst holding the position of Check Captain – DC9, and was in the first group to go to the USA to be trained on the DC9 aircraft. John was medically retired in September 1969.

**Capt. David Croucher** – Flight Operations – Melbourne 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2005.

David was known to all who worked for TAA in the 60's as he delivered the first Boeing 727 and introduce the Jet Age in 1964. Born in the UK, David learned to fly Harvard, and later Meteor jets in the RAF. Resigning then immigrating to Australia on the 10 pound scheme he applied for a job with TAA. Needless to say the beginning of a colourful career, from single pilot operations in the Snowy flying a Beaver, to Check and Training duties on the larger passenger jets later in his career. A very good pilot and respected for his professionalism, he leaves many friends to ponder the memories of years of association within and external of TAA. Farewell Capt. Dave