



TAA / Australian Airlines 25 Year Club

Newsletter No. 73 September 2012

Editor: John Wren

Xmas in July

Well, the Christmas in July turned out to be a real ‘corker’ – so good in fact that we have no photographic evidence (that will start a few rumours) of the great time the 60 or so 25 Year Club members had at the Dava Hotel at Mt. Martha on 10 July.

As usual Ross McDonald arranged the trip brilliantly and everything went according to plan. Luckily there are a lot of members down at Mt. Martha, so we only needed one bus.

Unfortunately that’s your lot as far as bus trips go, for this year, but as you will see below there are other events coming up. But definitely bring your camera!

STAARS (Simply TAA Retired Staff) Lunch – 21 August

Over 150 retired TAA / Australian Airlines staff enjoyed the get together at Moonee Valley Race Course on 22 May; and as usual Lance and Kevin were in the background ensuring everything was going to plan. There were a few new faces, and unfortunately many missing with the approach of mid-winter (too cold or the flu kept the ‘senior’ members away). The 25 Year Club has a **special treat** for some of those attending the 21 August meeting – a free copy of Aviation Heritage (a Journal of the Aviation Historical Society of Australia) kindly provided by the editor of that magazine for members. The June issue has an extensive article on TAA and the Electra (complete with pictures of them now), plus an article on DC3 ‘Hawdon’ VH-AES and a whole lot of other aviation history from Australia’s beginnings with aircraft. Great magazine.

If you haven’t been to a STAARS lunch before, give Kevin Anderson a call on 0419511179 for details. The remaining STAARS meeting date for 2012 is **20 November 2012**.



For those who haven’t got to a STAARS lunch yet; here’s the view out over Moonee Valley Racecourse everyone gets through the window whilst munching and talking. Very enjoyable. And below are some pics of just some of those who attended:



Here's a rare shot of both Lance and Kevin (far end of the table) actually sitting down enjoying the meal. Usually they are so busy organising things they don't get a chance to sit and chat.



Left John Beaton getting an 'earful' from Peter Robinson – probably about DC3 maintenance. We have had a few flights recently (Warrnambool & Wangaratta) and there are more being planned which is good for the aircraft, and 25 Year Club Members.



Annual Dinner / Get Together

The TAA/Australian Airlines 25 Year Club Annual Dinner this year will be at the William Angliss facility (550 Lt Lonsdale St in the city) which is well serviced by tram and train if you do not want to drive into the city. Come join your mates for a great time:

Date/Time: Wednesday 12 September 2012 from 6:30, when the bar opens.

Cost: Financial Member / Partner \$25.00 None Financial Member / Guest \$33.00

[Three course meal provided – drinks (at bar prices)] ➔ **RSVP: By Thursday 30 August 2012 to:**



Mr. Ross McDonald Events Coordinator

SEPTEMBER ANNUAL DINNER

TAA/Australian Airlines 25 Year Club

Qantas GT Building

7 York St, Airport West VIC 3042

Financial Member Name: _____ Partner: _____

None Financial Member Name: _____ Guest: _____

Please make your cheque or Money Order payable to "TAA 25 Year Club"



Busy, busy, busy at the Museum

If you would like to visit your Museum (7 York Street, Airport West), we are open Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 1030 to 1430 (closed on Public Holidays). **Free entry for 25 Year Club & Museum members.**

This quarter we have hosted the following groups through the Museum (and provided tea/coffee and sandwiches): Swinbourne Tech Students, Edithvale Probus, Woodend Senior Citizens, 'Wolmsley' Retirement Village, Ringwood / Croydon University.

Your Museum is also on the visiting list of a number of Melbourne **Tour Operators** and the visitor numbers are steadily rising (5 tour groups this period with 137 people)

We are always looking for **volunteers** to help out at the Museum. We are sure we can match one of your interests to one of the tasks we need doing, including acting as a **guide** around the Museum when we have groups going through. If you would like to chat about helping out now and then – give the Museum a call (Tuesday thru Thursday 10:00 ~ 2:00) at the Museum on 9280 8113.

Pre-Christmas Get Together

The TAA/Australian Airlines 25 Year Club pre-Christmas daytime Luncheon this year will be at the William Angliss facility (550 Lt Lonsdale St in the city) which is well serviced by tram and train if you do not want to drive in to the city. Come join your mates for some pre-Christmas cheer;the details:

Date/Time: Wednesday 21 November 2012 at 12:00.

Cost: Financial Member / Partner \$23.00 None Financial Member / Guest \$30.00

[Three course meal provided – drinks (at bar prices)] → **RSVP: By Friday 2 November 2012 to:**

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Mr. Ross McDonald Events Coordinator

NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

TAA/Australian Airlines 25 Year Club

Qantas GT Building

7 York St, Airport West VIC 3042

Financial Member Name: _____ Partner: _____

None Financial Member Name: _____ Guest: _____

Please make your cheque or Money Order payable to “TAA 25 Year Club”

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Membership Arrears

It seems that a few of our members are not financial in 2011/ 2012. If you are currently in arrears, it would make a real difference to the 25 Year Club if we could also receive your current year’s membership fee with the below renewal for next financial year. You can tell if your current years membership has been paid, or not, by looking at the envelope that this Newsletter came in. **If it has “FM12”, or a lower number, you are not currently financial.** Again, thank you for your continuing support.

Membership Renewal 2012/13, and still only \$20.00.

A **BIG thank you** for your continuing support which helps all of us protect the great memories of TAA / Australian Airlines through the continued enhancement of the Museum, member newsletter, trips and dinners etc. Please mail your membership form below to: Ross McDonald, TAA Museum, Qantas GT Building, 7 York Street, Airport West 3042. **Membership was due on 1 July.**

If you would like to not be worried about membership renewals in the future, you may want to consider a life membership for only \$200.

Please find enclosed a cheque / money order (\$20.00) for my 2012/2013 membership of the TAA 25 Year Club (make payable to "25 Year Club").

NameSpouse Name.....

Address.....

Suburb.....StateP/Code.....

Phone.....Mobile.....

E-mail.....

Joined TAA / / Left TAA / /

Date Joined TAA..... Date left.....

This official receipt will be endorsed once your Subscription is received.

New receipt number

Valid until 1/07/20

Vale

Don Ogborne (ex Perth) 12/09/11 *Ed: Issue 71 had Don's surname incorrect; thanks Doug.*

Lucius (Gogs) Manning (Flt Ops, Pilot) 30/12/11 ex RAAF Wing Commander and 31 years as a TAA Pilot with 20,561 flying hours. (There was a half-page obituary in The Age on 20/02/12)
Ed: Apologies for the typo in last month's Newsletter where the surname was in error.

Bill Trant (Power Plant) 06/07/12

Richard 'Tricky' Mercieca (Line Maintenance)

W.J.S. 'Snowey' Whatman (Line Maintenance) 18/06/12 aged 86

George Ambrose Hassell (Production Inspection) 25/05/12 aged 88

Jan Wallace (Cashier BNE APT) 11/12/11

Graeme Morland (Finance - Revenue H.O.) 25/03/12

John Morris (Pilot Flt Ops) 12/07/12

Peter Kerr (Pilot Flt Ops) 17/07/12 aged 70

Margaret Holbrook (CRC/Systems) 12/07/12

Neil Williams (LAME) 20/07/12

Neil Jericho (Pilot Flt Ops) 03/02/12

Don Jordan (Pilot Flt Ops) 10/04/12 aged 74