

Newsletter 50

February 2007

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Editor – James Meehan



WE HAVE MOVED

and are now preparing your Museum at our new location.

We hope your New Year and the festive season has been as bright and exciting as ours now appears to be and our special thanks to QANTAS, and the Qantas people, who made this move the total success it has been.

The assistance given has been most commendable, from the smallest detail to the move itself, all went without a hitch, and the final layout of the museum is now underway.

For your information, we had over 200 cubic metres of memorabilia and fittings to be moved and relocated to the new site.

We have started to unpack and redesign the layout at our new facility, and with the assistance given by members this could be completed by the end of February, so if you would like to provide some of your time and assist then please contact Jim Meehan - 0438 540 842 anytime, or drop into the Museum at 7 York St. Airport West, via the security guard at 1 York St, and register your interest and time availability. We are in attendance Monday to Friday from 0900. As you can imagine it is taking sometime to unpack and setup, but now we will be able show the majority of our collection and it will be a good visual history of our airline.

Volunteers

Our original volunteers, Dorothy Tuff, Lois Gale, Ron Adams, George Wren, Ross McDonald, Allan Bunker, David Laurie, Alan Nock, Don Owen, Jim Meehan, Jeff Fry, Barry Gawne, Keith Holland, Robert Masters, have been assisted by some 'new blood' - Ron Austin, Jim More, Bill McGuinness, Ian Johnson, Frank Sullivan, Max Bomford,

Helen Stanley, Lynette Kedge have joined our newer volunteers, with Alan Whatman, Duncan Cameron, Murray Watson, assistance which is greatly appreciated and they show that 'TAA spirit' to ensure that we will be set up in record time. We will need to manufacture new and specialised display stands, build tables, shelves and completely redesign all display facilities, a project that is well underway.

Public Access -

The new facility provides wheelchair access and public entry, disabled \ invalid facilities, a theatrette, and space to accommodate large groups (more than 20 people) removing that 'cluttered and restricted look' evident in Franklin Street; but Franklin Street did provide the ability to collect, store and selectively rotate our collection.

Here we can display our collection as well as the other items from the history of Australian aviation, including other airlines like the ANA training manual for Air Hostesses, the ANA DC6 publicity / promotional film done when TAA introduced the Vickers Viscount, and the 1934 AGE newspaper detailing the events of the London to Melbourne Air Race. QANTAS have agreed to provide some material for inclusion, thus making our Museum the only totally dedicated commercial aviation museum in Australia, as most other aviation museums have a military theme as the prime attraction.

Your museum will display many items pertinent to Australian aviation development and identify the influences effecting Australian aviation, from the changes that occurred when TAA came into being, the effect TAA had on aviation development nationwide from the capital cities to the outback, the support given to the Royal Flying Doctor Service, even television in its infancy, and our contribution during times of national disasters. It is an exciting time and we will make the most of it to ensure that future generations can recall these memorable years in our aviation history.

The New Museum



Left – Ross McDonald and Keith Holland looking forlornly into space after inspecting the 200 cubic metres of memorabilia and display materials transferred from Franklin Street.

Where to start ?? That was the big question, decided over a cup of coffee, and once decided, work progressed with sorting and selecting, while the shelving was being built in the storeroom, and then it was 'progressively attacked'. But then again 'Rome wasn't built in a day', but we are giving it a good try.



Left – More of the collection, - films, VCR cassettes, banners, posters, manuals and much, much more. Cartons everywhere, some light, some very heavy, but all filled with our history.

Thankfully most of this has now been sorted, but not as yet stored or placed on display as we had to hold back until the perimeter walls were erected and painted, which was not completed until 29th of January.



Left – The first area to be established – the office area- with all the commissioned paintings of our aircraft along the back wall with our large image of 'Nola Rose' which was previously in the window of the museum at Franklin Street.

These paintings make an impressive impact on entry and a pleasant environment for the volunteer workers

Lower Left – The second part to be arranged, our filing room, repair facility, and workshop where we can now repair the many damaged or degenerating items that had to be left 'untouched' due to a lack of room at Franklin Street.



In addition to the increased floor space, we can now provide an area to house all the film, VCR, and other photographic materials in a single and separate area. We no longer have to take it home to convert, and our DVD production has also been boosted with the purchase of a DVD burner that includes a VCR player, so all the 10 minute tapes can be condensed into 1, 2, 4, or 6 hour disks, providing a running commentary of events as they occurred over the years.

Joke

A woman was trying hard to get the sauce out of the bottle, and during her struggle the phone rang, so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone.

After saying "Hello" she continued "Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now, she's hitting the bottle."

Annual general Meeting

The annual general meeting of the 25 Year Club inc. will be held on the 20th March 2007, at 7 York Street, Airport West (the new museum location – in the theatrette) commencing at 1200 hours. Refreshments, tea and coffee, and soft drinks will follow the meeting – no alcohol is permitted on the premises.

As this is a normal day at the museum it will be open from 0900 hours permitting members to come and view our new facilities.

It would be appreciated if you intend to attend that you complete the following which will assist with the catering, and return it to –

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Ross McDonald
Events Co-Ordinator
TAA 25 Year Club inc.
7 York Street,
Airport West 3043

Annual general meeting acceptance.

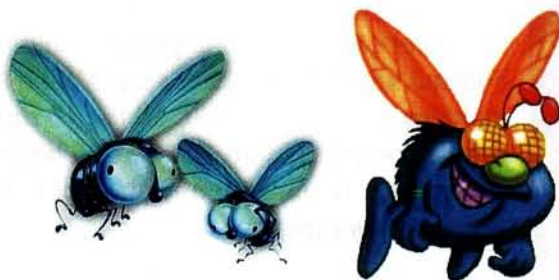
Ross,
Please register my intention to attend the AGM, 20th March – Museum theatrette.

Name

Date

Late acceptances should telephone the museum on 9280 8113 or 9280 8114.

This is the cleanest e-mail joke I've come across in a long while



A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter. "What are you doing?" She asked.

"Hunting Flies" He responded.

"Oh. Killing any?" She asked.

"Yep, 2 males, 3 Females," he replied.

Intrigued, she asked "How can you tell?"

He responded, "2 were on a beer can, 3 were on the phone."

The first outing for 2007.

Date 27th March 2007.

This will be a bus tour to historic Point Nepean, part of the Mornington Peninsula National Park, a site that was restricted to the public for 100 years.

We travel by customised transporter to the point, and you will be able to explore the underground tunnels, lookouts and other facilities including he the defence fort.

Morning tea and a picnic lunch will be provided.

Pickup points - Please identify on the acceptance form - Therry St. or Airport West.

<u>Cost</u>	Members / partner	\$30.00
	Non members /guests	\$35.00

Seats are limited so please respond by 14th March 2007.

Please return your acceptance to

-----Cut here-----

Ross McDonald
Events Co-Ordinator
TAA 25 Year Club inc.
7 York Street,
Airport West 3043

Bus tour – POINT NEPEAN & Precincts.

Ross,
Please register my intention to attend the bus tour.

Member Name/ Partner name
Non members guest names

Pickup point	0830	Airport West
		(between Safeway Petrol and Skyways Hotel)
	0900	Therry Street, Melbourne (rear of Qantas House)

Please circle one only.

Enclosed id my Cheque /money Order /Other to the value of \$..... Please make payments payable to TAA 25 Year Club inc.

On the 'unwell list'

Ken Francis – Engineer of long standing, and a well known airline character who joined TAA with the introduction of the Viscount Aircraft, is currently undergoing treatment at the Freemasons Hospital in East Melbourne.

A special 'Thank you'

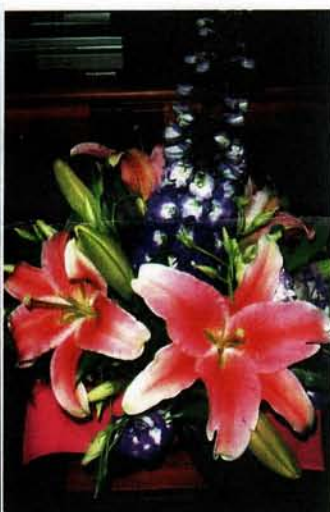
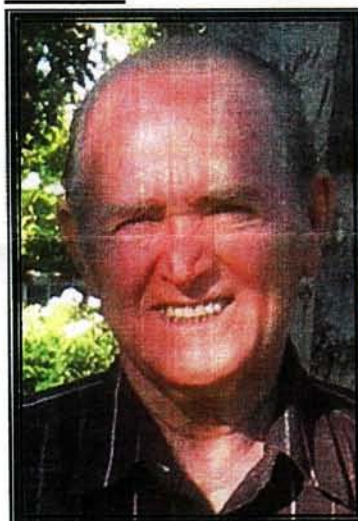
I would like to acknowledge the 36 members who responded to our original request for assistance 'to help move' our collection when we advertised for volunteers back in November 2006. We were unsure at that time of how we were going to pack, move and relocate 'the mountain of memorabilia'.

In the short intervening period between being asked to move, and the actual move date, things were a little chaotic, but when we were provided with 'professional movers' the majority of our problems appeared to be solved, leaving us to organise and re-assemble the collection at this new site.

We now have a new challenge, and if you would like to provide assistance at our new location then feel free to 'drop in' and have a chat about what is now being done and what will be done to ensure that our history is preserved and made available for all to see.

We are 'on site' at 7 York St. Airport West Monday to Friday from 0915.

Vale



We are saddened to announce the passing of Ron Tate – President of the SA and NT Branch of the TAA / AUSTRALIAN Airlines 25 Year Club –and our thoughts go out to Margaret and the family.

Ron and Margaret remained staunch supporters of the Club and the union formed between members of TAA, and attended regularly the annual National Conferences cementing the bond between interstate branches.

R.I.P. old friend, you will be missed by us all.

The Victorian / Tasmanian Chapter recognised on behalf of our members, Ron's passing, and organised the above wreath in recognition of his dedication to the 25 Year Club.

Capt. Reg Bailey DSO OBE DFC. Deputy G.M. – Management - January 2006.

Decorated for his services during the war years, quiet and confident throughout his working life and a keen golfer, Reg passed away on January 31, 2007.

Bert Power – Foundation Member - Aircraft Maintenance - Surveillance Inspection– Melbourne - November 2006 - aged 88 years.

Peter Cavanagh – Computer Services Melbourne -January 2007.