

# Newsletter 58 December 2008

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Editor James E. Meehan

It's that time again when our thoughts turn to the festive season when good will to all is paramount.

To all our members, THANK YOU for your continuing SUPPORT, and our committee extends to you and your family the very BEST OF WISHES for this season, and MAY THE NEW YEAR BE ALL THAT YOU WISH.

Santa - 1881

and

SANTA - 2008



**Our thought for the Day is -----No---- Quote of the Week – No ---- this ‘Year’**

'I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around the banks will deprive the people of all property until their children wake-up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.'

*Tomas Jefferson 1802*

**Website** – This has been an ongoing development and I am now pleased to say that we have got phase 1 up and running. For those who have the internet you can call up our site with a Yahoo search using the words TAA MUSEUM and we should be top of the list, if not then type in [www.taamuseum.org.au](http://www.taamuseum.org.au) and it will appear.

It is proposed that in time all our history, our association with the RFDS, and exploits in New Guinea will appear along with a photographic history of our development, our people, our aircraft, and representations of many of the departments that made up TAA.

Our photographic library now extends to well over 10,000 pictures of aircraft, people, places and events, so when it is finished in about 10 months, people around the world will have a better appreciation of the contribution made by TAA's people towards the development of air services and the national network now operating in Australia.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting for 2009 will be held at our new location , **7 York Street, Airport West, on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March (2009) commencing at 1200 hours – in the museum café area.** This will be followed by refreshments including Tea/coffee/soft drinks, and as previous alcohol is unable to be served on these premise. It would be appreciated if you could indicate your intention to attend by 10<sup>th</sup> March, to enable the catering to be organized.

Register your attendance by ringing 9280 8114 ANY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY BETWEEN 0930 AND 1430 (2.30pm) – WHEN THE MUSEUM WILL BE ATTENDED BY A VOLUNTEER.

**LOOKING FOR** - We are still seeking photographs of pilots, hostesses and engineering staff for this project, and although pilots and engineers made TAA a lifetime career, hostesses, in the main, only had a short time in service as the rules regarding married women limited their service, but many of these were our frontline staff and deserve recognition for their efforts. Unfortunately many of these were lost during the name changes so we have to rely on our members to recover this history, and I am pleased to say that we are getting some responses, Thank you.

### First club outing for 2009

Around the bay trip programmed for 10<sup>th</sup> February (Tuesday) 2009. We will be travelling via Geelong with morning tea en route then on to Queenscliffe, boarding the ferry to travel to Sorrento. Lunch will be at Frankston, followed by a leisurely return trip to Melbourne via the Eastlink freeway.

|                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Cost per member/partner</b> | <b>\$35.00 per person</b> |
| <b>Cost Non member/ guest</b>  | <b>\$40.00 per person</b> |

### **Pickup points -**

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Therry Street (rear of old TAA H.O)                                 | <b>0800 hours</b> |
| Airport West (between Skyways Hotel and Safeways petrol station) at | <b>0830 hours</b> |

**RSVP required no later than 29th of January 2009.**

**Any enquiries to Ross on 0419 115 396**

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

Mr. Ross McDonald – Events Co-ordinator  
TAA 25 Year Club inc.  
QANTAS EP Building

1-7 York Street  
Airport West 3042

### **Round the Bay**

|              |          |                 |
|--------------|----------|-----------------|
| Members name | /partner | @ \$ 35.00 p.p. |
| Non Member   | / Guest  | @ \$ 40.00 p.p  |

Please indicate pickup point - THERRY ST                      AIRPORT WEST (**circle one only**)  
Please find enclosed my Cheque (Number ..... ) or other to the value of \$  
and please ensure that it is marked payable to TAA 25 Year Club inc.

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## **CHANGES TO STAFF TRAVEL SERVICE DELIVERY**

From Monday 24 November 2008 a number of changes will be implemented to streamline Staff Travel service delivery. Current and retired staff are asked to ensure that they and their beneficiaries are aware of the following changes:

### **Improved Phone Menu Options**

A number of new options will be added to the Staff Travel phone menu to assist staff travellers in obtaining the information they need – from Monday 24 November, the new menu will be:

- Option 1 – Change an existing listing
- Option 2 – Make a new booking
- Option 3 – Update Staff Travel beneficiary details
- Option 4 – Refund inquiries
- Option 5 – Jetstar inquiries
- Option 6 – Insurance inquiries
- Option 7 – Staff Travel hours of operation

### **Employee/Retiree Responsibility for Access to Staff Travel Benefits**

It is important that current and retired employees take full responsibility for their Staff Travel benefits, this includes being responsible for making all inquiries and bookings on behalf of their Staff Travel beneficiaries. A large amount of information is available from Staff Travel Online which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from <https://stafftravel.qantas.com.au>. Staff Travel Online should be your first port of call whenever you require Staff Travel information. Please ensure that you and your beneficiaries plan ahead, as the Staff Travel Customer Service Centre is will only deal directly with the employee or retiree who holds the benefit.

### **Fare Quotes**

There are a number of resources available on Staff Travel Online to assist staff travellers with obtaining an indication on the cost of travel. Where a fare quote is requested via the Staff Travel Customer Service Centre (telephone, counter or via form), a service fee of \$25 will be charged for each quote requested. The staff traveller will be provided with a booking reference number, and if the booking is paid for within seven days of the quote, the service fee will be refunded.

For further information, refer to Staff Travel Online: <https://stafftravel.qantas.com.au>. Staff Travel Online is the best way to access your benefit and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from across the globe via the internet.

Issued by Qantas Staff Travel.

### **An Irish Joke**

Paddy calls Easyjet to book a flight. The operator asks 'How many people are flying with you?' Paddy replies 'I don't know! It's your flaming plane!!'

### **Qantas Honour Our Aviation Pioneers with naming of new Airbus A380 aircraft**

**On Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2008, I was invited to the ceremony where** Qantas announced the names of its fleet of 20 A380 aircraft, honouring pioneers of Australian aviation, and in attendance were many descendants of those people to be honoured.

Qantas Chief Executive Officer Designate, Mr Alan Joyce said that today was the airline's 88th birthday - and a fitting date to honour men and women who had contributed to the development of aviation in Australia. Mr. Joyce said "I am delighted that some of our greatest aviation trail blazers and their families have agreed to allow Qantas to name our A380 fleet in their honour," he said. "Today, we are bringing

aviation's past together with its future, and we have been overwhelmed with the support from the public since we announced the A380 naming program and all of the names that people have suggested have been very worthy". We have taken some of those suggestions, and also consulted aviation experts, to ensure we chose people who have not only made a great difference to flying in this country, but who represent the courage, tenacity and determination of the real spirit of Australia. "Among these to be are Qantas' founders Fergus McMaster, Paul McGinness and Hudson Fysh, who gathered at the Gresham Hotel in Brisbane and signed the formal papers to establish Qantas 88 years ago.

"Others include engineers, inventors, navigators and business leaders - but all are pioneers, and all are very deserving." The people who will have an A380 named after them are -

Nancy-Bird Walton - the first woman to fly a commercial aviation service in Australia

Hudson Fysh - one of the founders of Qantas and the airline's first Managing Director.

Paul McGinness - one of the founders of Qantas

Fergus McMaster - one of the founders of Qantas and the first Chairman of the Company

Lawrence Hargrave - inventor of the box kite, linking four of these together in 1894 to fly 16 feet

Charles Kingsford Smith - Australia's most famous aviator, who made the first trans-Pacific flight from the USA to Australia in 1928, and founded Australian National Airways Limited

Charles Ulm - Co-pilot, on Kingsford Smith's record-breaking trans-Pacific flight between the USA and Australia in 1928 and co-founder of Australian National Airways Limited.

Reginald Ansett - Founder of Ansett Airways Pty Ltd

David Warren - Inventor of the Black Box Flight Recorder. (in attendance and I was presented with a copy of his biography)

Bert Hinkler - Pilot of first solo flight from Britain to Australia in 1928.

John and Reginald Duigan - First Australians to design, construct and fly a powered aircraft, in 1910.

Phyllis Arnott - First Australian woman to gain a commercial pilot's license.

Keith McPherson Smith and Ross McPherson Smith - winners of the famous 'Air Race' between London and Australia in 1919.

Lester Brain - Piloted one of the first Qantas routes in 1925 and ferried the first wartime Catalina Flying Boat delivered by Qantas Empire Airways in 1941. Later appointed General Manager of Trans-Australia Airlines in 1946.

Lores Bonney - First woman to fly solo around Australia in 1932 and the first woman to fly solo from Australia to England, in 1933

Norman Brearley - Founder of Western Australian Airways Limited, which operated Australia's first scheduled air service on 5 December 1921

P G Taylor - Navigator and co-pilot alongside Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm on many record-breaking flights between Australia and the United States and England and Australia. Taylor was awarded the Empire Gallantry Medal in 1937 for one of the most revered acts of bravery in the history of aviation.

Scotty Allan - Co-pilot alongside Charles Ulm and P G Taylor on the 1933 record-breaking flight from England to Australia and later joined Qantas and flew DH86 aircraft on the Brisbane-Singapore route

John Flynn - Founder of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Gaby Kennard - First Australian woman to fly solo around the world in 1989  
Corporate Communications

Issued by Qantas

## **Another one of life's memorable moments.**

A Blonde was on her way to Heaven, and upon her arrival, a concerned St Peter met her at the Pearly Gates. 'I'm sorry,' St Peter said; 'But Heaven is suffering from an overload of goodly souls and we have been forced to put up an Entrance Exam for new arrivals to ease the burden of Heavenly Arrivals.

"That's cool!" said the blonde, 'What does the Entrance Exam consist of?"

Just three questions' said St Peter.

'Which are?' asked the blonde.

'The first,' said St Peter, 'is, which two days of the week start with the letter 'T' ?

The second is 'How many seconds are there in a year?'

The third is 'What was the name of the swagman in Waltzing Matilda?'

Now,' said St Peter, 'Go away and think about those questions and when I call upon you, I shall expect you to have those answers for me'.

So the blonde went away and gave those three questions some considerable thought (I expect you to do the same), and the following morning St Peter called upon the blonde and asked if she had considered the questions, to which she replied, 'I have'.

"Well then?" said St Peter, 'Which two days of the week start with the letter T?'

The blonde said, 'Today and Tomorrow.'

St Peter pondered this answer for some time, and decided that indeed the answer can be applied to the question.

'Well then, could I have your answer to the second of the three questions?' St Peter went on, "how many seconds in a year"?

The Blonde replied, 'Twelve!'

Only twelve?' exclaimed St Peter,

'How did you arrive at that figure?'

'Easy,' said the blonde, 'there's the second of January, the second of February, right through to the second of December, giving a total of twelve seconds'.

St Peter looked at the blonde and said, 'I need some time to consider your answer before I can give you a decision.' And he walked away shaking his head.

A short time later St Peter returned to the Blonde. 'I'll allow the answer to stand, but you need to get the third and final question absolutely correct to be allowed into Heaven. Now, can you tell me the answer to the name of the swagman in Waltzing Matilda?'

The blonde replied: 'Of the three questions, I found this the easiest to answer.

"Really!" exclaimed St Peter, 'And what is the answer?'

It's Andy.

"Andy??"

"Yes, Andy,' said the blonde.

This totally floored St Peter, and he paced this way and that, deliberating the answer.

Finally, he could not stand the suspense any longer, and turning to the blonde, asked

'How in God's name did you arrive at THAT answer?'

'Easy' said the blonde, 'Andy sat, Andy watched, Andy waited til his billy boiled.'

**And the blonde entered Heaven...**

**Sorry it is so long but it really hit spot and I thought it was worth it at Christmas time.**

# Vale

**Capt. Ron Carnell –Asst. Regional Captain – flight Ops. – Melbourne - August 2008.**

**Capt Ivan Scown – Flight Ops Dept – Melbourne - November 2008.**

**Capt. James Betts - flight Ops Brisbane - November 2008.**

**Peter Grey –Avionics (class of 61) – Line Mntce Watch – Melbourne – October 2008.**

**John Alan Norman – Maint. Specialist – AMD- Melbourne – September 2008.**

**Flight Engineer Simon Alexander – Flight Ops – Melbourne – October 2008.**

**Darryl Maney – Manager N/W Tasmania – October 2008.**

**Christine Ferguson (Watford) (Chief Hostess) – Flight Ops – Melbourne – October 2008.**

**Mike Purvinas – Technical Services Depart. - Melbourne – October 2008.**

**James (Jim) Berwick – Cargo TPNG – December 2007. (late advice)**

**James (Jim) Anderson – Executive Driver – Motor Transport Melbourne – November 2008.  
(Jim had the distinction of having chauffeured four General Managers in a career of 42 years with the airline.**

**Colin Lange – STO Load Control – Traffic - Adelaide Airport – November 2008.**

**Marjory Cootes – Printing Section Essendon/Tullamarine– September 2008.**

**Syd Zychch - Engineering – Fabric section – Melbourne – November 2008.**

**Jeff Valle – Manager – Finance Dept. Victoria – December 2008.**

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| Farewell old comrades, rest now in peace |
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