



# **TAA / Australian Airlines 25 Year Club** **Newsletter No. 91**                      **December 2016**

Editor: John Wren



Well, it's that time of the year again, so we have borrowed a front page pic from the Xmas 1967 edition of 'This Air Age' showing a TAA mobile stairs carrying the 'jolly man' himself going west on Bourke St [just crossed Swanston St]. The Foy's building can be seen in the background. [Xmas 1967 – TAA had received its 4<sup>th</sup> B727-100, VH-TJD in 1966]



## President's Report

- ➔ With our very successful 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch [9<sup>th</sup> Sep] and Xmas lunch [10<sup>th</sup> Nov] now behind us we have selected 'wheels down' for landing on the 8 December when we close after another great year of enhancing and increasing the TAA / Australian Airlines Museum.  
Your Committee and all the Volunteers wish you and your family and friends a very healthy and merry Christmas and hopefully an even better 2017 New Year.  
You may want to add a visit to the TAA Museum to your new year's resolutions – I'm absolutely positive you will be impressed with the Museum display, and you may see a way of helping to keep the name and history of TAA / Australian Airlines alive by donation of your 'treasures' [probably stuck in a draw gathering dust] or helping out with a particular project, or even volunteering as often as you can.
- ➔ The 25 Year Club is as good as the Committee that runs it. Please take an active interest in the voting at the forthcoming AGM [15 Mar] and vote for someone you know will do their best for the Club and Museum.
- ➔ We would like to reach out to all ex TAA and Australian Airlines staff and let them know about the 25 Year Club & Museum. If you know any ex staff who are not members, please help us connect with them. Remember, you don't have to have 25 years service to be eligible.

## Christmas Function

Our Christmas function at the William Angliss facility was another success even though numbers were a little down following our big 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary lunch the month before. The meals were exceptional, again served by the William Angliss hospitality trainees, and the weather was great. It seems everyone came into town by train to Flagstaff Station, which is only two blocks away. Very convenient.



Members, guests and Volunteers enjoying the great food and company. Note the TAA and Australian Airlines flags proudly on display.



TAA 25 Year club President John Wren welcoming everyone to the Xmas function and thanking all the Volunteers for another great years service to the Museum.

## Dates - 2017

1. Museum closes 8 Dec 16 and reopens on the 17 Jan 17.
2. Avalon Airshow – 3-5 March 2017 [TAA 25 Year Club will have an exhibition tent]
3. AGM – 15 March 2017 [Skyways Hotel, next to Westfield Shopping Centre]
4. STAARS Lunches – 14 Feb, 16 May, 15 Aug & 14 Nov. [Moonee Valley Racecourse]

## 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Poster

We had some problems with our picture framer and printer however, we now have it sorted and have even improved the selection. So, for the large version [below left] 890 X 650 with surround and glass \$220.00. For the smaller version [below right] 850 X 610 \$170.00. For just the poster [840 X 600] \$25.00 – all available from the Museum.

Contact the Museum by email or phone if you would like to purchase the framed version or just the print on its own, we will order them and let you know when they are ready for collection from the Museum.



## Newsletter

The envelope your Newsletter arrived in has your 25 Year Club financial status printed on it, so you will know if you need to help us with another donation now, or when in the future.

The Newsletter will be **emailed** to members who request it in lieu of surface mail [saves on postage]. The email group will also be able to click on links to short movies. All email recipients should have received notification recently of their financial status. Surface mail will always be available for those without email access.

## AGM 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Our AGM will be held at the Skyways Motel on Matthews Ave, Airport West [the Airport West tram stops diagonally opposite the Skyways Motel, with Westfield Shopping Centre behind]

The term in office for half the Committee [Kevin Anderson, Dorothy Duan, Sam Favazza and Paul Gluschenko] expires at this AGM. Kevin, Sam and Paul will seek re-election, therefore we will need a new Committee Member. Terry Masocco has indicated he will stand for the vacant position.

### Christening Scissors

The Museum recently had a visit from Neil Macmillan [son of TAA pilot James Macmillan] enquiring whether we would be interested in the christening scissors used by Lady Chippindall [Neil's grandmother] when TAA's first Boeing B727 T-Jet (James Cook) arrived in Melbourne on 16 October 1964.

We assured Neil we would take good care of the christening scissors [see picture below], which are now on display at the Museum. Thanks Neil.



The little plaque says: "These scissors were used by Lady Chippindall to christen Trans-Australia Airlines first B727 T-Jet "James Cook" at Melbourne Airport [*Essendon*] on 16 October 1964."



## The 'Flying Show'

The 25 Year Club, after some interesting enquiries, were invited to attend the inaugural event presented by the Flying Show [of Channel 31 fame] at the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds on 22 / 23 October. The weather was bitterly cold, and it rained both days keeping attendances down for the organisers.

Our display [see picture below] was well accepted and we had many enquiries about the Museum and membership.



The morning shift [L to R] Barry Theodore, Frank Greco, Jim Collins and Jack Murphy. In the top right corner of the picture you can see a radio controlled drone [there were many featured at the show] which later was slowly flown into Franks head by the guy seen standing behind the forward entry door of our A300 model. All in good fun.

## Vale

Our sincere condolences are extended to the families and friends of passed TAA/Australian Airlines work colleagues. Fond memories will remain. [FM = Foundation Member]

James (Jim) Lattimore	Flt Engr / Instructor	Aged 82	29/09/16
Reg Hay [FM]	Snr Inspector NDT	Aged 94	04/10/16
Hal Southall	Foreman Engine Maint	Aged 80	16/10/16
John Ramsbotham	Line Maint SYD	Aged 63	13/11/16
Geoff Fisher	Marketing Mgr		06/11/16
Carol Heath	Supply MEL		23/11/16
William (Bill) Goudie	Flt Eng	Aged 76	27/11/16

## STAARS [Simply TAA Retired Staff] Function

The recent STAARS meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> November at the Moonee Valley Race Course was well attended; and the meals went down well. All ex TAA / Australian Airlines staff are welcome to come along and have a chat and meal with your old mates. Approximately 190 attended the lunch with about 16 new members joining the TAA 25 Year Club & Museum.

You are most welcome to attend any of the lunches; further details can be obtained from Lance Erwin on 9386 4056 or Kevin Anderson on 0419 511 179.



[L] Some of the happy STAARS members tucking into their meals. [R] A display of TAA Apprentice Graduation photos from 1952 to 1988 were on display and created a great deal of interest.



### TAA/AUSTRALIAN AIRLINES 25 YEAR CLUB INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Name: ..... Spouse's name: .....  
 Address: .....  
 City: ..... State: ..... Postcode: .....  
 Phone: ..... Mobile: ..... Email: .....  
 TAA/Australian Airlines/QANTAS service:  
 TAA Start date: ..... TAA Finish date: .....  
 Primary area of work & where: .....  
 Preferences (Please circle)    Newsletter:    Mail / Email    Other correspondence:    Mail / Email  
 Additional comments: .....

Donation: 1 year - \$20...3 years - \$60.....5 years - \$100.....Other amount \$..... Gift: \$.....

**Cheque** – payable to 'TAA 25 Year Club' mailed to:  
 Membership Co-ordinator, TAA 25 Year Club, Qantas Building, 7 York St, Airport West, Vic. 3042  
**Bank transfer** – to 'TAA 25 Year Club': C'wealth Bank BSB: 063 007 Account No.: 0090 1577

\*Please ensure you include your name on bank transfers **AND** to confirm your bank transfer:

Return this form by mail    **OR**    Send an email to: [taamuseum@bigpond.com](mailto:taamuseum@bigpond.com)

**For enquiries:** Phone: 03 9280 8113 / 03 9280 8114    Email: [taamuseum@bigpond.com](mailto:taamuseum@bigpond.com)