

Mari-times

Official Magazine of RAAF Edinburgh

WINTER ISSUE 1980



Editor:

Squadron Leader J. Cole

Assistant Editors:

Wing Commander D. Leembruggen

Flying Officer M. Peters

Photographer:

Corporal B. Newell

Unit Representatives:

HQ92WG

Squadron Leader R. Trencher

492SQN

Flight Lieutenant J. Grubb

MATS

Flight Lieutenant M. Coles

BSEDN

Flight Lieutenant C. Robins

Flight Sergeant C. King

ARDU

Flying Officer W. Fletcher

1RTU

Flying Officer M. Peters

24(A)SQN

Warrant Officer R. Le Bherz

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

The first edition of MARI-TIMES attracted publicity which was quite unexpected. FSGT Phil Winsor's letter to the editor ("Are we second class citizens?") received front page coverage in "The Advertiser" of 25 June. The 37-year-old SNCO i/c Training at 492SQN Training Support Flight was quoted as being "unrepentant" about the views expressed in his letter. He had been rejected for the committees of local pistol shooting, golf and cricket clubs because as a RAAF man he was classed as a "transient member of the community".

Public response to the story was immediate. The PRO's phone ran hot and letters soon followed. The two letters to the editor received from servicemen are reproduced in this issue. As both express essentially the same criticisms, FSGT Winsor was asked for his reaction to the publicity.

FSGT Winsor's first claim was that the story was in part misleading. He denied saying that he had been refused committee appointments of sporting clubs of which he is a member. He was also concerned that his complaints seemed aimed at the local area, whereas he told the reporter he was speaking

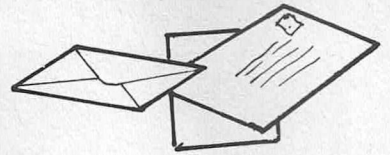
of attitudes found in the Wagga and Newcastle districts.

Most of the letters and phone calls FSGT Winsor received were sympathetic with his views. A PR man from a holiday resort offered the flight sergeant and his family lunch and a tour of the resort; the Netherlands Club of Adelaide gave him 20 tickets to its Tulip Ball. He said that several letters indicated the persons hardest hit by anti-Service bias are our children.

So much for what is obviously a controversial issue one could debate for months. In this edition I have been forced to cull a few submissions either through reasons of space or editorial judgement. Please remember that MARI TIMES is a Service Magazine aimed at reflecting activities of the base or the people who work on it. Having said that, I am grateful for all submissions, especially well drawn cartoons, which are an editor's stand-by and delight. The closing date for submissions for the next issue is 22 September.

SQNLDR John Cole
Editor

Letters to the Editor



Dear Sir,

If the attitude, claimed by Flight Sergeant Phil Winsor in the first edition of MARI-TIMES, "Are We Second Class Citizens?" exists, then it is more by the making of our own members, than anything to do with the media.

Let us look at our own attitude towards other areas of the base: how often do we here, in the technical area, refer to the domestic area as "the blunt end"? How many of us here look down on other less skilled musterings?

I feel that this article, and also the one in "The Advertiser" of 25/6/80, were more emotive than realistic. The article in the Advertiser is likely to do us more harm than good. A more poignant article would have been about the recent good conduct allowance increase of 62c a fortnight, and taxation going up 70c.

If servicemen and servicewomen here suffer from a "lack of involvement and acceptance by the community", then it is their unwillingness to become involved more than anything else. The sad point is that most servicemen and servicewomen prefer to spend their spare time drinking at the local hotel, or respective mess, than participating in any sport. There are some members from this base that are readily accepted into sporting clubs around Adelaide. The poor physical condition of so many of our members testifies to the fact that a lot of our members JUST DO NOT CARE.

A close look at sport in South Australia will show you that the State full-back in Australian Rules football is an Army member, which doesn't harm the image of Army personnel. Just recently, several members of the Air Force ran from Ayers Rock to Adelaide to raise money for the Channel 7 Easter Children's Hospital Appeal. They received good publicity for this. Once again, this helped our image.

In my section, one member is Treasurer of the Waikerie Gliding Club, and another is Secretary-Treasurer of the South Australian Volleyball Referees Commission. Both members (a corporal and sergeant respectively), were approached by their members to accept these positions.

Having served at RAAF Base Darwin, I can only say that there is no distinction between service and civilian people in Darwin. Whenever services have been called in to help in emergencies, such as the recent bushfires here in South Australia, they have received good publicity.

Are we really trained to kill? The S.A. Police Force "Star Force" could more easily be labelled as such. I really believe that there is more stigma attached to the Police Force and the Public Service, than there is to the Armed Services.

The Service chiefs should be more concerned with trying to retain skilled technicians, than with the media's attitude towards us.

I think our image in the community depends on where a member is posted, because the service probably does not have as good an image as it would like at training bases such as Wagga and Laverton. But I still think that our image would not be as bad as the Police Forces of Queensland or the Northern Territory. Tax collectors and debt collectors are not exactly well liked in our society, are they?

How we make ourselves received in the community depends on our efforts to mix, and our attitude to the people in the community.

Rick Fisher, CPL
492 SQN Base Cal. Centre

Editor,

FSGT Winsor asks the question in the Autumn edition of the MARI-TIMES, "Are We Second Class Citizens?"

Well the answer is a very definite NO!

FSGT Winsor appears to have a rather jaundiced view of our position in the local community. However, Mrs D.M. Carpenter, whose letter appeared in the Advertiser on 30JUN80 paints a rosier picture of the servicemen. Referring to the illusion that we are second class citizens and not wanted, she says "..... If you are so disturbed by these illusions you have, dispel them and be assured the community loves you and is humble and grateful to all our armed men....."

Mrs Carpenter's letter assumes more significance when one realises that she lost a son in Vietnam in 1966.

In another part of her letter Mrs Carpenter says "..... 95 p.c. of the community is aware and fiercely proud of all our men in the armed services.....". Perhaps FSGT Winsor is allowing the "other" 5 p.c. to ruffle his feathers.

RAAF Base Edingburgh is an operational base, carrying out operational tasks, seven days a week. Also, in support of the community we provide aircraft for SAR and men to help combat natural disasters such as bushfires and floods. I can assure FSGT Winsor that the public is most appreciative of our efforts and most laudatory in their remarks to the press, TV and to me as Base Commander.

One final point. It is just not true that "transient" service personnel are unwelcome as members of local committees. A glance through the membership list of any of the nearby management or service committees will show the RAAF members serve on almost all of them and have done so for many years — this is not only true of Edinburgh/Elizabeth/Salisbury area, but true of any area around any of the military establishments.

For the last decade there has always been a few who grumble at the "short-back-and-sides" image — apparently preferring to melt into the background of the be-thonged jean generation. Consider for a moment the pride of regiment and esprit-de-corps of the Guards Regiments and the US Marines — they have never lowered their standards and are proud of the 'difference', and that they are servicemen. Whilst the RAAF does not aspire to such a reputation we certainly can take the same pride in our Service. We should all be very proud to be known and recognised, as members of what is undoubtedly one of the best air forces in the world.

To sum up, we will only become second-class citizens if we think of ourselves as such. It is not the community which accords such status and I just don't believe that the views expressed in your letter are shared by more than a minute number of either servicemen or civilians.

L.R. Klaffer
Air Commodore

Dear Sir,

Something I saw recently at Pay Section has prompted me to write and suggest the instigation of a RAAF Base Edinburgh "Wombat of the Week" award.

I suggest the first recipient of the award could be the member wearing a flying jacket complete with Australian flag and travel stickers sewn on the back.

SGT R.I. Heath

A Week To Remember

by Ken Llewelyn (PRO Melbourne)

617 Squadron's reunion in Adelaide was a week to remember.

Not only was the Base fortunate enough to entertain the "Dambusters" but the event was given an extra fillip by the presence of the Squadron's current aircraft, the Vulcan.

Captained by the Commanding Officer of 617, Wing Commander John Herbertson, the aging delta winged aircraft received a tremendous amount of attention during its short stay.

It is one of the most dramatic and forceful aircraft to grace the skies, and in line with other classic aircraft built by the British, among them the Spitfire, Hawker Hunter and Canberra.

Built when high land bombing was fashionable, the Vulcan could fly up to 50,000 feet and out turn many fighters of that era at height because of its enormous wing area.

However, its role has completely changed to low level. Sophisticated missile systems changed the high level philosophy and now crews practise swooping around as low as 300 feet "a la F111". And without in-built air-conditioning, life becomes very uncomfortable in the tropics.

But my most vivid memories of the Vulcan was during an air show in England when four aircraft were scrambled.

The roar from sixteen Rolls Royce Olympus engines was deafening and shook the ground like a mini-earthquake. But the aircraft is incredibly manoeuvrable and makes an ideal demonstration machine. It will be rather sad when the Vulcan, which was first built in 1957, disappears from service. They will be replaced by the Tornado, which at one time was a possible replacement for the Mirage.

Many Adelaide people were fortunate enough to see the RAF Bomber when it made several passes over the Anzac Day March, escorted by two ARDU Mirages flown by Flight Lieutenants Mark Hayler and Ian Gonsal. FLTLT Ron Haack flew the chase aeroplane with one of the Vulcan navigators shooting film.

The parade was also memorable because the Commanding Officer of 24 Squadron, Squadron Leader Kerry Feeney, led his troops, armed because the Squadron was granted freedom of the city last year, and the Air Force contingent passed the largest crowds seen at an Anzac parade for many years.

The veterans were led by former members of 617 Squadron which gave spectators a chance to see the heroes who inspired Paul Brickhill to write the book "The Dam Busters" and the production of the film of the same name. Among the marchers were two famous former Commanding Officers, Leonard Cheshire VC, DSO and two bars, and his successor Willy Tait

DSO and three bars, DFC.

Probably the Editorial in the news typified the feelings of many:

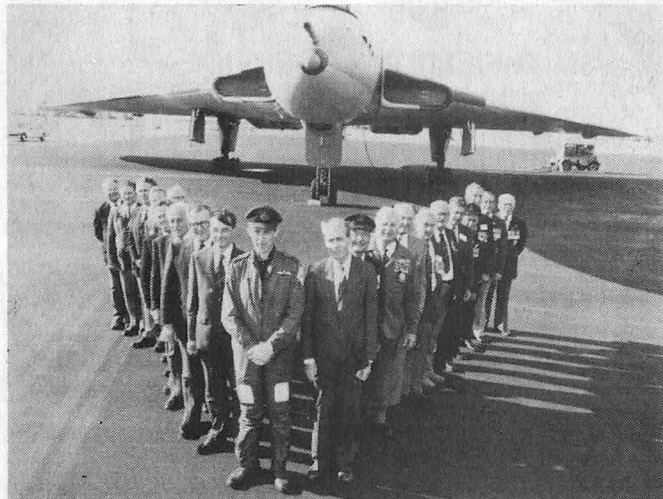
"But no amount of debunking can detract from the plain truth that to fly a small metal container of high explosive and shell as a job of work took guts.

These men were heroes. Seeing them in Adelaide this week for their reunion was a reminder that heroes need not wear seven league boots or even stand out in a crowd. They are ordinary people who, when required, can do extraordinary things without regard for themselves."

These feelings were reiterated by the CAS, Air Marshal N. McNamara and the Officer Commanding of RAAF Edinburgh, Air Commodore L. Klaffer, at the Dining-In Night held in honour of the former members.

The dining room was packed, and VIPs included the Governor of South Australia, the Premier, the Leader of the Opposition and many other local dignitaries.

It was the third reunion held by 617 Squadron since the war. The next is proposed for London in 1983. Let's hope that fate gives generously to those left so that they might continue to represent the faceless heroes who were cut down so cruelly in their prime.



V for Victory — headed by the current CO of 617, Wing Commander John Herbertson and the Squadron's most famous CO Group Captain Leonard Cheshire with a group of former Squadron members in front of the Vulcan.



617 Squadron leading the Air Force contingent past the saluting dias. Taking the salute is former Squadron member Ross Stanford who was the main organiser for 617's reunion in Australia.

The Art of Gardening in Married Quarters or

The Careful Cultivation of Three Cornered Jacks

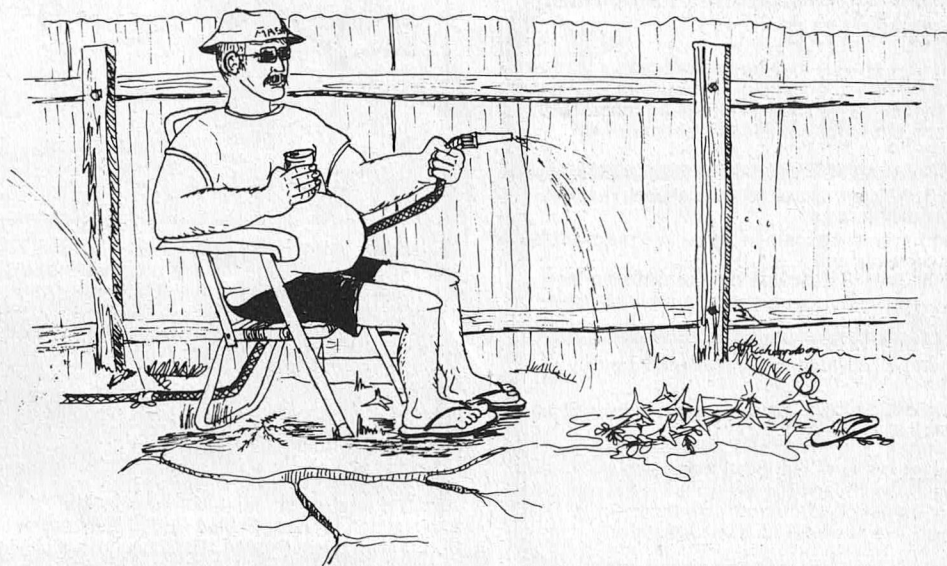
The cultivation and growth of the hard-to-handle and therefore rare three cornered jack plants in SA married quarters can lead the average "RAAFY" to the front bar of the Smithfield Hotel unless this vital article is read and adhered to strictly. If handled properly, these magnificent specimens of flora can be a joy to behold and you too can be held in a position of respect and awe by your fellow married quarters occupants. The following is a guide to happy planting and, we hope, will assist you in the pursuit of much more enjoyable things than bgardening.

The preparation needed for this job is possibly the easiest of the lot apart from what follows below. Do not, under any circumstances, fertilize the area in which you are working.

This will only encourage lawn growth and possibly flowers which everybody knows are undesirable. The best method of preparation is to find the deck chair or sun lounge and a couple of coldies, arrange in a position where you can see none of the area to be prepared and wait (happily). Don't worry what the wife says — if you have trouble with her just show her this article and she will say no more (probably just shake her head).

The tools required for this job are many and varied, but quite a few of them are intangible, and can be used only for appeasing the better half so she will not continue to harass you during your hours of back breaking toil and hard work. For general use, the major tools needed have been outlined in the previous paragraph, but in addition to these you will need such things as a collection of clean glasses (in case a few mates come visiting), an easily accessible supply of refreshments and a hose (for water). With these tools you cannot go wrong — the three cornered jacks and weeds will proliferate (that's bigger than Vegemite).

It is desirable to have at least two half-grown children who have a push bike each so that you do not have to go looking for your pride and joy. These children should be allowed to ride all over the semi-desert called Smithfield Plains and should not be allowed to come back home unless they have acquired at least eight punctures in each tyre. In addition to riding the



"Reckon I'll have to rig something up to hold this hose, it's damn hard work!!"

Plains, the kids should be encouraged to wear their thongs as this is also a very effective method of propagation.

Placing of the three cornered jacks is also important. Why keep them to yourself? Share them around, be neighbourly and grow them near your fences. You could assist simply by directing the plants through a hole in the fence or under it.

These helpful hints will, hopefully, make your garden the

envy of the married patch and apart from the bill incurred by your kids for replacement of bike tubes and replacement of panes of glass that your neighbours put rocks through, will give you a whole lot of satisfaction in the knowledge that not only have you grown a lovely garden, but you are preserving a state heritage. Happy gardening.

Signed: C.C.A.

PENFIELD VILLAGE

by Flight Lieutenant G.A. Newbury

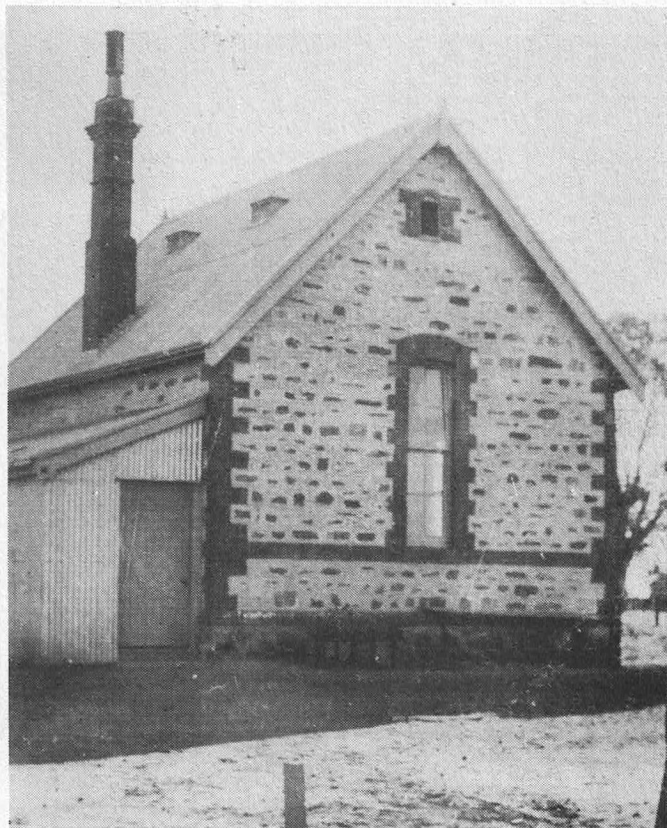
At the northern end of the grass runway, hidden among the gum trees, is building 631 – an old school house – the only remaining building of a small town once known as Penfield.

On the 17th December 1850 William Penfold received a land grant of 80 acres (Section 4057) in the area locally known as "Peachey Belt". He was able to purchase the 80 acres for £80. Of interest is the original land grant document, signed by the then Colonial Secretary, Charles Sturt, the noted explorer.

In 1853 William Penfold built a hotel on his land naming it "The Plough and Harrow", and became its first proprietor. His proprietor's licence issued on 26th September 1853 and valid for one year cost £25. He had the hotel, described as a brick and stone building with half grass, half shingle roof, insured for £500 with the "Launceston Fire and Marine Insurance Company" for a yearly premium of £6.10. The Munno Para Council held meetings in the "Plough and Harrow" until they built their own council chambers.

In 1854 William Penfold purchased another 80 acres (Section 4058) and on 1st February 1856 announced he was subdividing his land and called the village Penfield. At its height Penfield consisted of the school complete with a sports ground behind it; to the west of it stood the council chamber with next to it the hotel on the corner. Round the corner on the continuation of Argent Street stood the general store and next to it stood the blacksmith's shop. The local area was used for mixed farming with the main income being derived from hay farming.

In September 1940 the Commonwealth acquired the village of Penfield as part of its new explosives and filling factory. In 1940 you could still buy horseshoes over the counter and have your tea and sugar weighed on the old-fashioned scales beneath the cedar staircase in the general store at Penfield. (Historial material supplied by Mr. B. Penfold of Valley View, South Australia).



Penfield school (c1930), which is all that remains of the village.

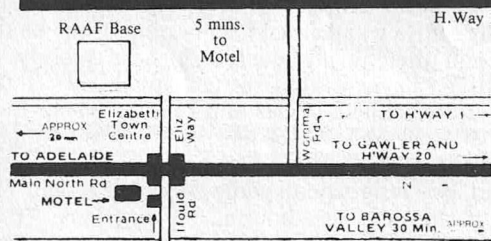


Penfield store (c1930), now demolished.



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RAAF EDINBURGH KINDERGARTEN GROWS WITH THE BASE

by Sheila McCloy



A firm favourite with Director Sheila McCloy and children alike is 'Bandit' the Rabbit. Surrounding Mrs McCloy and Bandit are (from left) Sarah Narres, Peta-Marie Ellis, Katherine Cotton and Deanne Carey.

The idea for a RAAF Kindergarten at Edinburgh was initiated in late 1974 by a committee of concerned mothers, who, because of long waiting lists, were unable to get their four to five year olds into local pre-schools. Finally, in December 1974 at a meeting chaired by the then Commanding Officer of Base Squadron, Wing Commander MacIntosh, a pre-school cum playgroup was established and given use of Building 213, formerly the Recruits Tavern.

Fund raising was of course the major concern of the committee president, Dorne Millar, and secretary Lyn Giles, but by late 1975 the centre was granted membership of the kindergarten Union and thereby attracted a financial subsidy. At the start of 1976 the new kindergarten appointed its first trained staff: director Sheila Jones and teacher Sheila Ebert (now McCloy). Aide Helen Debnam, one of the original committee members, stayed on until her husband's posting to NSW forced her resignation, while Mrs. Millar and Mrs. Giles accepted positions in neighbouring kindergartens.

The kindergarten has grown from an austere, dull building with a pocket handkerchief block of land, to a bright, cheerful pre-school with a much larger and better equipped outdoor area. The change has been due to the combined efforts of staff, committee and the help of carpenters, gardeners and others from the base.

In its first years the centre not only provided education



Teacher Pam Trewren helps Simon Riley take a print of his finger painting.

for young children, but also became a refuge for those who wanted a "cuppa" and a chat.

Many personalities, both children and adults, have since passed through the kindergarten's portals and while the teaching staff has remained the same for four years, the aides have changed yearly as their respective families have been posted. Kindergarten policy has stressed the need for aides to be married to servicemen, and thus be conversant with aspects of Service requirements which the staff may not necessarily understand.

In late 1979 a fall off in the number of pre-school age children on the waiting list forced the kindergarten to switch from full day to half day operation. Despite the cut backs, the centre still provides pre-school education for all four year old children. All activities are aimed at developing the children in several areas — social, emotional, physical and intellectual — and, ultimately, it is hoped all children leave with the necessary skills to cope with the challenges of school. For those children with problems, the staff can seek the help of trained Kindergarten Union specialists, who then work with families and staff to help overcome any difficulties, preferably before the child goes to school.



In a quiet moment aide Norma Kingston reads to a rapt audience (from left): John Gray, Robbie Watts, Ian Lees and Michelle Barnett.

The staff encourage participation in the day to day running of the centre by inviting mothers to help out during sessions and by making facilities available to playgroups. The playgroup is run on Wednesday mornings by mothers, at a nominal cost of 20 cents per family and 10 cents for tea or coffee. From observation and comments from those using the facilities, the benefits are many. For instance, mothers new to the area often make their first friendly encounters here, and also they get to learn more about their own and others' children in their relationships with one another.

RAAF Edinburgh Kindergarten staff are always keen to advertise the services of their centre. If you want further information about the pre-school or the playgroup facilities, contact the Director, Sheila McCloy, teacher, Pam Trewren, or aide, Norma Kingston on 2562402 (on-base extension 2402) any time between 9am and noon on school days.

There are rare occasions when Orion crews can take time off and reflect on the deeper issues of life. Squadron Leader Doug Hurst, senior navigator at 11 SQN, turns some of his impressions into verse. Here are a couple of samples of views we feel safe to print:



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SPICE:

*We all know mice are plural mouses,
So therefore spice are plural spouses,
And if variety's the spice of life
And spice is more than just one wife
Those men who marry seeking spice
May variously pay the price*

THOSE HALCYON (GAY) ROVER DAYS:

*Last nite in Pearce while in my bed,
A black duck kicked me in the head,
And caused my skull to shrink in size,
Till it's too small between the eyes.
But now we're in the air at last
Though victims of the dreaded PASD.
Up front they stifle yawns and dial it,
Most grateful for their auto-pilot.
The nav is writing in his log,
That Gay Rover's a poofster dog,
And radio could not care less
Of contact with the AOCS
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HASH ISN'T HISTORY

If you're the kind of person that enjoys the occasional run, then why not let MUNNO PARA HASH HOUSE HARRIERS (H3) add a little zest and excitement to your otherwise mundane, routine road runs. Let H3 lead you on a pleasant evening run to the top of a small mountain or two, and after a glance at the breathtaking view, perhaps a run down into a fast running, shady creek to soak your aching feet, and then maybe a couple of miles of open undulating grassland in which you can stretch your legs, dry out your shoes and work up a thirst before reaching the start and your parked car.

Actually, there are a few minor complications that are hardly worth mentioning. The paper or chalk trail that you are following keeps disappearing, and when you go looking for it you end up on a completely different mountain top to the rest of the pack; but never mind, the views are worth it, and if, when you've climbed down to that cool, ice cold creek, you have to spend some time looking for your left shoe that was sucked from your foot by the black glutinous mud that everyone else avoided like the plague, don't despair! There's only a short run through undulating grassland between you and a "coldie". Unfortunately, running through knee deep paddocks of three-corner jacks half way up the biggest mountain that you've ever seen with only one shoe on, is a bit frustrating, but: "ON ON", there's a "coldie" over that mountain, or the next one! When you finally get back and catch your breath, you might notice that some of the other runners are sweating or even mud stained, but they incredibly cheerful and are discussing the run as if they enjoyed it! This is in fact a cunning ploy, to make you think that you actually enjoyed yourself, and to make you think that it'll be an easy run next week. Well, this devilish plan seems to be working.

Since H3's inaugural run in early February 1979, over 50 people have become Hash runners and the cries of "ON ON" are quite commonplace around the hills of Munno Para.

The history of Hash goes back many hundreds of teams to biblical times. There is a story in the Bible that tells of an Israelite Hash Club that invited an Egyptian club over for a run through the Red Sea. Very little is known about the actual run apart from a sensational creek crossing, but we do know that the hare, a certain Moses, became the first Hash casualty at the age of one hundred and twenty.

Hash, as we know it, goes back to Kuala Lumpur, 1935, where a group of Poms and Aussies decided that a run in the jungle on a Monday evening would serve as a good way of working off the excesses of the previous weekend. After a run they would meet at a Hash House for a cold drink and a bite to eat. This group soon became an organised club and was running smoothly, until the advent of World War II upset things a bit. Only one of the original runners survived the extended Hash run with the Japanese, one Torch Bennett, an Aussie, who returned to Malaya in 1946 and re-introduced Hash by holding a run at Seremban Race Course. Hash has never looked back since. There are Hash clubs in nearly every country of the world. There are a few in the States, one in Hawaii, one in Serengeti Game Park, a couple in England, four in Darwin, dozens in Malaysia, two in Adelaide and many more too numerous to mention.

So that's HASH, a non-competitive form of masochism that has taken the world by storm. And as they say in Hong Kong — "If you've half a mind to run Hash, then that's all you need". ON, ON.

Hash Scribe



"Come on in Guys, the muds fine!"

ARMY TOO STRONG IN INTERSERVICE FOOTBALL

by SGT W.D. Sinclair

The annual Interservice Australian Rules Football game was played at Warradale Army Base. As has been the case over the last few years, the team with the home ground advantage was successful.

The final scores were – Army 17-9 def RAAF 9-12.

The most disturbing aspect of the day was the lack of support at all levels. The players who participated tried hard all day. However, if a few more of the “recognised” players had made themselves available then the result would have been different.

Spectators can have a great influence on a game of football, or any sport for that matter, as they generate atmosphere and can give considerable lift to tired players. I’m sure the ten or twelve supporters we had tried hard.

Admittedly a lot of the challenge of Interservice sport is lost here in South Australia without the Navy’s presence. However, with more support I’m sure these contests would reach the same level as is attained in the Eastern States.

RAAF EDINBURGH CAR AND CYCLE CLUB

*by Noel Condon
(Club President)*

The Edinburgh Car and Cycle Club was reformed this year and has progressed from a caretaker president, OIC and no members in January, to a full committee and membership of around 50 at the end of June.

Along with this renewed interest by the members of this base, we have had enormous support from the OIC and the COBSQN. As a result of this support, persistence and determination by the committee, and hard work by club members we now boast a track complex on the base which consists of a very good motocross track and motorkhana track for cars. Regular events are being held on these tracks as well as the normal car rallies etc.

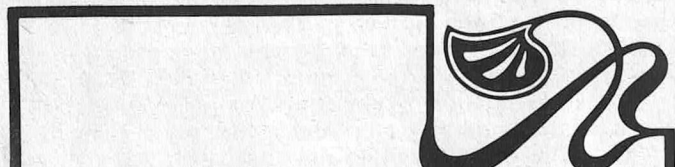
By the time this article goes to print, the club will be about to move into permanent clubrooms with a lockable compound and several workrooms for use by members. We also hold a vast range of tools, tune-up equipment, block & tackle, “A” frame and numerous other items for members use.

To date two very successful car rallies have been held with a barbeque and trophy presentation following.

The committee is always open for suggestions or constructive criticism to improve the club. Who knows, you may even end up on the committee as a result.

Due to the support of local businesses, club members can obtain substantial discounts on many types of purchases they make. Details may be obtained from the committee. Information on how to join the ECCC is in your local orderly room.

Parting thought – How do you recognize a happy motorcyclist? . . . By the bugs stuck between his teeth!



TOP-SACRED

by Chaplain D.C. Muirhead, UCA

CELESTIAL MOVEMENTS SECTION:

Since the first issue of MARI-TIMES appeared, there have been movements of the heavenly bodies. In May, Chaplain George Townend left us to take up residence at Loch in Victoria. George, as part of his resettlement training, long service leave etc. is working in a country parish. We wish him well in his new sphere of service.

In June, two new part-time chaplains have been commissioned to serve at RAAF Base Edinburgh: they are Chaplain Ken Wilson, a Salvation Army Captain from Ingle Farm, and John Kinsman, the Church of England rector at Gawler. Ken will be available on the Base every Thursday and John will be in attendance every Tuesday. Both will be available at other times as required. We welcome Ken and John to the team.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT – WILL THE FAMILY CEASE TO EXIST?

For several years now, social scientists have warned that family life is disintegrating and may not survive this century. Is there a danger that the family will cease to exist? Among some observers there is serious concern, not that the family will disappear, but that certain trends prevalent today will incapacitate the family, destroy its integrity and cause its members such crippling emotional conflicts that they will become an intolerable burden to society.

Early family experience determines our adult character, the inner picture we harbour of ourselves, how we see others and feel about them, our concept of right and wrong, our capacity to establish close, warm sustained relationships necessary to have a family of our own, our attitude to authority and toward the Ultimate authority in our lives, and the way we attempt to make sense out of our existence; no human interaction has greater impact on our lives than our family experience. If any one factor influences the character development and emotional stability of an individual, it is the quality of the relationship he or she experiences as a child with *both* parents. Conversely, if people suffering from severe nonorganic illness have one experience in common, it is the absence of a parent through death, divorce, a time-demanding job, or for other reasons. A parent's inaccessibility, either physically, emotionally or both, can profoundly influence a child's emotional health.

Some of the trends which threaten the family today are: quick and easy divorce; the increasing number of mothers with young children, serving in the workforce; the tendency for families to move frequently; the obtrusion of television into the home. Parental inaccessibility encourages children to spend long hours watching television. When parents are home physically, television often prevents meaningful interaction between family members.

The family is also affected by the lack of impulse control. Society seems to have given up on its traditional civilizing task of controlling aggressive and sexual impulses. The increase in violent crimes and the increase in the number of illegitimate births are evidence of a lack of impulse control.

Several studies on "absent fathers" conclude that absent fathers contribute to their child's low motivation for achieve-

ment, inability to defer immediate gratification for later rewards, low self-esteem and susceptibility to group influence and juvenile delinquency. If the present trends continue the quality of family life will continue to deteriorate, producing a society with a higher incidence of mental illness than ever before. Crimes of violence will increase, even those within the family. The suicide rate will continue to rise.

What can we do to reverse some of the trends?

We must place a greater emphasis on the Christian responsibility of the family. The two great commandments spoken by Jesus make it clear that our lives must focus on relationships – first of all with God, and then with our neighbour – and successful relationships take time and effort and accessibility. Christ's story of the Good Samaritan implies that our neighbour is the first person we come across in need: and since we are all in need, does that not include first and foremost our family, those who share our home and for whom we have primary responsibility? Too often we fail to make ourselves accessible, we take others for granted, and treat children with less respect and courtesy than we give to visitors. We need to practice love in our moment by moment interactions within the family. Love involves stepping out of our own needs sufficiently to become aware of the needs of others and then acting to meet those needs.

We need to hear more about the infinite worth of a human being.

Note: This article is condensed from an article entitled "The Fractured Family" by Armand M. Nicholi II, an American Psychiatrist. Copies of the article are available at the Chaplains Office.



"Hey Padré, 'Wanna' hear the new word I learn't today?"



Committed to raising money to help educate deceased members children, Edinburgh's Mrs RAAFWA entrants for 1980 were: (l to r) Brenda Heath, Connie Fawcett, Mary Nibbs and Pat Szonyi.

STOP PRESS!

The total moneys raised by the ladies was \$2007, and the winner was Mrs Mary Nibbs who raised \$958.

CONSOLIDATED BEARING



WOFF Johannes Ronald Brook-Rerecich

FAREWELL AFTER 33 YEARS SERVICE

WOFF BROOK-RERECICH joined the Royal Australian Air Force as an Aircraftsman recruit on 24 February 1947, 8 days after his 18th birthday. Following initial trade training, he gathered the experience and responsibility afforded by employment in 12 entirely different roles whilst progressing through the ranks and was promoted to Warrant Officer on 1 December 1969. WOFF Brook-Rerecich has had 22 postings in his career which now spans 33 years. He was posted to the Aircraft Research and Development Unit on 22 July 1975 to be the Officer-in-Charge of Instrumentation Flight.

For his dedication to duties extending over many years, and for his achievements, inspiration and example to fellow airmen, WOFF Brook-Rerecich was named in the Australia Day Honours list in 1979 for the award of the Medal of Order of Australia, Military Division (OAM).

WOFF Brook-Rerecich departs the service on 9 September 1980, electing after many years of outstanding loyalty and devotion to the Service, to retire early in the Adelaide area. His departure from the Service, and more specifically ARDU, represents a loss felt by all those who have had the pleasure to work with him and as such a fine example of a Royal Australian Air Force tradesman.

However, despite WOFF Brook-Rerecich's departure, there will still be three members of his family serving in the RAAF: a son at 492SQN a daughter at BSEDN and another son at 77SQN.

WHY CHOOSE A CREDIT UNION ?

by FSGT Clive King

Whether you have money to invest, just want to save a little each pay-day to meet your regular commitments, or need a loan, there are quite a few organisations which are geared up to help you. These include banks, building societies, finance companies and, in increasing numbers, credit unions.

This article will attempt to explain the benefits of credit union membership. It will also tell you how and why credit unions are formed, how they operate and, hopefully, clear up a few misconceptions at the same time.

A credit union is a co-operative organisation formed by persons having a common bond of employment or association. Its aims are to promote savings, a spirit of self-reliance, mutual help by way of loans at reasonable interest rates, and counselling on personal and family financial planning. Many credit unions go much further than these basic aims, providing for their members such benefits as cheaper travel, discount purchase schemes, insurance, etc.

Credit unions in Australia date from the mid-fifties, although the current "boom" commenced about 1975. Credit unions have been operating in other countries for a bit longer than this; in fact, Canadian credit unions now handle more business annually than do their banks, and the largest credit union in the world is a U.S. armed forces credit union. Each Australian State has its own legislation protecting the interests of credit union members, and setting out rules and regulations in connection with the running of a credit union.

A credit union is formed when a group of people decide that there is enough interest to make formation feasible, and that there are enough potential members at their place of work or within their particular group to ensure group. After electing a board of directors and obtaining registration from their State authority, the group is ready to commence operations. From the beginning, they will have several important points in their favour. These are:

Low Overheads:

Very few "workers" receive any pay, the only exceptions being full-time managers and office staff. Directors are elected, and "bench-level" representatives are all volunteers.

Return of Profits:

These low overheads will ensure that, if a credit union is properly run, it will soon be operating profitably. Unlike any other financial organisation, a credit union cannot, itself, "make a profit". All profits remaining after each year of operation, must, by law, be either returned to members in the form of a dividend or "ploughed back" into the organisation to provide more favourable interest rates or more extensive services.

Interest Rates:

Because of the factors mentioned, credit unions are able to offer savings and investment interest rates which usually exceed any offered by banks. Furthermore, the cost of loans from credit unions is generally considerably cheaper than traditional commercial sources. An additional reason for the ability of credit unions to offer low-cost loans is that, provided they keep their interest rates within State government guidelines, their loans are not subject to stamp duty. This is a significant advantage over other financial organisations.

Security:

As previously mentioned, State legislation governs the operations of credit unions in Australia; this legislation also provides protection for your money through funds administered by the respective State governments. In South Australia, this is known as the Credit Union Stabilisation Fund; in Victoria, the Co-operative Societies General Reserve Fund. The other States have similar funds. The purpose of these funds is to hold in reserve a certain proportion of each credit union's assets, thus ensuring that government authorities have funds available to assist any credit union which is found to be in financial difficulties.

Tailored to Your Needs:

Credit unions are financial organisations which are tailored to meet the specific needs of their customers. This is possible because the members of a credit union are all part of a common-interest group, either by reason of place or work or some other factor (examples of this are the Australian Defence Forces Credit Unions, which were formed in 1974/75). With these common interests and needs in mind, it is possible to set up an organisation which is ideally suited to the particular group. Factors such as widely separated places of work, constant transfers, etc., can be taken into account.

The Australian Defence Forces Credit Unions recently formed an Association, in the first step towards providing an Australia-wide network. Eventually it will be possible, through reciprocal arrangements between DFCU's, for a member to transact business on any Defence establishment within Australia (and, later, at overseas posts), no matter to which DFCU he belongs.

Such arrangements, however, depend on the steady growth of each credit union, and this growth depends on your support. With the best of management, a credit union still cannot be really successful without the enthusiastic support of the group which it serves. In this article I have given you a rough outline of the credit union movement; if you would like more information, contact your local credit union office, the staff of which will be pleased to assist you in every way possible.

TENNIS CLUB ENDS SUCCESSFUL SEASON



RAAF's successful Interservice Tennis Team: (from left to right): Rear row — CPL Bob Jeffrey, SGT Terry Kemp, FLT LT Steve Hart, FLT LT Peter Pearce. Front row — LAC Robin Menzel, LAC Mike Willoughby, SGT John Carey.

RAAF Edinburgh Tennis Club has continued its growth and success during 1980. Players of all standards have participated in the Club's activities and the remainder of the year augurs well.

RAAF's two teams competing in the Army Lawn Tennis Mid-Week Competition played off in the grand final, with the RAAF 2 team turning the tables on the previously undefeated RAAF 1 team. Police 1 team finished third. The winning team comprised Peter Pearce, Terry Kemp, Ken Birrer and Bob Jeffrey, whilst Rodney Gilmour, Geoff Turner, Mike Willoughby and Wayne Johnston played for RAAF 1.

In the Interservice Tennis, RAAF proved successful for the third year in a row, defeating Army 7 rubbers to 2.

The Club is always on the lookout for new players. Anyone wishing to join the club should contact the Secretary, Corporal Bob Jeffrey at 492 SQN Orderly Room.

SGT Terry Kemp

WHAT IS GOLF?

*A Pernicious Pastime
Precluding peaceful ponderings, by the
Painfully protracted
Penitentially persistent plodding pursuit of a
Peripatetic pellet over
Pestiferous pathways and
Perilous plains, towards a
Puny pot-hole, in a
Praeternaturally protected position
Purposely preventing premeditated putts and
Particularly productive of
Prolific profanity*

Framie Frollicks from FOUR92

492 FRAMIE FROLICKS

Well, here we are with the Winter edition of Framie Frollicks. Activity in the section has been extremely high with postings, exercises and the shifting of sections while the Squadron gets renovated.

Since last edition we've seen "Clarence" Clunning, Bob Hawke, Chook Fowler, Darryl "Tripod" Wood and Chris Battams posted to Billsville and said farewell to our good buddy Sergeant Howie Franks who, with Nifty Neveille, has headed for Support Command. Last and of course least, Keith "Klomp" Hawkins received a suspended sentence to 2AD under the watchful eyes of wardens Ray Small and Don Derrick. Oh yes! I nearly forgot that Flight Sergeant Phil Winsor and LAC Tony Collier have headed out west (they say "out of sight out of mind!")

Replacing these stalwarts are a motley crew which includes Walko Pepper, John Marodi, Shane "Dick" Marcus, Ken Binns, Kev Sherr and Check (brother of Chook) Fowler. We also welcome Corporal "Tank" McPherson (parolled from 3AD) and Dave Morris, who has migrated from Perth.

Framie Section are in the process of organising a string of package tours to Richmond – \$50 to me will pay for your return ticket, accommodation and meals, flying courtesy of Albatross Airlines and staying at the Chateau ASCO.

On the question of money, Cray Crowder is laying odds on who'll be next to tread the path to matrimony now that "FJ" Ford has got engaged. Current betting is: "Bango" Wojtkowski 3/1 on, "Lobby" Usher 7/2 and Tony Lear 8/1. We rate Crazy as 100/1 outsider.

Our painters are now walking around smiling like Cheshire cats since the completion of their new section. Not only is it the most modern and best equipped Paint Shop in the RAAF but it is only 20 paces from the canteen. Now that I've said everything I'll just sit back and wait for my posting to Darwin (hint, hint).

Love Pitz

REFLECTIONS ON 492 INSTRUMENTS

We missed contribution to the first edition of MARI-TIMES, but this was because we were all busy at work. We hope it won't happen again – the omission that is, not the work!

Constantly overloaded and deployed beyond limits, our dedicated band of "clock-watchers" (sorry, "winders"), manage to keep back the constant tide of unserviceabilities labelled "INST". Is it true that the Warrant was heard to say, "All leave is cancelled until morale improves"?

Seriously though, the men of 492 Instruments are generally a contented bunch, but it is advisable not to mention promotion to a certain sergeant, nor duties to another. There is yet another who has the title, "President of the Big Girls Social Club". Can this be why the wireless fitters are so eager to integrate?

I hear the Radio Van has a new title – Flight Line Avionics Aircraft Maintenance, Delivery and Supply Vehicle. Really Ted! If Jack at GEMF hears this, we'll never get the EE380 fited out in time.

Believe it or not there were a couple of promotions around. Nidge Murray has found a cheaper watering hole, while BCC has lived up to its reputation of only employing corporals. Regrettably for us, several members are leaving, or will have left, by the time this is read. Dave Bowes is now at Richmond training for Cathay Pacific – sorry, 37 Squadron Engineers. Farmer Duncan is now tilling a plot at Williamstown and Peter Juett is sunning himself in Darwin. The section boys are also somewhat dismayed since Nina's friendly "demands" have been replaced by a regular grocer.

I believe the Sky Pilot made a low pass over the avionics tarmac area recently and had his vocabulary enriched by an unsuspecting LAC. Terrible what some of these young fellows pick up when they have to associate with black handers. Let's hope all the new lads can be sheltered from such behaviour!

Until next issue remember, behind every good instrument fitter is the belief that one day *all* fitters will be like him.

Blue Dog

PERSONALITY PROFILE

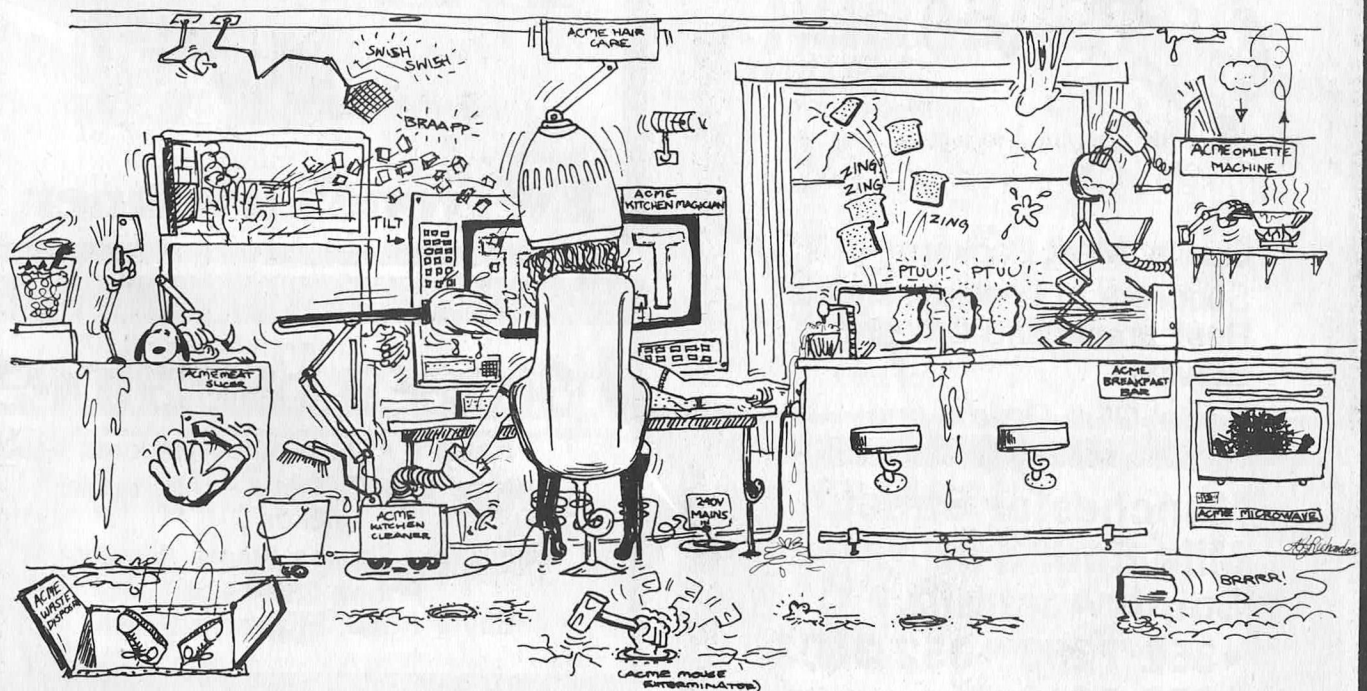


Edinburgh's photographers may, like the rest of us, be overworked but some of their assignments compensate. LAC Robin Menzel found this out when asked to photograph LACW Darralyn Bullard. A clerk at ARDU, Darralyn has recently completed a modelling course. In our view she's away to a great start.

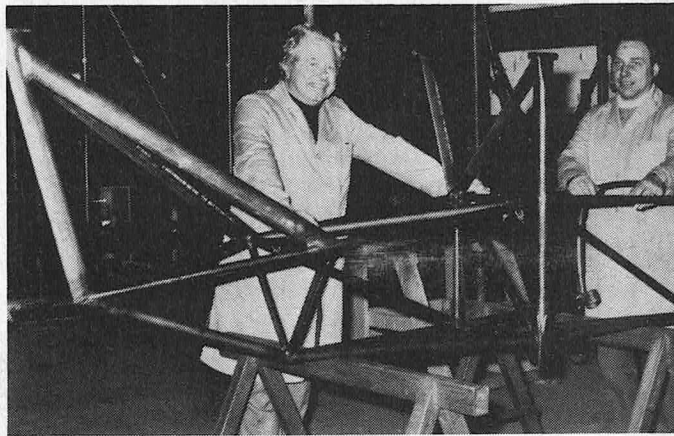


In the last twenty years, we have seen the computer advance from a massive machine which would fill a large room and required an air conditioner to cool the valves, to a device smaller than a matchbox, easily fitted into a typewriter keyboard.

Based on an article (for which we did not have room) penned by AC Russ MacKenzie of 492SQN Radio Section, our resident cartoonist, LAC Tony Richardson, illustrates some of the miracles we can expect in computerised kitchen of tomorrow.



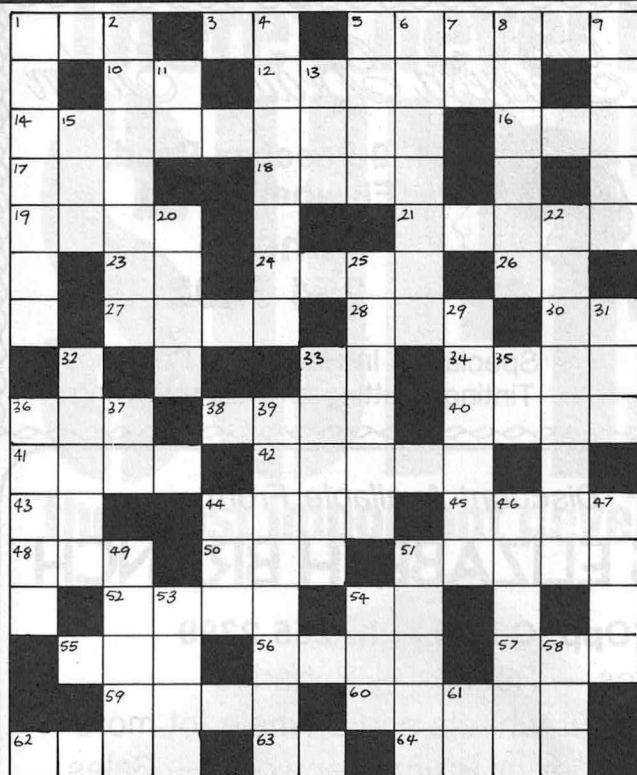
‘SOUTHERN CROSS’ PROGRESSES



Chief Inspector, Jim Jenkins (l) and Chief Engineer, George Barnes (r) with a section of the Southern Cross replica chassis, under construction in the DOT Hangar at Parafield S.A. Jim was formerly the Chief Engineer with the Royal Aero Club, U.K. George has been with the Southern Cross replica project since its inception.

The Autumn issue of MARI-TIMES carried the story of the building of a replica of the Southern Cross, made famous by Sir Charles Kingsford Smith's exploits.

At present the replica of the Fokker Trimotor is about halfway through its planned 34-week construction programme. The Fokker company in Holland is materially assisting in the project. It has donated 30,000 guilders towards the cost of the project and is sending out from Holland two woodwork craftsmen to undertake the work of building the plane's wing, which is of timber construction.



CLUEMIT'S KROSSWORD

CLUES:

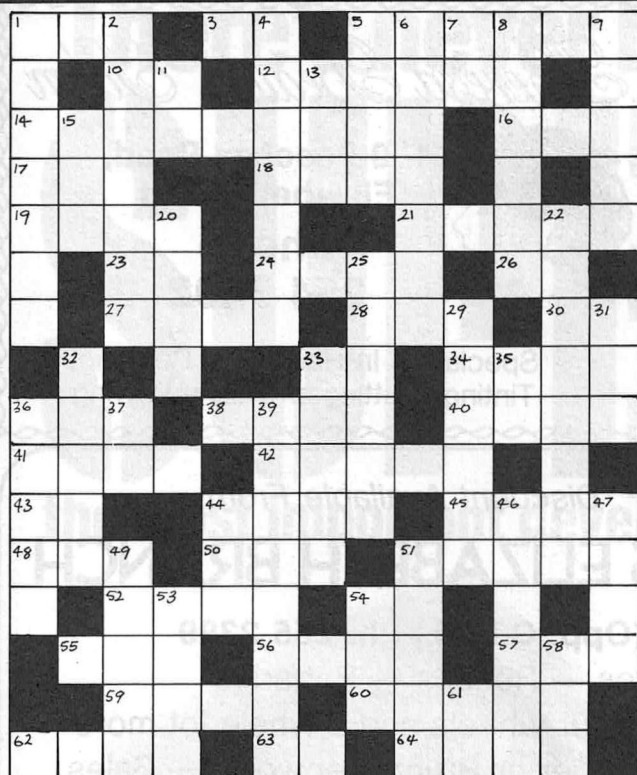
Across:

1. Mineral
3. Rank (abbr.)
5. Church towers
10. Army policeman (abbr.)
12. Disinclined
14. Enemy below
16. Radio band (abbr.)
17. When we "should" be there (abbr.)
18. Wines (coll.)
19. Remaining part
21. Opponent
23. Thus
24. Level
26. State (abbr.)
27. Of you
28. Pig house
30. Royal Artillery (abbr.)
33. The "Old Man" (abbr.)

34. Heroic poem
36. Golf instructor (coll.)
38. Bright star
40. Dead
41. Southern Ireland
42. Part of collar
43. Advance
44. Stack
45. Resistance measurement
48. African antelope
50. Operations (abbr.)
51. Sugary
52. Course
54. — — .207 Airman's Evaluation Report
55. Copy
56. First murder victim
57. Navigation aid
59. Ancient Ireland
60. Added clause
62. Ballpoint
63. In the direction of
64. Convey

Down:

1. Adhere to
2. Deputation to sovereign
4. Person who spreads disease
5. Transmit
6. Position weapon in salute
7. Exists
8. Examine
9. Sweet person (coll.)
11. Afternoon (abbr.)
13. Strive
15. Light truck (coll.)
20. Seized
22. Area of operation for 10 & 11 Sqns
25. Get away
29. Colour of 14 across, maybe?
31. Expert fighter pilot
32. Aircraft
33. Ellipses
35. Father (coll.)
36. Woman's name
37. Alternatively
39. Ex-Governor of South Australia
44. Vessel
46. Head-gear
47. Cease
49. Higher
51. Cleave
53. Of the air
54. In accordance with
58. Exist
61. Complete



CLUEMIT'S KROSSWORD

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