



**November  
2011**

# MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

***Welcome to the Museum of Australian Army Flying Newsletter  
Winner of the Spitfire Photo Raffle is Mr Donaghue from Bowenville, Qld***

## **Assistant Managers Musings WO1 Paul Schrodter**



Visitor numbers have been poor for the month of November, this is typical and historically things are usually a bit slow up to Christmas. However after Christmas Day and Boxing Day, it starts to get busy again.

The Curator is now on leave and will not have an article in this edition of Museum Happenings.

This Month the Curatorial and Restoration Teams have been working very hard to have the Sopwith Camel, on display, as soon as possible.

On November 23, the Australian Army Flying Corps Association Banner was added to our wonderful display and on the 28 of November our Iroquois Gunship, A02-149 was also placed on display.



**The AFC Association Flag now on display at the Museum**

November 16, we received a visit from Mr Roger Lee (Director AAHU), Mr Neil Dailey (Deputy Director AAHU) and AIRCDR Mark Lax, a member of the Australian Society of World War One Aero Historians (ASWW1AH).

The purpose of the visit was to have a look at our Museum, including the storage and restoration areas, talk to staff and volunteers who were available at the time. AIRCDR Lax presented an AFC Uniform from ASWW1AH to the Manager, MAJ Nick Sanders and the Curator, WO2 Scott Downs. This uniform is in exceptional condition, considering it is now almost a century since it was made. Roger Lee and Neil Dailey spoke to the volunteers and personally thanked them for their efforts, at a lunch time Bar-b-que.

They all left with a very good impression of our Museum and the efforts of staff and volunteers.

## **Merry Christmas to all!**



**Curatorial News**  
**Peter White**



Hi all,

It is my turn to report on the curatorial happenings this month. Scott Downs is in the process of leaving the Army to take up the post of Civilian Head Curator for our Museum as such he is currently on final leave and will take up his new post as a Public Servant in the new year.

The Sopwith Camel is coming along nicely but will miss the Christmas display deadline (a small health hiccup slowed things up), never mind the new year will see it in the WW1 display area, it is being finished in the livery of Captain A Cobby, Australian top scoring ace with 29 kills. Seems that he was a little bit of a tealeaf in that he came into possession of two tin theatre signs of Charlie Chaplin and fastened these under the cockpit of his Camel together with two railway carriage signs one saying "it is dangerous to lean out of the windows" and "please do not spit". Daryl (give me some timber and I will see what I can make) Richter is well into making the upper centre section. Neil (hang on you gotta hear this) Westwood is busy turning out wing ribs and the holding platoon have made millions of leading edge riblets, a real production line.



The Huey gunship was moved by RAMS to fit the weaponry and will be transferred to the Museum over the next week.

The new year will see more new and exciting things arriving, all to make your museum what it is, the best Army flying museum in the southern hemisphere. I wish you all a very good Christmas and a healthy New Year.

**Media Famil**

Saturday 19 November we had a visit from two journalists which was arranged by Toowoomba Golden West & South Burnett Tourism. They were Michael Jacobsen (Gold Coast Bulletin) and Alice Campion (Sunshine Coast Daily). Alice had a friend with her, Ashley Berryman.

They very much enjoyed themselves and had nothing but positive things to say! Thank you to WO2 Scott Downs who took time out from his holidays and Peter White who gave them a tour of the main Display hangar and the Workshops.



**WO2 Scott Downs conducting a tour in the Display hangar with Michael, Alice, Ashley and Geoff and Jess from TGW&SBT**

# FOURAYS 2012 CALENDAR

The **Fourays calendar** was launched over the weekend 1-2 October, and was a runaway success. It is now available to members of the Association and others and you can get your copy by ordering it using the form available here.

You can either complete the form on line or download it and complete it by hand. If you complete it online you can then print it off and either scan it and email, fax, or post it to the addresses and number shown on the bottom of the form.

## 2012 CALENDAR

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If calendars are to be posted to additional addresses, please provide details:

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**Fax, post or email form to:**

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Fourays Calendar, 6 Oldfield Place, Brookfield, Q, 4069

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*(If mailing order, a cheque made out to Army Aviation Association is acceptable payment)*

## Editors Edits



### Caribou takes to the air!

Saturday morning 29 October, Ex-RAAF Caribou (now HARS) A4-210 took off from at 1155 local time and landed safely at Albion Park at 1630 local. The crew was Flt Lt Chris Jaensch, Capt Chris Joynson and Flt Engineer Sgt David East. A4-234 departed safely on Wednesday 2 November.

The last remaining Caribous have been quietly grazing in a paddock in Oakey for the last two years in a mothballed state. We believe the other six aircraft will be removed soon.



### Kiowa Turns 40!

The Army Aviation Training Centre held a small celebration on Tue 15 Nov 11, to celebrate 40 years of Army Kiowa flying. It was a small activity with a birthday cake and a display, held at the RAMS hangar. A few of the "olds and bolds" attended to help celebrate the occasion.



The newspaper article below is from the Toowoomba chronicle. I have not been able to ascertain the date; but by the look of the "young" gentlemen, it would have to be some years ago!

## —Banner gift for museum—



This post-World War I banner of the Australian Army Flying Corps Association was presented to the Museum of Australian Army Flying at Oakey Army Aviation Centre on Saturday. The banner had been displayed at 2MD Museum in Sydney and was presented on behalf of the New South Wales Army Museum, Victoria Barracks at Sydney, by Captain Bill Connell (second from left). He is with Museum of Australian Army Flying curator Mr Brian Reardon (left), retired museum board chairman Brigadier Ron Boxall (second from right) and museum board member Bud Ford. The museum collects and restores aircraft and other related memorabilia significant to Australian Army Aviation.

Museum of Australian Army Flying

Army Airfield, Oakey, Qld 4401. Phone 07 4577 7666

Open 10.00am to 4.00pm Wednesday to Sunday. Closed Good Friday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day  
Admission: \$5.00 adults, \$12.00 family (2 adults and up to 3 children) and \$2.00 children.