

Fire Board

29/08/2024

#8

4/2024

Fire Board time once again, 7 months out from the Hobart reunion. Numbers attending (paid) are dismal at the moment, though many have said they are attending. More on the reunion later.

We are very pleased with ourselves here, having calved 104 cows out of 116 in 6 weeks, 96 within 4 weeks. Those with knowledge of breeding cattle will know that is a tight calving. The benefits of this are many, including an unheard of day away from the farm in August, wonders will never cease.

While the north of Australia is 30+c we have snow down to 500m just on dark in Tas. tonight with strong winds continuing over SA, Vic. and Tas. The rain for the rest of the week is most welcome.

The notice in the RAAF News didn't get any response, which is a pity as we have contact with so few members.

Following on from that, anyone with contact with any of the following please get them to send me an updated email address as emails are bouncing at the address I have.

John Addicoat, Paul Atkins, Malcom Black, Danny Coulthard, Phil Faint, Duncan Fraser, Dave Gray, Paul Healy, and Bob McMaster

Kings Birthday Honours – Kevin Hughes



RETIRED RAAF FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Keran Carsburg · 1h · 🌐

King's Birthday Honours List 2024

Order of Australia, Meritorious awards & Military awards

Mr Kevin Hughes, OAM

General Division

For service to the community through a range of organisations.

QLD Macleay Island 4184

Congratulations [Kevin Hughes](#), BM, OAM, JP

A member called into the Mole Creek Post Office to ask my address, having left my phone number behind. Unfortunately, they are not allowed to give out addresses anymore. What are you allowed to do anymore? They now have our mobile numbers as the rabbits chewed our landline years ago. It took 3 days for me to check the mail and receive the note in the PO Box. Give us a ring the night before is probably the best as you will never find us if we are “up the paddock” and there is no phone signal.

Page 3 - DVA, Page 4 - The Dent/ Matthew Flinders, Page 5 - Hobart reunion,

Page 6 - Salmon Ponds while in Hobart. Page 7 - **Defence Asbestos & Hazardous Chemicals Exposure Scheme**

Page 8 + is a late inclusion thanks to Mark Limana, Japan-Australia Grassroots Exchange Program 2025

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Facebook sites.

[RAAF Firies](#)

[RAAF Fire and Rescue](#)

[RETIRED RAAF FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION](#)

Web [THE R.A.A.F FIRE SERVICE \[PDF\] \(georama.com.au\)](#) hosted by Chas Adlard. It is Chas's site where you can find back issues of "Fire Board" and back issues of Pat's Newsletters back to 2011. There's a wealth of information there. Adelaide Reunion - [2022 Reunion - Adelaide \(georama.com.au\)](#)

Info on the Hobart reunion and copies of all Fire Board issues are at [raaffirereunion.com](#)

- [Defence newspapers | News & Events | Defence](#)
- [Australian Defence Force \(ADF\) Firefighter Scheme | Department of Veterans' Affairs \(dva.gov.au\)](#)
- [Advocacy Support — RSL Australia](#)

**ADF Mental Health All-hours
Support Line
1800 628 036**

Call Lifeline on 13 11 14

[Beyond Blue | 24/7 Support for Anxiety, Depression and Suicide Prevention](#)

1300 22 4636

Glen Anderson

0438635159

Po Box 185, Mole Creek, Tas. 7304

glen@raaffirereunion.com.au

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DVA

As a follow on from the DVA section in the last edition of Fire Board. I am reliably informed that a Gold Card can be obtained with less than 100 points, directly related to a condition. This is via a “Lifestyle Rating”

[D2670 Lifestyle Rating \(dva.gov.au\)](https://dva.gov.au) this is the link to the full 7 page document. Below is just the first few millimetres of the first column.



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

IMPO

You have applied for a Disability Pension or Permanent Impairment compensation, or for an increase in your Disability Pension or Permanent Impairment compensation. In order to process your claim, we need to know your lifestyle rating.

Your lifestyle rating is based on the effects of your accepted or newly claimed disabilities on four aspects of your lifestyle.

These aspects are:

- personal relationships;
- mobility;
- recreational and community activities; and
- domestic and employment activities.

You can choose the method by which your lifestyle rating is worked out.

The three methods are described below and are called Option 1, Option 2 and Option 3.

Choose only one of these.

Note: If you are applying for, or might be considered for, Extreme Disablement Adjustment you may be asked to complete a “Lifestyle Questionnaire”.

Please always seek professional advice regarding DVA matters.

[Advocacy Support — RSL Australia](#)

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Notes from History - The Dent



Do you remember “The Dent” in the hangar at Point Cook. My thanks to members of the FB page “RAAF Point Cook – history”

It was 11th of September 1914 - Tommy White in the first Box Kite CFS-3, the hangar was the 1914 Aeroplane Workshops now building 95.

I automatically reached for my RAAF aircraft book only to draw a blank. Then realised this pre-dates the RAAF and was flown by the Australian Flying Corps.

Wikipedia to the rescue with this article if you care to read more. [Bristol Boxkite - Wikipedia](#)

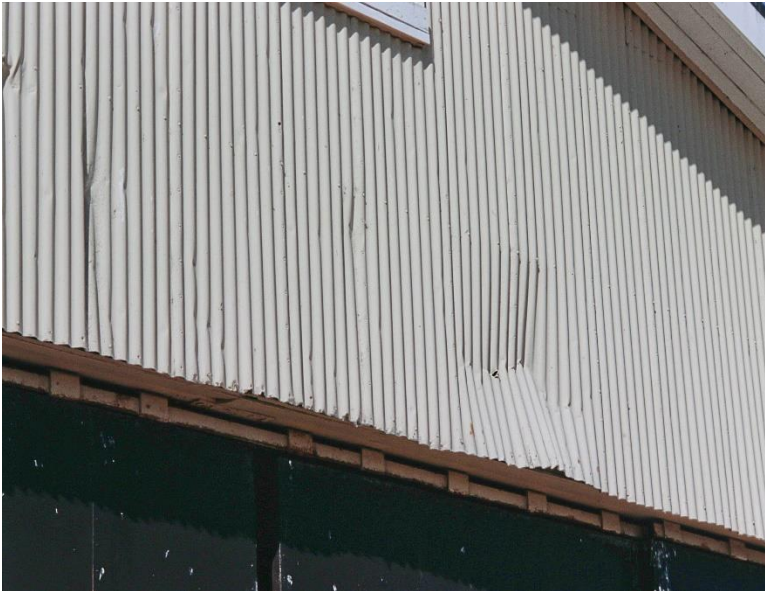


Photo posted by [Maurice J Austin](#)

Matthew Flinders (1774 – 1814) - Navigator

Flinders proved that Van Dieman’s Land (Tasmania) was an island (with George Bass) and was first to circumnavigate Australia and the first to use the name Australia.

For someone who dedicated his life to finding, navigating and mapping things, it was unfortunate that Matthew Flinders’ body was lost for the better part of 200 years.

Archaeologists announced in 2019 they had rediscovered the grave of the first man known to have circumnavigated Australia, while digging under a park behind London’s Euston station during excavations for the HS2 high-speed rail line. His coffin was identified by its well-preserved lead coffin plate.

His remains were interred on 13 July 2024 in the parish church of Donington, Lincolnshire, Flinders’ birthplace.

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R.A.A.F Fire Fighter Reunion

20th to 23rd March 2025

Hobart, Tasmania

Attending

Currently only the following members have confirmed their intention to attend the reunion & paid for the events.

Glen	&	Christine	Anderson
Keran	&	Glenys	Carsburg
Sandy	&	Patricia	Eadtcott
Kevin	&	Debrena	Huges
David	&	Kay	Pentland
Wayne	&	Marie	West

While there is still plenty of time I would hope to see a lot more by November so arrangements can be made by all involved. I have had indication from many of their intention to attend but feel it only prudent to count those that have paid.

Accommodation

Wrest Point seems to be at capacity for the reunion weekend. Very little and overpriced accommodation is on offer. Wrest Point is one of the larger places in Hobart, so it seems the Covid doldrums are well behind us. A quick look on the Trivago site did show options for under \$200 (\$128 and up) in and around the city, Sandy Bay (close by Wrest Point) still has vacancies. A booking sooner rather than later may be advised. The same could be said for the rest of Tas. for anyone thinking of touring while here. Like the person who was asking on one of the sites as to why she could not book the caravan on the boat for this Christmas, just recently. The answer she received was you book it in January as soon as bookings open.

I will attach the reunion info separately to make it easy to print out.

The Peppermint Bay Cruise on Friday the 21st can be boarded at the Brook St. Pier on the Hobart waterfront, Bellerive waterfront as well as Wrest Point.

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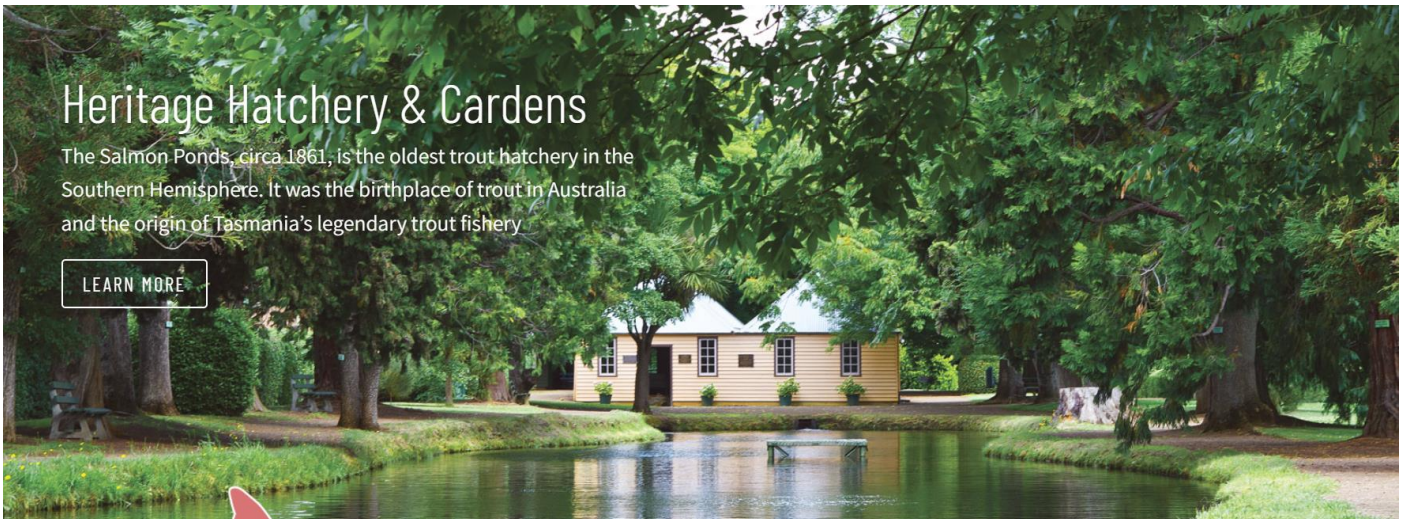
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Salmon Ponds at Plenty

If you are touring at all, 45min from Wrest Point are the Salmon Ponds at Plenty. Established in 1864 with the first salmon eggs arriving in May along with a small quantity of trout eggs. The young salmon were released into the Derwent River to run out to sea and were expected to return as they do in Northern Hemisphere rivers. This however did not occur. The almost after thought of including a few trout eggs paid massive dividends with the fish stock breed at Plenty used to establish hatcheries around Australia & New Zealand.

Set in an English style garden and arboretum that surround the ponds along with a museum of trout fishing this is a very relaxing place to visit. A river walk complete with platypus if you're lucky and a café complete a great place to visit. For me the best thing on the entire site is the fish food dispenser. It is a genius idea as the fish must be fed, so why not get the visitors to pay for the feed. I am only too willing to lighten my pocket of saved \$2 coins to watch the water boil with fish when pellets hit the water. Make sure you draw the attention of a friend to something straight down from the edge of the Tiger Trout Pond, then lob in a few pellets. Tiger Trout make the biggest splashes.



[Salmon Ponds - Heritage Hatchery and Gardens, New Norfolk, Tasmania](#)

Next Door

[Plenty Cider – Tasmanian Cider](#)

HAVE YOU BEEN EXPOSED TO:

**AQUEOUS FILM FOAMS
ASBESTOS
BERYLLIUM
CADMIUM
DIESEL EXHAUST EMISSIONS
INORGANIC CHROMIUM OR CHROMATE
RANGE FUEL
TRITIUM
OR THINK YOU MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO
OTHER HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS**

FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER:



**1800 DEFENCE
1800 333 362**



DEFENCE ASBESTOS AND HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS EXPOSURE SCHEME

**A DVA SERVICE WHICH ALLOWS
CURRENT AND FORMER
MEMBERS OF DEFENCE ACCESS
TO HEALTH-BASED ADVICE AND
SUPPORT WHERE THEY BELIEVE
THEY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO
ASBESTOS AND/ OR HAZARDOUS
CHEMICALS.**

**1800 DEFENCE
1800 333 362**





Call for nominations: Japan-Australia Grassroots Exchange Program 2025

The Japan-Australia Grassroots Exchange Program, which commenced in 1994 as the Hand of Friendship project, is an initiative of [RSL Australia](#) that aims to foster mutual understanding of the peoples of Japan and Australia by inviting descendants of Australian Prisoners of War (POWs) to Japan through the RSL network.

The Japanese Government has offered two places for descendants of POWs to participate in the 2025 Grassroots Exchange Program. Participants will have an opportunity to promote post-war reconciliation, understanding, and goodwill between both countries.

Tour Information:

- Scheduled tentatively for February/ March 2025, the tour duration will be approximately 7 nights and 8 days in Japan.
- The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs will cover flights, shared accommodation, domestic travel within Japan, meal allowance for lunches and dinners, and travel insurance.
- Participants are responsible for their travel expenses to and from the nearest airport to their residence, passport costs, expenses incurred above room charges, and meals exceeding the allowance, souvenirs, and personal incidentals.
- An interpreter and tour guide will accompany the participants. Activities will include meetings with various Government representatives and students, a dinner hosted by the Foreign Ministry, a visit to the Commonwealth War Cemetery, and sightseeing ventures.
- Final details will be available closer to the tour's commencement upon announcement of participants.

Nomination information:

If you, or someone you know, are interested in participating in the Program, please email support@rslnsw.org.au (with 'Grassroots Exchange Program' in the subject line) before 5pm (AEST) Wednesday 17 September 2024, and attach the following:

- A completed [nomination form](#)
- A passport size photo
- Supporting documents that briefly explain your connection to a POW, your interest in the Program, your place of residence, and your employment history.

Nominations will be reviewed and shortlisted by the RSL NSW Selections Committee and referred to RSL Australia for consideration. The NSW nominee and back-up nominee will be informed via email.

For enquiries, please contact your Member Support Team at support@rslnsw.org.au or 1300 679 775.

RSL NSW



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