



# AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA BALLARAT BRANCH



Newsletter November 2019

President : Noel Hutchins - 0439 929 322  
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REGULAR  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
Janet Bates  
Stephen Brown  
Michael Lake  
Ken Marsh  
Bob McDonald

ELDER STATESMEN  
Dr Tom Roberts OAM  
Gordon Jarvis  
Tom Jobling  
Keith Pitman  
Stan White  
Newsletter Editor  
Noel Hutchins

## MONTHLY SOCIAL MEETINGS

Our **Social Luncheon Meetings** are held on the **FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, (except January)**, with **Arrival time by 11.45 am for a 12 Noon commencement**. All meetings are held at our rooms at Airport Hut 48, Airport Drive, Mitchell Park (ie : Ballarat Aerodrome).

## MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETINGS

Our **Business Meetings, open to all members**, are held at 3 pm on the **second** Tuesday of each month. These meetings immediately follow a monthly Committee meeting enabling members to be promptly aware of decisions taken by the committee, enabling members to ratify, or otherwise, decisions taken.

Flanked by her two sons, Dorothy Donaldson celebrated her 100th birthday with us a couple of days early at our November Social Luncheon meeting. On the actual day, Dorothy celebrated with family at the Swiss Mountain Hotel, Blampied



*Happy 100th Birthday  
Dorothy Donaldson*

**Don't forget to organise something to dress up Christmassy for our December meeting on Tuesday 3rd December.....**

**Bring your own Christmas Headgear....**

**There will be a prize for the best Christmassy dressed member**





## Nhill Centenary Airshow 2019 ~ 100 years since first aircraft landed at Nhill



**Renowned Aviation Historian, (and Air Force Association Ballarat Branch Member), Mr Kevin O'Reilly, formally declares open the Nhill Centenary Airshow.**

**During his opening address, Kevin acknowledged the presence of the Air Force Association Ballarat Branch President and members, which was nice.**

**While Kevin is a Ballarat Branch member, he resides in Melbourne meaning that he is unable to get to our monthly meetings due to distance and his very busy life as an historian. Kevin launched another of his books on aviation at the airshow.**

**Kevin chooses to be a member of our Branch as he completed his RAAF National Service at RAAF Ballarat.**

**Kevin is recovering well from a recent knee operation so I am hopeful that he might make it to one of our 2020 Social Luncheon Meetings as our Guest Speaker. (NH,Pres)**



**A US Navy Grumman Avenger Torpedo Bomber, wings folded and in flight**



**Worth the trip just to see the Kittyhawk**



# Nhill Centenary Airshow 2019 (Continued)



CT4 trainers and Winjeels from Point Cook were there.



There were lots of other very interesting things on display ~ Not just an airshow



Aviation historian Kevin O'Reilly, Noel Hutchins and Rob Petty



Secretary Rob Petty chatting with Brian and Jan Drennan

## November Social Luncheon Meeting



99.9 FM Ballarat Community Radio personality Noreen Lynch gave a wee Irish talk



Members were entertained with some dancing demonstrations by a group of dancers organised by Secretary Rob Petty and wife Ann. Dancers were : Rob & Ann, Tom & Dorothy, Gary & Barb, Neal and Marylin, Tom and Lorraine and Terry and Pauline Music provided by Lance.





November meeting photos by Ken Marsh ~ Nhill Airshow photos by Noel Hutchins

**Special Guest Speaker for March 2020 :** Stan White, through his daughter Vic Police Detective Senior Constable Mary White, has arranged for **the founder of the Cops 'N' Kids program**, (Vic Police Sergeant (Retired), John Maloney), to be our guest speaker at our March 2020 Social Luncheon Meeting. With this arranged, I wanted to have a look at what the Cops 'N' Kids program was all about and I got the opportunity with the Cops 'N' Kids Camp held in Ballarat from 15th to 18th this month. So I went to 'have a look' on Saturday 16th when the action was out at the Ballarat airfield hangars.

What an absolute joy to see. Sixty kids with cancer, brought to Ballarat from around the State, together with their parents or carers, to be given the time of their life in Ballarat. What great medicine for these kids and a break for them and their parents from the grind of medical treatment they must be going through. Rides in police cars with sirens blaring, motor bike side-car rides, even light plane flights for those that wanted to...all sorts of fun. Accommodated at Sovereign Hill they were also given a host of other Ballarat activity over their four day camp.

I had the pleasure of catching up with Mary White and meeting John Maloney and I very much look forward to John's presentation at our March 2020 meeting. *(NH, Pres)*



Detective Senior Constable Mary White in uniform and in superhero outfit

**Don't forget the 'Runway's Dance' in the Western Function Room at our rooms on 1st December, 1.30 to 5 pm ..... YOU DON'T HAVE TO DANCE ..... YOU CAN JUST COME AND ENJOY THE MUSIC AND WATCH THE DANCING IF YOU WISH ..... \$10 ENTRY & BRING A PLATE TO SHARE, SHARE PLATES TO BE HANDED IN TO KITCHEN ON ARRIVAL FOR CATERING WORKERS TO SET UP THE AFTERNOON TEA.**