

Dear Members,

The Air Force Association wishes its members and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Despite all the challenges this year, we are proud of our achievements and look forward to bringing to life our initiatives that will help support veterans and their families in 2022 and beyond.



COVID restrictions hindered many of our initiatives this year; however, we persevered and were able to deliver a few milestones that put the association in a great position for the year ahead. Achievements included:

1. Our Air Force Centenary, 101st year Birthday of our Association and the committing of the Memorial Book into the care of the RUSSI Library at the Anzac Memorial Event
2. Developing a digital footprint across social media for AFA NSW and RAAFA NSW Publications Pty Ltd.
3. Sponsorship of two Assistance Dogs through Defence Community Dogs in equal partnership jointly with DFVA NSW. The AFA Assistance Dog Program is an initiative of our Ad Astra NSW Projects. More on this to follow in 2022.
4. Registration and set up the Constitution and DGR status of the Ad Astra Foundation Management as a CLG. (Company Ltd by Guarantee).
5. Production of multiple podcasts promoting the stories of RAAF Veterans. Keeping their stories alive for generations to come.
6. Continuing support of AAF Cadets and Air League.
7. Ongoing sponsorship of HARS Caribou aircraft.
8. 85 years and older age-bracket Members no longer required to pay annual subscriptions.
9. Promotion of AFA and Wings at "Wings over Illawarra" with the plan to attend more airshows to create awareness.

10. The appointment of a younger-generation Councillor to the Division Council: As he recently transitioned out of the Air Force, he will provide valuable insights to AFA NSW.

Upcoming projects for 2022

1. Attend face to face transition seminars to provide transition support for discharging AF veterans.
2. Working with ESOs and government bodies to create a crisis centre emergency number for veterans.
3. Deliver a guide to DVA for veterans transitioning out of the Air Force that they can use as a reference to know the support available to them.
4. Continue to address Veteran homelessness and work with other agencies
5. Veteran buddy/network system

We are working tirelessly to deliver projects that will make a difference and help veterans live fulfilling lives upon leaving the force.

We would like to thank you genuinely for your support in 2021 and look forward to your continued support in 2022.

I also wish to express my appreciation and admiration for the magnificent efforts being made on our behalf to Mounira, our gem of an XO and Ringo for his untiring efforts and particularly Philip our Financial Controller for his long-term dedication and also all members of your State Council, both old and new, for their commitment to our Association and to our veteran community and their families.

Without such support I could not have presented you, our members, with such a magnificent update.

On behalf of myself, and your Councillors, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year to You and your Families.



Ron Glew

President