



*Antarctic Family & Friends' Association
Australia*

Patron: Dr.Tony Press

Co-ordinator & Newsletter:

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November-December 2016 Newsletter

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

This year I hope to be more punctual with the newsletters; to lessen the burden of having someone away. Of course many of us don't have expeditioners away and have stayed friends through our lunches. The friendships I have made over the past 14 years I value as they truly understood what I felt all those years ago and now we continue to offer friendship to each other and newer members in their time of need. We hope you enjoy our newsletter and your separation is eased by knowing that we are here to listen and support you.

Hi Tina, this is a short note to let you know that my mother passed away on the 21st June after battling ill health. Marie was a strong supporter of your association and if she was still with us would no doubt wish it every success in all future endeavours. Regards, Peter.

Below are two photos I took of our lunch. I wish I'd taken more! Kerry (Marj's daughter sent me some from the past and my email deleted them. Don't ask!

Enjoy!



Marj Wendy, Pam, Doreen, Lynette and Bill.

Also from Tasmania Jan Adolph has some news.
Hello Everyone,

Fine life for weather man



BOB Dingle, a generous and active member of the local community, died recently in the May Shaw nursing home, Swansea, aged 95.

A quiet, introspective man with a balding head and thin moustache, his 40 years of retirement in this small town was in sharp contrast with his extremely varied and adventurous working life.

Born William Robert John Dingle in 1920 in Cornwall, England, he left school in 1936 to join the General Post Office. With the advent of World War II he enlisted in the RAF and trained as a Wireless Operator/ Air Gunner.

He flew operationally with Nos 78 and 35 Squadrons, was awarded the

Distinguished Flying Medal and was commissioned.

On his 39th operation, 20 December 1943, the starboard inner engine of the Halifax bomber in which he was flying inexplicably caught fire.

The flames quickly spread and the pilot gave the order to bale out.

He landed safely and successfully linked up with the Belgian

underground.

Unfortunately a couple of weeks later he was captured in a random Gestapo check of identity documents while boarding a train to Brussels

BOB DINGLE

and spent the rest of the war as a prisoner of war.

Demobbed in 1947, he migrated to Australia two years later. In 1950 he successfully answered an advertisement in The Mercury for trainee weather observers with the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology.

He served at all five Australian Antarctic stations – Heard Island in 1951, Mawson in 1954, Macquarie Island in 1956, Davis in 1957, and Wilkes in 1959 and was awarded the Queen’s Polar Medal with two dated clasps. He was the sole weather observer in the party of 10 that established Mawson Station and Officer-in-Charge of the five-man party that established Davis Station.

He then spent two Antarctic winters with the Americans – at Byrd Station in 1962 and the isolated Plateau Station in 1967. In 1968 he was the senior Australian Weather Observer on the US Navy Ship Eltanin and over the next three and a half years served on 18 consecutive marine cruises.

In 1975 he retired and moved to Swansea, a respected resident, universally known as Mr Dingle. — H J G DARTNALL

My apologies for being a bit quiet on the news front lately. My excuse is that I did a bit of overseas travel in September and since then have been fairly busy with a kitchen renovation at home. I’ve also this month started back at the Antarctic Division on a casual basis, 3 days a week, until Feb/March next year.

Drilling for ‘Oldest Ice’ – The Million Year (Plus) Ice Coring Challenge

ABSTRACT

Antarctica’s ice sheet holds within its ancient layers a record of past environmental change that has dramatically shaped our understanding of the global climate system. The longest record so far recovered is the EPICA (European Project for Ice Coring in Antarctica) drilling at Dome C. This core reached a depth of 3270 metres in December 2004, and it provides a record to around 800 thousand years – however this is almost certainly not the limit for the oldest ice that could be recovered.

Stretching this limit to more than a million years would provide extremely valuable insights into a major reorganisation in the climate system that happened around a million years ago; ever since the EPICA Dome C core was completed there has been a strong push from the international climate and ice coring community to see if such a core can be retrieved. This year, in its Australian Antarctic Strategy and 20 Year Action Plan, the Government laid out the goal for Australia to have a leading role in the international cooperative quest for the ‘million year

ice-core'.

This is both an exciting initiative and a major challenge that will require complex international cooperative efforts. Several nations are already involved in various aspects of this undertaking: China is drilling at Dome A, and may reach old ice, although the prospects are quite uncertain, while the focus of many others is on site surveys, imminent pilot rapid-drilling and ice sheet modelling. Australia has had a prominent role in airborne survey work, with detailed studies of a candidate site on Dome C, not far from Concordia Station, and we are also involved in ice sheet modelling work.

There is a clearly established need for replicate (two or more) cores to be drilled at separate sites: prior experience in Greenland and the survey work that is underway make it clear that the old ice, which will be close to bedrock, will be not only challenging to locate but also to interpret. So far, pilot survey work suggest that Dome C looks promising and onsite measurements in the coming two seasons should give a firmer basis for selecting one or more drilling targets.

This talk will provide an overview of the driving science behind this major undertaking, the prospects for suitable drill sites and outline the present international landscape for such a project. It will also provide some insights into the nature of the task and what will be involved to bring it to fruition.

Please join us in the AAD theatre on Tuesday, 22 November, **at 11 am**. We are looking forward to seeing you there!!

Science Seminar Team
Australian Antarctic Division
203 Channel Highway
Kingston TAS 7050
Australia

<http://www.antarctica.gov.au/science/seminars/scheduled>

Cheers Jan Adolph

As our usual renewal time for membership is September. If you wish to receive our newsletters you will need to pay to your subscription. Please feel free to email or call regarding how much you owe or whether you would like to start afresh. If I do not hear from you I will stop sending you a newsletter.

Thank you.

Warmest wishes

Tina Congues

New Members of our Association

If anyone would like to make contact with someone on the list below, please feel free to contact me on (03) 97946683 or email and I will give you their number or email address. If you would like your name on the list please drop me a note indicating this. Also if any existing members would like to be added to the list please let me know

TASMANIA

Tasmanian Co-ordinator

If any Tasmanian members wish to start lunches again please let me know and we can try and organise one where everyone can meet.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

I would dearly love to meet some of our Western Australian members please give me a call on my mobile telephone.

Regards Juliette.

Convenor contact : Juliette Chester – (08) 9274 5724 or Mobile: 0408 453 851

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The South Australian branch is still 'alive' if any members, past or present wish to have a chat or organize an outing then please contact me, usually after 6pm on 83531766.

Regards Peter Attard

NEW SOUTH WALES

Mr Phil Silvestro has kindly offered to become the NSW convenor. Donna and Phil have had a February BBQ at their house in the past which has been very popular.

For any members wishing to make contact with either Donna or Phil you may do so on (02) 9905 2777

QUEENSLAND

Please feel free to contact Gwenda, your convenor.

Gwenda Schnieder: (07 5463 5708)

VICTORIA

In October we celebrated our 50th Anniversary of our first meeting.

I would like to thank everyone who attended and a special mention to Pam who made lovely cupcakes and decorated the table.

In attendance were: Margaret Morrison, Joyce and Rob Nash(ANARE), Lynette, Bill and Tristan Singleton, Doreen Perger, Charlotte and Ron Congues, Jaala, Reuben and Asha Watkins, Pam McDiarmid, Wendy Hutchison, Bev Ross, Marj Twigg, Kerry Collison, Brian, Murray, Nemesia and Tina Congues.

If you are new to our meetings, and you don't know what we look like please ask at the counter for our table as we are always reserved as ANTARCTIC FAMILY AND FRIENDS, sitting at a reserved table which then becomes a table number. I would hate for anyone to miss out.

Date: **Saturday 10th of December 2016**

Venue: The Pavilion
Fitzroy Gardens
Wellington Road
Melbourne

Time: 12.00 for 12.30pm lunch.

RSVP: Tina on 9794 6683 or email by for confirmation of numbers.

Future dates: Saturday 11th of February 2017.

Saturday 8th of April 2017

Saturday of June 2017 (Midwinter)TBC

Saturday 12th of August 2017

Saturday 7th of October 2017

Saturday 9th of December 2017