

75 SQUADRON ASSOCIATION **INCORPORATED**



President: WGCDR Phil Arms Vice President: Ms Patricia Jackson Secretary: Mr Peter Nelms (02) 6127 2527 LACW Rebekka Whiting (08) 8973 7519 Treasurer: Public Officer: FLTLT Gary Smith (08) 8973 7502 SQN Liaison Officer: FLTLT Gary Smith (08) 8973 7502



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

70th Anniversary of the Battle of Milne Bay

This Newsletter is to confirm that Defence and the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) will be supporting ceremonies in Papua New Guinea in August 2012 to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Milne Bay. The primary activities are planned to be centred around Alotau from 22 - 27 August. There is also the possibility of an associated commemorative activity for 75 Squadron in Port Moresby.

Air Force has agreed to support the Milne Bay commemorations with attendance by a small contingent of serving members from 75, 76 and 6 Squadrons. DVA are also supporting this activity and are currently seeking nominations from veterans who fought in the conflict to attend the ceremonies in an official capacity (nominations for this are separate to this request and are required to be sent to DVA as per the attached documentation). Unfortunately DVA are only able to support six (6) paid veteran positions. It is anticipated that there is likely to be significantly greater interest by members of the 75, 76 and 6 Squadron's Associations to attend this event and in response, the 75 Squadron Association is proposing to host a group travel booking for any Association or family member wishing to attend.

While the details of the actual commemorative events are yet to be finalised, this Newsletter is a request for expressions of interest from members of the 75, 76 and 6 Squadron's Association's who may wish to attend this event. Responses should be sent to the 75 Squadron Association Secretary (details below) and should include:

- Name and contact details (postal address, phone number, email),
- Period of service with your respective Squadron in Papua New Guinea, and
- Indication of level of health (for example, is a carer required).

Please note that at this stage details are still vague with dates and itinerary details yet to be finalised. This notice is merely seeking an indication from those who would be interested in attending (at own expense) and advising the dates that you may wish to "pencil in". Those who register an expression of interest will be forwarded details of the group travel itinerary and costs for attendance when known.

If you intend to travel to Papua New Guinea you should note the passport and visa requirements detailed at http://www.pngcanberra.org/visas/index.htm.

Responses to this call for expressions of interest should be received by The Secretary, 75 Squadron Association at:

The Secretary 75 Squadron Association BP35-3-061 PO Box 7927 Canberra BC, ACT, 2610

e-mail peter.nelms@defence.gov.au

Phone (02) 6127 2527

Expressions of interest must be received no later than Monday 16 July 2012.

Seek and Strike.

Phil Arms President 75 Squadron Association

23 June 2012