

POSSUM DROPPINGS #17

November 2010

161 Recce Assoc NAB – 8 McGregor Street, Toowoomba. QLD. 4350.
Email - < lavery19@tpg.com.au > or Ph – 07 4633 4888

Welcome to yet another edition of 'Possum Droppings' from the National Administrative Body (NAB) of the 161 Recce Association.

We hope this newsletter finds you all enjoying good health and that the coming Christmas period brings you peace and happiness.

The main purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with a brief summary of the recent 'Gathering of Possums' in Townsville to celebrate the 45th Anniversary (Possum 45 – P45) of the raising of 161 Recce Flt in June 1965 and the subsequent deployment of the Flight to South Vietnam on 14 September 1965.

The elected members of the NAB are John Custance (President), Skeeta Ryan (Secretary/Treasurer) and Len Avery (Assistant).

We Will Remember Them - Lest We Forget.

Sadly, during the past 12 months we have lost a further three of our 161 members. As the Executive of the 161 Recce Assoc and on behalf of all of the members of the 161 Recce Assoc we would like to extend our condolences to the family and friends of the following members;

A1647 Flight Sergeant Keith Archibald (Bones) Einam – RAAF.

Keith served with 161 (Indep) Recce Flight from 28 March 1968 until 23 October 1968 as the Senior NCO In Charge of Maintenance.

Keith was born on the 13th July 1928 and passed away on the 4th July 2010.

39017 Corporal Michael Hugh (Mick) Lappin CSM – RAEME.

Mick served with 161 (Indep) Recce Flt from 24 March 1969 until 04 March 1970 as a Corporal Radio Mechanic.

Mick was born on the 17th November 1947 and passed away on the 22nd September 2010.

17631 Lance Corporal Errol Ross (Blue) Potter – RAASC.

Errol served with 161 (Indep) Recce Flt from 25 May 1966 until 10 May 1967. Errol worked in the 161 Command Post as a Radio Operator as well as at 'Nui Dat Arty – Kanga Control' as a radio Operator.

Errol was born on the 22nd November 1945 and passed away on the 5th April 2010.

*** We have also received news that at least another one of our members passed away a number of years ago however, we have yet to confirm the date and details of that members' passing.*

Those members who have recently passed away will be dearly missed by their immediate family members and those who had the honour of serving with them as members of 161.

One of our primary tasks as the National Executive of your Association is to preserve a lasting memory of all members of 161 Recce Flight and 161 Recce Sqn who are deceased. We try and achieve this task in a number of ways and we have established a Memorial Page on our 161 Recce Assoc Web Site under the title of 'In Memoriam'.

To further enhance our 'In Memoriam Page' we try and include a photo of each of our deceased members. Unfortunately there are a few of our members on the 'In Memoriam Page' for whom we do not have a photo (at time of Service and recent photographs are preferred) therefore any and all assistance you may be able to provide will be gratefully received and thoroughly appreciated.

We are well aware that there are a number of our members who are not travelling very well health wise due to ongoing aches and pains or serious health issues. Under no circumstances do we wish to invade the privacy of any member however, if you are not in good health could you please let us know that you are not well or please ask one of your family members to advise us accordingly.

Please Note - If there is anything that you feel or consider we may be able to do to assist you or any other member/s please do not hesitate to contact us.

Our thoughts and prayers are with any member who is not be enjoying good health at this point in time and we hope that you get better soon.

Presidents Report.

Well, what an act to follow. The boys in Townsville did us proud. Possum 45 will go down as one of the best Possum gatherings so far. The event started by an ex Medic suffering from foot and mouth problems when he said, "I am going to join you aviators, there are too many RAEME w - - - - s here." Well done Bill H. The tone of the evening was evident when our MC could not shut up the natives so that welcomes could be passed.

Thursday will never be forgotten. The day started with a Memorial Service attended by a large gathering of Possums, their partners and a great rollup of serving members from the 5th Aviation Regiment. The current "Possum Master", Major Dan Bartle addressed the gathering while wreaths were laid by the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel James Brown and I representing our Association. 5 Avn Regt also provided a guard of honour who did an excellent job. The bugler for the day was Bill Norton and a young Craftsman 'James Sagar' dressed in a kilt played the pipes.

Thank you to both LTCOL Brown, the RSM WO1 Wayne Harper (and their merry band of men), who produced a magnificent spread and made us very, very welcome. One knows the food was great when there was seafood left over. Thank you to all members of 5 Avn Regt. Following our feast we were privileged to be given free access to static displays of the Regiment aircraft on the tarmac as well as access to the main maintenance hangar. Thank you boys and girls from the Workshop.

One to go, and as expected Friday night at the RSL was outstanding! The boys in Townsville were in panic mode when the attendance figure reached 295 which was the maximum capacity for the room; however, everything went without a hitch. I must commend the powers of our AAAvn Honorary Colonel Major General Jim Molan. When he got up to address the gathering, you could hear a pin drop and at the conclusion of his guest speech, he received a standing ovation. It was also pleasing to see our first Army Aviation Major General Tony Fraser attend and enjoy himself.

On behalf of all our 161 Assn Possums, allow me to thank Major Dan Bartle and the members of 161 Recce Sqn for the magnificent framed picture of two Tigers that was presented to us at the dinner. I believe it will take pride of place on an easel somewhere in the vicinity of our first armed recon helicopter flown by Jim Campbell in which he gained the DFC in the Museum of Army Flying.

The Executive of the National Branch was re-elected unopposed. Thank you for your ongoing vote of confidence.

At the 161 Recce Assoc General Meeting on Thursday, it was decided that Possum 50 should be held in Darwin, 2015. This is extremely fitting as most of us are becoming a little frail and it will be a good opportunity to visit 161 Recce Sqn and the 1st Aviation Regiment.

Please Note; The 161 National Executive will liaise with 161 Recce Sqn and the 1st Aviation Regiment in regards to the holding of Possum 50 in Darwin. Due to operational commitments of the Squadron and Regiment in 2015 it may be necessary to find an alternate location for Possum 50, we will advise all members accordingly.

Matters pertaining to the loans or donation of historical importance to the MAAF were discussed during the meeting and are to be investigated by the National Executive Committee.

I singled out Major Dan Bartle and on behalf of our Association congratulated him on being awarded the Aviator of the Year for outstanding Contributions to Combat Aviation.

We will be approaching the Australian War Memorial to have a plaque placed in the Memorial in honour those of 161 who made the supreme sacrifice and others who have passed during or following their service in Vietnam.

Len has mentioned the 161 Assistance fund. It received great response at the General Meeting and has since has been utilised very positively.

To our members, their partners and guests who attended Possum 45, THANK YOU for making it the great gatherings of Possums that it was.

It is the festive season, therefore, let me take this opportunity to wish all of you a very happy Xmas and a bright and healthier New Year.

Hopefully we will see some of you at the 50th Anniversary of the formation of 16 Army Light Aircraft Squadron at Twin Towns 10 - 12 Dec 2010. Applications are still open - there are around 130 attending the dinner so far - details are on < www.fourays.org.au > or call me on (07) 5527 9376.

John and Una.

Treasurer/Secretary (Waffling) Report

Sandra and I attended Possum 45 and we had a wonderful time catching up with 'old' friends and meeting those who had not attended a 'Possum Gathering' before.

It was particularly pleasing to catch up with Dan Bartle and Darren McCormick, the current Possum Master and SSM of 161 Recce Sqn respectively. The Squadron is in good hands and the future looks bright and exciting for those who are in the Squadron.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those members of the North Queensland Branch for the excellent job they did in organising P45.

As the secretary/treasurer of the 161 National Executive it was my task to present a summary of the correspondence which has passed through the National Branch in recent times and the financial status of the National Branch.

I am ably assisted and totally supported in carrying out my duties by Len Avery who maintains all of our 161 records including those of the National Branch.

The financial income into the National Branch Account comes from limited resources which includes membership, sales through the 161 PX and donations from our members.

With the recent establishment of the 161 Recce Assoc Assistance Fund we have three accounts within the 161 National Branch. The National Access Account, for our day to day operations, the Cash Management Account, which holds the seeding fund for future 'Possum Gatherings' and the recently established Assistance Fund Account, which is used to provide immediate short term assistance to those members who may need some form of assistance. For those who may be unaware all our National Accounts are with DEFCREDIT.

All income and expenditure through the 161 National Branch is receipted and recorded whilst all expenditure is paid for by cheque which requires at least two of the three authorised signatories of those designated to sign the cheques.

Len Avery maintains detailed records for all income to and expenditure from the 161 National Accounts. On a regular and ongoing basis I cross-check and verify the records. All financial statements are compiled and maintained by Len and myself and are available for viewing, on request of any or all Members of the 161 Recce Assoc.

At the General Meeting at P45 on the Thursday the 9th September all in attendance were asked to record their presence at the meeting by entry and signatory on the Attendance List. I presented copies of and gave a brief summary of the financial status of the 161 National Branch.

I highlighted the fact that the 161 National Branch had provided the P45 organisers with a cheque for \$2500 from the 161 Seeding Fund (Cash Management Account) to kick start P45. In addition to the funds provided from the Seeding Fund there was a grant from the Department of Veterans' Affairs, a donation from Sikorsky and a loan from the 161 Sydney Branch to allow the P45 organisers to plan and execute an outstanding "Gathering of Possums".

Following on from the conclusion of P45, the organising committee have not only repaid the \$2500 into the 161 Seeding Fund and the loan from the Sydney Branch, they have also made a donation to the 161 Assistance Fund plus a donation into the 161 Reccelections Fund, which is used by Len Avery to continue his work in preserving and maintaining our 161 history and memorabilia.

Hopefully we will get the opportunity to catch up with many of you again at Possum 50 in Darwin if not sooner. Please take care of those you love and may peace be with you.

Skeeta and Sandra.

Possum 45 Summary – North Queensland Branch.

Possum 45 Gathering Townsville 8-10 Sep 2010

We of the North Queensland Branch would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended P45 from the bottom of our hearts.

You have made our effort of organising the 'Gathering of Possums' (old and young) a great success.

The reunion has come and gone but the memories are still here. It was a culmination of 18 months work done by the main organisers, Russell (Shifty), Alan Meiklejohn and Bruno Kwas ably assisted by others from our Branch as required, and Len Avery as our main postmaster.

A special mention must be made of 5 Avn Regt in their help. LTCOL James Brown welcomed us and offered the base for the Memorial Day with the RSM, WO1 Wayne Harper, as our main contact and get together man inside the fence. Entry to the RAAF Base was a slight problem with Serco so the RSM's phone number went into our mobile phones to make sure we could get entry. LTCOL Chris Bell and his RAEME workers assisted us as well. I don't know why he kept telling the RSM to make sure our hands were in our pockets whenever we visited his part of the base. I think it was his electrical background as a 20th intake Army Apprentice.

We must also make mention of the seeding fund which was given to us from the National Executive, the grant from DVA, the donation from Sikorsky and the loan from the Sydney Branch which allowed us to organise and plan the 'gathering' without worrying about whether we had sufficient funds to cover the costs involved. The seeding fund has been repaid into the National Account as has the loan from the Sydney Branch. A donation has been made to the 161 Assistance Fund as well as the 161 Recollections Account so that Len Avery can continue the work of preserving and maintaining our 161 history and memorabilia.

A CD of P45 images is being collated by Len Avery and if any member would like a copy of the P45 CD, at a small price, please contact Len.

We kept the committee small to make things easier to manage. Thank you to the South Australian Branch for their contribution. They sent over a copy of their documentation for use in setting up the program. Later we obtained the software for the Possum Logo from them to enable us to produce the NQ design. We in turn will make everything available to the next gathering crew to help them along.

It was a great learning exercise for my computer skills during the time. I found out how to do many things on programs that have sat idle within the black box on the floor. The designs for the placemats, labels etc were produced, reviewed, discarded and redesigned many times over the period before we settled on what you saw on the night. The more astute noted the little extras incorporated within the paperwork but Alan topped the pool with the shirt design with my home being included in the print.

The main thing we learnt from the exercise was to get final numbers for functions well before the date. I had a few sleepless nights trying to sort out dinner figures or if we could get alternative arrangements at the same costs. The trouble with Townsville is the next level up for numbers costs the world and that is why we capped the dinner to 295. The RSL could only cater for that many in a sit down environment so juggling cancellations and others wanting to come at the last moment created a few small problems. Our feedback from the RSL was positive. We were the biggest sit down function they catered for since the renovations and no problems were encountered on the Wednesday and Friday nights.

My biggest regret is not being able to talk to everyone during the three days but I tried. The photos are now on disc but we couldn't name a few people but our editor in chief (Bird) is on the job tracking them down.

Since the reunion we have had a few ARH Tigers come across from Darwin for the major exercise being held now. It was spine tingling to see all our helicopter types in the air over Townsville. It was a pity they couldn't get here earlier.

Once again the Possums of Townsville thank you for coming to our part of Australia and enjoying our great weather and scenery.

Don't forget to come back to the north and call us when you do.

Russell 'Shifty' Gordon.

161 Recce Sqn News.

Current key appointments in the 161 Recce Sqn are;

Officer Commanding – Major Daniel Bartle, "Possum Master", and
SSM – WO2 Darren McCormick.

Now that 161 Recce Sqn is collocated with the 1st Aviation Regiment, in purpose built facilities at Robertson Barracks in Darwin, along with 162 Recce Sqn from Townsville there have been a number of major changes within the Regiment in regards to how the maintenance support is provided to each of the Squadrons. There is no direct support within the squadrons any more. As previously advised the maintenance support element for each squadron is now centralised within the 1st Aviation Regiment Technical Support Squadron. Direct maintenance support is provided to the squadrons by a Forward Repair Team (FRT) or Forward Repair Group (FRG) as required.

We have included a 161 Sqn Page on our 161 Web Site specifically for the Squadron and we invite former and current members of the Squadron to visit the web site and assist with the expansion of the Squadron History and Photo Gallery.

Please note, all current and former members of 161 Recce Sqn are members of the 161 family and are most welcome to join the 161 Recce Association.

A message from our current Possum Master.

It was fantastic to be able to attend the P45 celebrations in Townsville; it was really great to see the camaraderie that still exists between all the members and their families. It is something for us to aspire to. My SSM and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and learnt a little more about the characters that helped build our aviation history.

The Squadron is just returning from Townsville after Exercise HAMEL, which saw us exercising in support of 3 Brigade in High Range training for these last five weeks or so. It was a good chance to practice our conventional war fighting skills against a thinking enemy played by the NZ Army and Air Force and proved that we are well on the way to our operational capability milestones. We conducted many air mobile operations with the Blackhawks and Chinooks of 5 Aviation Regiment including a live fire air mobile insertion of troops observed by the Chief of Army.

The Squadron flew over 300 hours of reconnaissance and attack missions in the five weeks we were in Townsville with the RAEME boys working around the clock to keep the aircraft on the go while the aircrew located and destroyed the enemy. The exercise culminated in a Brigade live fire practice involving Infantry, Armour, Artillery and for the first time ARH in direct support. It was a great way to finish the year.

We are now tidying up the paperwork and winding down for Christmas and New Year with the Squadron taking a well deserved break. Next year will see a period of change when my replacement Major Kim Gilfillan marches in and the Squadrons within the Regiment shuffle personnel around. I will miss the Squadron life dearly as I head south to Canberra but I hope to be back with the Regiment in a few years time.

I have sent Len the photo below and a couple of other photos for possible inclusion on the 161 Web Site.



ARH and MRH90 in formation flight, over Townsville.

Take care and best wishes.
Dan Bartle "Possum Master"

161 Recce Association Assistance Fund.

John Custance indicated in his President's Report that we have established the 161 Recce Assoc Assistance Fund, which is in accordance with the 161 Recce Assoc Constitution and Rules.

The 161 Assistance Fund was established on 15 August 2010, following the notification from within our membership that one of our members was very sick and that any financial assistance which we could provide would be greatly appreciated.

Due to the fact that the 161 Recce Assoc had, and still has, very limited resources, a request for financial assistance/donation was distributed to those 161 members who are on Email. The response from our members has been very positive and we are very grateful for the support which has been provided.

We are now in a position to be able to provide immediate, although limited, assistance to any member who may need some form of assistance.

The 161 Assistance Fund will allow us to continue to provide immediate though limited support or help to those members who are in need of some form of assistance whether that be financial assistance or any other form of assistance which is not readily available through any other organisation such as the Department of Veterans' Affairs and/or Legacy. Under no circumstances is it our intent to take on any role of assistance to our members which is known to be readily available from some other organisation/s.

Please remember we cannot provide assistance to any of our members unless we are advised that support and/or help is required. Notification for the need for assistance can be forthcoming from another member or directly from a family member. Often, as has been proven, the best source of knowledge of a need for support and/or help is from friends. As is the case for most if not all of our members 'Pride' gets in the road and hinders our choice to put our hand out for a needed 'Hand Up'. However as has also been proven many times in the past we are very quick to put our hand out to support and help others with a 'Hand Up'.

What support and assistance can be provided, whether it be physical, comforting, encouraging or financial will depend on what resources the 161 National Executive has at its disposal.

The 161 Recce Assoc Assistance Fund is managed by the National Executive of the Association.

Please Note – The 161 Assistance Fund is not a registered charity, therefore any donations to the Assistance Fund are not Tax deductible.

If you would like to make a donation to the 161 Assistance Fund, all of which are greatly appreciated, please contact Len Avery. You can send your donation by cheque or money order or you can pay directly into the 161 Assistance Fund Account.

161 Communication Network and Web Site.

As has been previously advised, we continue to take great pride in the establishment of a strong communication network via our 161 Web Site and Email. This network allows us to maintain regular contact and distribute information of interest on a regular basis to a large number of our members. We currently have more than 400 members on email which includes a considerable number of family members of 161 members.

If you are on email and you are **not** in contact with Len Avery can you please send him an email at:

Email < lavery19@tpg.com.au >.

Russ Graham continues to manage our 161 Recce Assoc Web Site exceptionally well and we are very grateful for Russ's ongoing efforts in expanding and updating **our** Web Site.

If you have not visited our Web Site in recent times we invite you to do so to maintain a close watch on the Site. We welcome any assistance you can provide in expanding the content and accuracy of our 161 Web Site.

Our 161 Recce Assoc Web Site address is;

< www.161recceflt.org.au >.

161 Recce Assoc – Possum PX

Our 161 Possum PX remains open for business however, we only hold a limited number of items in stock, so if you would like to purchase anything from our PX, please contact Len Avery.

PLEASE DO NOT send any money with your order, an invoice will be posted to you with the items and it will include postage and packaging.

| Item No. | Description of Items available from PX. | Cost |
|-----------------|--|-------------|
| 1 | 161 Recce Assoc Tie. | 25:00 |
| 2 | 161 Recce Assoc Collar Badge. | 6:00 |
| 3 | Army Aviation Blue Beret (Sizes M – L or XL). | 15:00 |
| 4 | Army Aviation Corps Hat Badge. | 8:00 |
| 5 | RAEME Corps Hat Badge. | 8:00 |
| 6 | Book – ‘Possums and Bird Dogs’ by Peter Nolan. | 30:00 |
| 7 | 161 (Indep) Recce Flt Plaque. | 35:00 |
| 8 | 161 Recce Assoc “Pilot Statuette”. (very limited supply). | 35:00 |
| 9 | 161 (Indep) Recce Flt Wine Glass featuring the 161 Possum. | 15:00 |
| 10 | 161 (Indep) Recce Flt Port Glass featuring the 161 Possum. | 15:00 |
| 11 | 161 (Indep) Recce Flt Coffee Mug featuring the 161 Possum. | 15:00 |
| 12 | 16 ALA Sqn, Plaque. | 35:00 |
| 13 | 16 ALA Sqn, Fridge Magnet, 50mm Diameter. | 5:00 |
| 14 | 161 Possum – Fridge Magnet, 50mm Diameter. | 5:00 |
| 15 | Luscombe Field – Fridge Magnet, 50mm Diameter. | 5:00 |
| 16 | Perspex Medal Holder. | 8:00 |
| 17 | 161 (Indep) Recce Flt Car Stickers. 90mm diameter. | 5:00 |
| 18 | 161 TAC Sign Sticker. 120mm x 120mm. | 5:00 |
| 19 | Large Vietnam Ribbon Car Sticker. 310mm x 50mm. | 5:00 |
| 20 | 161 Recce Flight Baseball Caps. | 20:00 |
| 21 | 161 Number Plate Frame. | 10:00 |
| 22 | Book – ‘Ho Chi Minh, Johnsy & I’ by Shorty Lourensen. | 20.00 |
| 23 | Possum 45 Pictorial CD/DVD. | 10.00 |
| 24 | Possum 45 Baseball Caps – very limited number available. | 15.00 |

** Len Avery – Ph (07) 4633 4888, Email < lavery19@tpg.com.au > or

8 McGregor Street, Toowoomba. QLD. 4350.

Museum of Australian Army Flying (MAAF).

In October of 2010, the Museum of Australian Army Flying (MAAF) at Oakey held its annual Fly-In and we organised yet another display within the museum during the Fly-In.

The theme of the display this year was an open book display commemorating the Centenary of Powered Flight in Australia through Australian stamps, First Day Covers and maxi cards featuring Australian aviation and military history. The weekend was a great success for the Museum and I have already started planning another display for 2011.

The theme for the 2011 display will be 'Army Aviation 50+ years' and the display will include plaques, badges, patches and photos of all the past and present Army Aviation Units and aircraft respectively.

We would strongly recommend a visit to the Museum if you are passing through the Darling Downs area. We can assure you that you will not be disappointed.

As previously advised the 161 Recce Association is very well represented within the Museum with examples of all of the aircraft we flew in Vietnam plus a special 161 display in the memorabilia room.

Membership to the MAAF is open to all members of 161 Recce Flt and 161 Recce Sqn and we would strongly encourage you to become a member and support the MAAF. A membership form for the museum is available on the MAAF Page on our 161 Web Site.

You can access the MAAF Web Page by logging onto the 161 Recce Assoc Web Site at:

< www.161recceflt.org.au > or by logging onto the Army Web Site at:

< www.army.gov.au > and going to the History Section and then to the museums page.

The MAAF continues to make an annual donation to the 161 Recce Assoc to offset the cost of maintaining the 161 Web Site.

Helen Bawden does an excellent job in publishing a monthly newsletter for the MAAF and the newsletters are published on the MAAF Web Page.

The next Fly-In for the MAAF is planned for the first weekend in October 2011, (01-02 Oct), so please keep a close watch on the MAAF Page of the 161 Web Site for dates and details of the Fly-In.

Finally, A Special Message.

The National Executive would like to wish all of our 161 Recce Assoc Members and their family, health, prosperity and safe travelling.

'Keep your Face to the Wind, your Back to the Wall and Fight, Fight for your Family and Friends, Don't, Don't Ever, Ever Give Up. When the Battle gets hard, Reach Out, Reach Out to friends and strongly Grasp the Hand and Arm extended in Mateship that can help us to get through the long dark nights and days.

Kill Pride, Reach Out and receive for yourself that which you willing make available to others.

As has been said by many we are the Members of the 161 Family.

Merry Christmas followed by a Happy and Healthy 2011.

John & Una Custance, Skeeta & Sandra Ryan and Len & Kay Avery.

Contact details are: Phone – 07 4633 4888 or Email at < lavery19@tpg.com.au >.

Address – 8 McGregor Street, Toowoomba. QLD. 4350.

161 Web Site - < www.161recceflt.org.au >.



161 RECCE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Membership to the 161 Recce Association is open to all members of 161 Recce Flt and or 161 (Indep) Recce Flt and all past and present members of 161 Recce Sqn.

Membership to the 161 Recce Association is also extended to the Next of Kin and family members of all members of 161 Vietnam and 161 Recce Sqn.

The 161 Recce Assoc has Branches or 'Points of Contact' in all States and Territories so if you need assistance or information regarding membership of the 161 Recce Assoc please contact your nearest Branch or the National Administrative Body (NAB).

Membership fees are due as of 01 January of each year.

Membership Fees through the NAB are \$10:00 per year or if you prefer you can pay in advance. For example you can pay \$100 for 10 years membership.

The cost of membership at the Branch level may vary to that of the NAB so please contact your local 161 Recce Assoc Branch regarding membership or alternatively contact Len Avery at:

(07) 4633 4888 or Email < lavery19@tpg.com.au >.

Attached please find a 161 Recce Association Membership Form which you can use to initiate or renew your membership with the 161 Recce Assoc. Please send your completed Membership Form to your closest Association Branch, or to the NAB at the addresses provided.

Membership Status.

Ordinary Membership is open to:

- All members who served with or were attached to the 161 Recce Flight in Vietnam, and
- All current and former members of 161 Recce Squadron.

Associate Membership is open to:

- The immediate family of a member, dependents and descendants, and
- Any person who is serving in, or who has served in, the Australian Defence Forces, or a friendly Allied country, in any unit whose role is or may have been similar to that of 161 Recce Flt.

Life Members.

The 161 Recce Association currently has three Life Members and they are:

Max Sward, Len Avery and Frank Benfield.

161 RECCE ASSOCIATION

NAB and Branch Contact Details

The following members are our points of contact within the 161 Recce Association;

NAB Chairman

John Custance.
87/33-67 Edmund Rice Drive
Southport Qld 4215
Ph: 07 5527 9376 or 0438 940 574
Email: < janducust@bigpond.com >

NAB Secretary/Treasurer

Skeeta Ryan.
12 Samuel Court
Toowoomba. QLD. 4350
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Email: < sanjryan@tpg.com.au >

Darling Downs Branch

Len Avery.
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Email: < lavery19@tpg.com.au >

Sydney Branch

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Ourimbah. NSW. 2258
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Melbourne Branch

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Canberra Branch

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9 Stuart Street
Queanbeyan. NSW 2620
Ph: 02 6297 9109
Email: < lcsibi@bigpond.net.au >

Tasmania Branch

Nigel Hamilton-Smith.
PO Box 14
Oatlands. TAS 7120
Ph: 03 6254 0004
Email: N/A

Western Australia

Derek Downing.
234 Sultana Road East
Forrestfield WA 6058.
Ph: 08 9359 1848
Email: < ddo92797@bigpond.net.au >.

161 RECCE ASSOCIATION

Membership Application/Renewal Form

Surname..... **Given Name**.....

Address..... **Date of Birth**

Town/City.....**State**.....**Post Code**.....**Country**.....

Ph (h).....**Ph (w)**.....**Mobile No**.....

FAX No.....**Email Address**.....

Record of Service

Regimental No.....**Rank (at Discharge)**.....**Corps**.....

Date of Discharge.....**Unit (at discharge)**.....

Did you serve in any of the following units, if so when:

161 Recce Flt.....

161 (Indep) Recce Flt.....

161 Recce Sqn.....or

Other Units (Name and Date).....

Membership Status

Membership:.....Ordinary.....or.....Associate or Family

Duration of Membership: Yearly: Yes/No.....orLong Term.....years

Date of Membership payment.....**Amount Paid**.....

Branch Membership paid to.....

Receipt No.....**Received by**.....**Date**.....

- Membership is \$10 per year through the 161 National Branch however, please check with your respective Branch in regards to the cost of membership at branch level.
