RAAF AT 90

On 31st March Senator The Hon. David Feeney MP., Parliamentary Secretary for Defence, celebrated the 90th anniversary of the formation of the Royal Australian Air Force when he attended a reception at Point Cook Officers’ Mess. Senator Feeney toured a display of historic aircraft for Air Force’s Air Pilgrimage. He remarked on the advances in capability and the achievements of the RAAF over the past 90 years. The reception had the theme: ‘tradition, innovation, evolution’.

In his speech, Senator Feeney commented on the RAAF’s future. He praised the Joint Strike Fighter project and as the Parliamentary Secretary with responsibilities for aircraft noise, urged the public to support this important project. He said, “I would like to take this opportunity to honour the contribution that the men and women of Air Force have made over the past 90 years. We must remember those that have paid the ultimate price, serving our great nation. I was pleased to see just how far Air Force has come in the last 90 years, when I had the opportunity to view a collection of antique and historic aircraft flown on an air pilgrimage from Temora to Point Cook by the Antique Aeroplane Association of Australia.”

He added, “The advances in technology and associated capability have come a long way. I am confident it will continue to evolve. We only have to look forward to the Joint Strike Fighter project to see this. I am confident that as Air Force looks to its 100th birthday, the RAAF will continue to recruit and retain men and women of the highest calibre and continue their tradition of great service.”

Australia’s fledgling Air Force began in the First World War as the Australian Flying Corps. The Australian Air Force was officially created on the 31st March 1921. The title Royal was bestowed upon the Air Force later that year. The RAAF is the second-oldest independent air force in the world. Point Cook is the spiritual and historic home of Air Force.