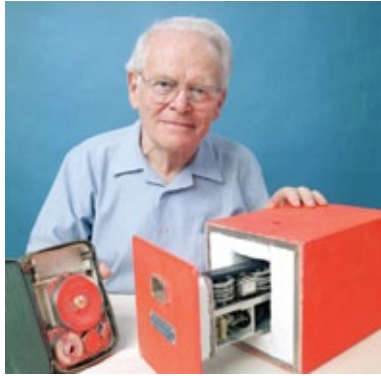


Dr David Warren AO: 1925 - 2010

Defence and the Australian scientific community is mourning the death of Dr David Warren, inventor of the Black Box flight data recorder, who passed away on 19 July at the age of 85.



Born in 1925 at a remote mission station in far north-east Australia, Dr Warren served as Principal Research Scientist at the Defence Science and Technology Organisation's Aeronautical Research Laboratories (ARL) in Melbourne, from 1952 - 1983.

Early in his career, Dr Warren was involved in accident investigations related to the mysterious crash of the world's first jet airliner, the Comet, in 1953.

He advocated the use of a cockpit voice recorder as a useful means of solving otherwise inexplicable aircraft accidents. He designed and constructed the world's first flight data recorder prototype at the ARL in 1956. This device became known as the 'black box'.

It took five years before the value and practicality of the flight data recorder concept was realised and a further five years until authorities mandated they be fitted to cockpits in Australian aircraft. The modern-day equivalent of Dr Warren's device, installed in passenger airlines around the world is a testament to his pioneering work. It is now also used in other forms of road transport to capture information in the lead-up to accidents.

Dr Warren's flight data recorder has made an invaluable contribution to safety in world aviation.

In November 2008, Qantas announced that they had named an Airbus A380 aircraft after Dr Warren in honour of his contribution to aviation. Dr Warren was one of only two aviation pioneers who were there to see the unveiling of the names that would grace the new fleet. His name will join such aviation luminaries as Sir Charles Kingsford Smith and Nancy-Bird Walton in adorning one of twenty new planes.

Among many awards during his career, Dr Warren and his team also received the Lawrence Hargraves award in 2001 for their work on the Black Box flight recorder. He was appointed an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia in 2002 for service to the aviation industry.

Dr Warren simultaneously served as chairman of the Combustion Institute (Australian & New Zealand Section) for 25 years (1958 - 1983) and Scientific Energy Adviser to the Victorian Parliament (1981 - 1982).

David Warren is survived by his wife Ruth, four children and seven grandchildren.

President

Dr Greig Chaffey
gchaffey@asam.org.au

Immediate Past President

Dr Warren Harrex
wharrex@asam.org.au

Vice-President

Dr Barney Cresswell
bcresswell@asam.org.au

Treasurer

Dr Andrew Marsden
andrewmarsden@westnet.com.au

Secretary

Dr Heather Parker
flydoc@ozemail.com.au

Public Officer

Dr Craig Schramm
cschramm@asam.org.au

Committee Members

Dr Gordon Cable
gcable@asam.org.au

Dr Ian Cheng
icheng@asam.org.au

Dr David Emonson
demonson@asam.org.au

Dr Tracy Smart
tsmart@asam.org.au

Dr Adrian Smith
asmith@asam.org.au

60th International Congress of Aviation & Space Medicine

Melbourne Convention Centre, Australia
16 - 20 September 2012



**This is an event not to
be missed...
Mark your diary now!**

More info at www.icasm2012.com

Host City Partner



Proudly hosted by



If you are receiving this newsletter in hard copy then your current email address is not held on the ASAM database. Could you please email secretariat@asam.org.au to update your information.

MARCH 2011 IN THIS ISSUE

	Page
2010 Conference Report	2
Regional Reports	3
News of Members	3
Honours and Awards	3
Calendar of Events	3
Vale	4
ASAM Committee	4

PRESIDENT'S LOG BOOK

New Strategies from ASAM Strategic Meeting

Welcome to the first of our new ASAM Newsletters.

You will all be well aware of the difficulties that ASAM has experienced in publishing our journal, JASAM, in recent times. The biggest single reason for this has been sourcing enough appropriate papers, plus the peer review process that has added an immense amount of work to the editor and panel. Nevertheless, let me thank those who have currently submitted papers pending, and also to all our past contributors.

The problem of timely communication between the ASAM committee and ASAM members was the subject of major discussion at our strategic meeting, held in association with our quarterly committee meeting in Melbourne recently. We have been investigating Medline submission for JASAM, and there are many hoops to go through, specifically regarding quality and consistency of the publication. Because of this, a decision has been made, at this stage, to publish one JASAM annually, in the latter half of the year. In due course, contributors to JASAM could look forward to a Medline listed peer reviewed journal of international significance. The committee would like to make another plea to all members to consider providing papers for JASAM. I am well aware that everyone cannot provide original papers. If there are any questions in this regard please address them to the committee via our secretariat.



To fill the communication void we aim to publish a regular ASAM newsletter that will not be subject to the peer review journal process. The work of your committee is done on a voluntary basis, and there is only so much time available to your committee. We all lead busy lives. Please contribute to "news of members" in particular, and also let us know of any information that might be included in the newsletter. Remember that it is your newsletter, and it is only as good as your contributions and involvement. This may require only a short telephone or email conversation with our secretariat Anne Fleming.

We also aim to address the content, usability and timeliness of our ASAM website. I have been increasingly concerned that the website is not providing its potential benefits.

Let me congratulate AMSVIC on yet another superb conference run recently in association with the Airshow Downunder. Almost 100 attended the scientific day at Epworth Hospital. SA will host a meeting in April and WA in May. Attendance at these conferences is a testament to the quality of the programs presented, and is a wonderful opportunity to meet and network with local members. Let me take this opportunity to thank all those involved in organising these meetings, and challenge more members to become involved in helping and supporting those volunteers.

I encourage members to consider attending our Annual Scientific Meeting in Newcastle 06-09 October. Please look at the conference website via the link on www.asam.org.au for updates as they become available. Dr Ian Cheng as chair is working diligently on the organization. I also draw your attention to our 2012 conference, where we will be hosting ICASM at the Melbourne convention centre, with Dr Gordon Cable as chair. The national conferences present an excellent opportunity to meet and interact with your aviation medicine colleagues from Australasia. As a delegate at each of the last twenty ASAM Annual Scientific Meetings I have been delighted to watch the development of the conference programs, and the ongoing organizational development required to address the requirements and expectations of a modern professional conference.

Your committee is committed to serving the membership.

It is a privilege to be the President of your Society, and I thank you all for your continued support.

Warmest regards to all,

Dr Greg P. Chaffey

President ASAM



Australasian Society of Aerospace Medicine

PO Box 4022
BALWYN VIC 3103
AUSTRALIA

Phone +61 3 9899 1686
Fax +61 3 9890 2353

secretariat@asam.org.au
www.asam.org.au

2010 CONFERENCE REPORT

Canberra turned on wonderful weather and a magnificent floral display of Floriade for this conference, which was extremely successful with 132 delegates. The venue for the scientific meetings at the Australian Academy of Science's Shine Dome was excellent, chairs almost too comfortable, auditorium great. The Shine Dome has been a Canberra landmark since its construction in 1959. It is the first building in Canberra to be included on the National Heritage List, has received numerous awards and has been nominated to the World Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture.

The new National Portrait Gallery was the venue for the welcome cocktail party. The Gallery displays some 400 portraits of people who have shaped Australia and who continue to shape our nation. Many of the portraits are aviation related, with Nancy-bird Walton and Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith among them. A string quartet played as delegates caught up with old friends.

The John Lane Oration was given by Dr Andrei Catanchin. A cardiologist from Perth, Dr Catanchin manages a wide range of general cardiac conditions but his primary interest is in the treatment and cure of heart rhythm disorders and includes catheter ablation procedures for atrial fibrillation and other arrhythmias as well as implantation and extraction of pacemakers and ICDs. Dr Catanchin has a strong involvement with research and he spoke about cardiac arrhythmias and warfarin alternatives in atrial fibrillation.

The theme for the conference was "Heart of a Nation" and there were many interesting speakers and case studies of cardiac conditions in pilots as well as presentations on subjects as diverse as CVA and dermatology. The Paterson Trust Lecture was very thought-provoking, with consideration of statements such as "there is no such thing as hypertension" and "how low is low – in cholesterol" from Professor Rod Jackson, an epidemiologist from New Zealand. He is one of the architects of New Zealand risk-based clinical guidelines for managing CVD risk. He is currently involved in developing and implementing a web-based decision support system - PREDICT - to help primary care practitioners across the country systematically manage CVD and diabetes risk at the 'moment of care' for their practice populations. His talk provoked so many questions they had to be time-limited.

But by far the highlight of the 2010 Conference was the gala dinner held at the Australian War Memorial. A fascinating and emotional talk was given by long-time member Dr Eric Stephenson with footage at the G for George display that was taken on the very night Dr Stephenson was shot down over Germany in a Lancaster bomber in WW 11. Every delegate at the conference received a personally signed copy of his book *Three Passions and a Lucky Penny*.

The scientific and social functions at this conference were outstanding and we all look forward to next year in Newcastle and the following 2012 ICASM conference in Melbourne.

Heather Parker



Mark your diaries...
6-9 October 2011 for the
ASAM 2011 Conference

Newcastle is #9
on Lonely Planet's
Top 10 Cities for 2011 list!



Annual Scientific Meeting 2011

6-9 October 2011
Crowne Plaza, Newcastle, New South Wales

Welcome reception - Fort Scratchley
Thursday, 6 October 2011

Gala dinner - Venue to be confirmed
Saturday, 8 October 2011

www.asam2011.com



www.asam.org.au



REGIONAL REPORTS

QLD News Dr Sheila Cronin, President of Rural Doctor's Association (Qld) approached ASAM to assist with the delivery of a one-day Aviation Workshop to its 21st annual conference held in Mackay in June 2010. The conference theme was "Coming of Age: Innovations in Rural Health". Air Commodore Tracy Smart was the keynote speaker presenting her paper "ADF Health Services: Rural and Remote Medicine in extremis".

The Aviation workshop was held the day before the conference and attracted about 20 doctors, many from far west Queensland. Speakers included Dr Pooshan Navathe "Aeromedical decision making", Dr Ian Hosegood "Depression in Aviators" and "Neurological cases" Dr Heather Parker "Atrial fibrillation," and "Air Crash Investigation", Dr Andrew Spall and Dr Tracy Smart. The workshop was well received and there are plans to hold another one in conjunction with the 2011 RDAQ conference.

AMSVIC News 98 doctors attended the recent AMSVIC meeting held in conjunction with the International Airshow Downunder. Guest speakers included A/Prof Wendy Brown of the Centre for Obesity Research & Education and Dr Mary Langcake who presented a paper on her recent deployment to Afghanistan. Society members Drs David Marty, Adrian Smith and Brent Barker also presented papers. CASA was well represented with presentations by Drs Pooshan Navathe, David Fitzgerald and Michael Drane.

SA News Dr Gordon Cable is heading up a small local sub-committee in SA to convene a regional meeting in Adelaide on Saturday 9 April at the Intercontinental Hotel, on North Terrace. The program will include:

- "Paraplegic freefall skydiving" Mr Dale Elliott
- "Heart a la carte - when and what to order for an aviator"
Dr Jackie Forrester
- "Cabin Air Quality Update" Dr Bhupinder Singh
- "Hazards of aircraft fuel tank entry" Dr Suresh Babu
- CASA update

Dinner will follow for delegates and guests at The Loft, Adelaide Casino. Members interested in attending should call Anne on 03 9899 1686.

AMSNSW News A meeting will be held on 22 May at Milton Park, Bowral: "Your Designation, National Registration: Legal Aspects & Clinical applications for DAMEs".

Enquiries to medicine@aviationmedicineconsultants.com.au

WA News The WA membership will be holding its annual meeting on Saturday 28 May at the Sebel Resort in Mandurah. The meeting will be followed by a dinner that evening. Mandurah is located on the coast about 1 hour by car or light rail south of Perth. The Sebel is a modern hotel on the Mandurah waterfront estuary in an area with many waterfront restaurants and cafes. The airport at Mandurah (Murray Field) is within 5 minutes of the centre of town and has one sealed and one gravel runway.

The program for the meeting will include CASA session including an update on current changes in administrative arrangements for medicals, a fascinating talk on the A380 by a senior Qantas A380 pilot, a discussion on medical certification and prostate disease, a presentation by a Cathay Pacific doctor on In-flight medical emergencies and a sequel to last years presentation on a personal experience of a ditching. This meeting meets CASA's requirement for ongoing training for DAMEs and will qualify for CPD points.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Drs B Singh, GG Cable, GV Hampson, GD Pascoe, A Smith and Mr M Corbett will be presented with the Arnold D. Tuttle award by the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA) this coming May for original research that made the most significant contribution toward the solution of a challenging problem in aerospace medicine and was published in Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine. Their paper was titled "Hypoxia awareness training for aircrew: a comparison of two techniques".

2010 Associate Fellowship of AsMa approved for the following ASAM members:

- Dr Robert J Blackmore
- Dr Greig Chaffey
- Dr Michael Drane
- Dr David Fitzgerald
- Dr David Newman
- Dr Glenn Pascoe

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Dr Terry Horgan of St Ives, NSW, an OAM for service to the community as a fundraiser for Catholic charitable organisations. (26/1/10)

Please keep us informed of any honours and awards of which you become aware.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event & Location
9 April 2011	ASAM SA Regional Meeting Intercontinental Hotel, Adelaide
8-12 May 2011	AsMA 81st Annual Scientific Meeting Anchorage, Alaska
22 May 2011	AMSNSW Meeting Milton Park, Bowral
28 May 2011	ASAM WA Regional Meeting Sebel Hotel, Mandurah
30 July 2011	AMSVIC AGM & Scientific Meeting Melbourne
6 – 9 October 2011	ASAM Annual Scientific Meeting Crowne Plaza, Newcastle
11-15 September 2011	59th International Congress of Aviation & Space Medicine Bucharest, Romania
16 – 20 September 2012	60th International Congress of Aviation & Space Medicine (hosted by ASAM) Melbourne Convention Centre