

## history & heritage notes

## Flight Lieutenant G M Egan



## Flight Lieutenant Egan was President of the Club in 2008-09

Flt Lt Gregory M Egan studied at Brisbane State High School (1970 -74) and was there recognized as an avid sportsman and academic. He played (undefeated) in both the 1974 GPS Rugby First XV and the Cricket First XI.

Greg completed a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Queensland in 1980. He was admitted to practice as a solicitor in 1981. He was admitted to practice as a barrister at the Queensland Bar in 1984. He had an extensive practice in both Queensland and Papua New Guinea, where he appeared as counsel in many significant constitutional cases. His principal areas of practice included commercial law, maritime law, mining and mineral exploration law, and company law.

We thank the History Interest Group and other volunteers who have researched and prepared these Notes The series will be progressively expanded and developed. They are intended as casual reading for the benefit of Members, who are encouraged to advise of any inaccuracies in the material. Please do not reproduce them or distribute them outside of the Club membership. In December 2017, His Honour Judge Egan was appointed a Judge of the Federal Circuit Court of Australia.

Flight Lieutenant Egan was commissioned in the RAAF Specialist Reserve in 1985 as a legal officer. He appeared in court martial proceedings and transferred to the RAAF Standby Reserve in 1990.

Greg joined the Club in 1984 and served on the Committee in two periods - 1993 – 97 and 2005 – 08. He was Vice-President in 2007 - 07 and served two years as President in 2008 - 09. He served as the Immediate Past President in 2010 – 11.

At the time he became President, he recalls that "... it was a challenging time, not the least because, in October 2008, the world saw an upheaval in the liquidity of banks and other financial institutions across the globe – an economic downturn referred to as the "Global Financial Crisis". However, notwithstanding those difficulties, the Club was able to press on in a confident and purposeful manner, due largely to a focused committee solemnly devoted to ensuring the ongoing financial viability of the Club."

During his presidency, the front terrace was remodelled, landscaped and tiled; three new accommodation suites were constructed on Level 3; a bathroom for those with disabilities was constructed on Level 2; the "Top Bar" was remodelled to accommodate fashionable office space; and a rear lift able to service all floors was installed, at considerable cost, and some little inconvenience, to members. The "President's Ball", the first with the theme "Back to the Raj", was re-introduced onto the Club social calendar, which proved to be a great success

Greg has been a keen participant in a variety of sporting and community activities. His interest in cricket was sustained by a playing career in the Queensland Under-19 team in 1974 and playing A Grade cricket from then until 1981. In 1980-82 he served on the committee of Valley District Cricket Club. He is a long-standing member of the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron and has participated in various international ocean racing competitions from 1983-2015, including a year sailing professionally in Europe. He is also a keen golfer.

He has also served on the Australian Red Cross (Qld Division); Norths Rugby Union Football Club (President 2000 – 2003); Música Viva (Qld Division) (Board Member 2003 – 2006); Queensland Cricket (Appeals Commissioner 2018 – 2020); and the Australian Ballet (Foundation Board Member (2020 - ).

Sources included:

- Various web pages
- United Service Club, Queensland: The First Century, 1892-1992 by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton
- Club Meeting Minutes, Annual Reports and sundry documents
- Contribution from FLTLT Egan April 2020