

Australian Air League Inc.
Victoria Group
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CRANBOURNE SQUADRON

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are currently recruiting new Cadets to join our Squadron, here at Cranbourne.

Here is a little information of what we do and who we are:

WHAT DO WE DO AT THE AUSTRALIAN AIR LEAGUE?

DRILL: As an AAL Cadet, you will be trained in Ceremonial Drill (marching) for both competition against other Squadrons and parades for community events such as Anzac Day ceremonies. Drill will teach cadets discipline and to work within a team.

EDUCATION: Whether you want to learn about aircraft as a hobby or to take you into a career, there's no better way to learn than in a fun environment as a Cadet with the Cranbourne Squadron. Through both theory and practical events, you will learn about all types of different aircraft and earn badges for different sections.

SPORTING ACTIVITIES: The Australian Air League encourages all Cadets to be involved in a range of sporting activities such as Athletics & Swimming. You can compete against other Squadrons at our annual events. At Cranbourne Squadron, we also enjoy bowling, outdoor laser skirmish, go carting, trampolining and archery, just to name a few. You don't have to be a top athlete, you just need to have fun!

CAMPS: Throughout the year, you will be invited to join a range of camps. Even though these camps are educational and you will learn a lot, you won't even realise you are learning because you are having so much fun. Some camps are just with Cranbourne Squadron, while other camps are arranged to join with other Squadrons from around Victoria and Australia.

OTHER GREAT STUFF: There is a host of other activities that we do throughout the year and activities you can arrange to do as a Cadet. Some of these include community based activities such as assisting at Anzac Day ceremonies and Australian Citizenship ceremonies., Joy flights & Learn to fly – many Australian Air League Cadets have gone on to become pilots of major commercial airlines or choose to join the Defence Forces. Others just enjoy the opportunities we receive to take joy flights in both fixed wing aircraft and helicopters... Model aircraft – build model aircraft and enter them into Australian Air League competitions or just display them proudly at home. These are just a few of extra things that we get involved with.

What is the Air League?

The **Australian Air League** is a youth organisation for boys and girls aged from 8 years which encourages an interest in aviation as a career or as a hobby for the youth of Australia. The organisation is entirely self-funding and is staffed by volunteers who give their time generously to achieve its goals. The Australian Air League has no political, racial or religious connections.

The aims and objectives of the Australian Air League include:

- To promote and encourage the development of Aviation in the Youth of Australia
- To promote good citizenship
- To promote ingenuity and resourcefulness of its members
- To develop the physical and mental abilities of its members

Continued

CRANBOURNE SQUADRON

History of the Air League

It All Started With A Toy Wooden Aeroplane

George Robey was an Australian soldier who distinguished himself as an original ANZAC, earning a Distinguished Conduct Medal on 25 April 1915 at the Gallipoli landing. Mr. Robey was still a soldier, serving in the [17th Battalion](#), The North Sydney Regiment, Australian Military Forces when in 1927 he went to Canberra to assist in the Ceremonial Opening of Parliament House.

He brought back a toy wooden aeroplane for his son Keith that sparked an interest in aviation and inspired his son to learn about aviation. That inspiration has lasted until the present day. Keith Robey through his career has been a senior executive of one of Australia's largest general aviation companies. Keith was also a well respected aviation feature writer for "Aircraft" magazine, specialising in flight testing of aircraft.

The gift of the toy wooden aeroplane also sparked off the **"Australian Air League"** when five years later Keith complained of the lack of a youth organisation specialising in aviation. His father George Robey and other concerned adults formed the **"Air Mindedness Development League"** and on 18 July 1934 Keith was enrolled as the first Cadet member. Not long after that the name was changed to the **"Australian Air League"**.

I look forward to hearing from you and welcoming some of your students at our Squadron.

Thanks and kind regards,

Jen

**Jeannie Van Den Boogaard.
on behalf of
CRANBOURNE SQUADRON
AUSTRALIAN AIR LEAGUE**