



CHIEF OF AIR FORCE MESSAGE – AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY, 31 MARCH 2020

Our people are once again being tested, this time because of the COVID-19 challenge. It is a great comfort to me, as it will be to you, that our communities can reliably turn to us for support during times of crisis, and that we can deliver that support.

I want to assure you that with every effort that is being made to support all Australian's during this time, you are part of our Air Force family and you and your family can also rely on our Air Force to support you through this crisis.

While we face this new challenge together, the Air Force Birthday provides an excellent opportunity to reflect on the past 99 years of our Air Force history and to look towards our centenary and beyond. Our Air Force 2021 team are working hard to ensure our centenary year celebration reflects the efforts of our people throughout our history but also those who are still serving with us today.

Our recent efforts supporting emergency service personnel to combat the bushfire catastrophe that threatened Australia is an example of the dedication and tireless work ethic our people display, reminiscent of those who laid the foundations for our Air Force. I have no doubt those who came before us would be proud of our Air Force of today.

Throughout the recent disasters we have relied on our allies and neighbours to come to our assistance and working together with them through these tragedies has strengthened our relationships, a key principle of ensuring a safe and prosperous Australia.

As our forebears have done for us, we must now pave the way for the next century of Airmen and women, building on their legacy and providing a professional, integrated and networked force capable of meeting the ever increasing challenges of the future.

I am confident that we have laid the foundation for a future workforce able to meet the challenges ahead and I am grateful to each and every one of you for your contribution to making our Air Force the strong and resilient organisation that it is.

I am proud of where we have come from, proud of what you are all doing, and even with the current challenges I am certain of our future and enduring success. Happy Birthday Air Force!

Regards,

Mel
CAF