

Ronald. C. Horner

Date of Birth: 24th September 1926

Place of Birth: Guildford, Western Australia

Service: Royal Australian Air Force, October 1944 to June 1946

Prior to, and during the major period of World War II, I completed my schooling at Wesley College, South Perth and joined a family business. During this latter period I undertook intensive part-time night school studies in accountancy. I completed the academic requirements of the professional Accountancy Institute by the time that I was 18 years of age. I was too young to be granted full Associateship Membership of the Institute at the time. I enrolled in the armed forces at the completion of these studies. I chose the Royal Australian Air Force.

Initial training was done at Busselton, Western Australia. At the conclusion of this period I was posted to Melbourne where a detailed course in RAAF Accounting and Procedures was provided. Following graduation from this course I was posted to RAAF 11 Stores Depot in North Queensland. I remained at this posting until the conclusion of hostilities in both the European and Asian Theatres of War.

I tolerated rather than enjoyed life in the Armed Forces. I found it to be quite alien to the lifestyle and ethics I had enjoyed throughout my life under the guidance and care of Christian parents. I consider myself indebted to several families who lived near our base in North Queensland. They were families who took into their hearts a young airman who was a long way from home. At this time – 60 years later – I am still in contact with members of these families.

On my return to civilian life I rejoined the family business for some years. As a result of my qualifications and interest in accountancy, I obtained positions in this field in industry. At the same time, I was involved in part-time lecturing at evening classes at Perth Technical College. This led to a full time appointment and the commencement of a very satisfying professional career, which ultimately led to my appointment as an Assistant Director in the Technical Education Division of the Education Department of Western Australia.

In 1979 – the 150th Anniversary of the Foundation of Western Australia, the book “THE WAY ’79, WHO IS WHO” was published. The Foreward, over the signature of G. C. Mackinnon, Minister in Charge 150th Anniversary Board, said, in part –

“Great credit must go to the Editorial Board for conceiving the idea of placing on record in 1979 a comprehensive list of the State’s more prominent citizens in so many varied occupations” I was privileged to be included in this publication.