

Ken Llewellyn

Ken's first job at sixteen was working as a steward on the UK's Isle of Wight ferry, *MV Balmoral*, to assist funding the family's overland trip from France to India.

At twenty-two he returned to England and was accepted for pilot training in the RAF. After completing thirty hours on the Chipmunk and halfway through Jet Provost conversion the RAF wisely suggested to Ken it may be best to seek a career elsewhere.

On return to Australia, Ken completed a degree at University of Queensland, and spent more than a year trying to get a journalism cadetship. Finally, he was offered a job with the *Brisbane Telegraph* and specialised in aviation, defence and writing a motorcycle column.

In 1976 he was successful in applying for the Support Command PR position and eventually was accepted for the senior position in Canberra working for Air Marshal David Evans. He subsequently worked for Air Marshals Jake Newham, Ray Funnell, Barry Gratton and Les Fisher. Slipping into uniform on retirement from the public service, Ken, undertook numerous assignments.

Early in his career, Ken not only specialised in events, but developed a strong interest in oral history. His first interview was RFC veteran, 92-year-old Harold Edwards, who made the plaque that was affixed to the Red Baron's coffin. Local ABC radio broadcast Ken's interviews for two years and ABC Books published, *Angry Skies*, excerpts from twenty-four of his interviews. Ken's final task was interviewing retired chief, Leo Davies, at the AWM and writing the late Air Marshal David Evan's obituary.