

I am pleased to offer my welcome to past colleagues, officials and guests at the 60th anniversary of the official opening of Tidbinbilla Space Tracking Station. As one of the original technicians, am sorry not to be here in person.

For me, Tidbinbilla was a step-up in my relationship with NASA as I had previously worked at the Woomera NASA tracking facility. The task we faced of bringing the 26 metre Antenna, Operations Building and Powerhouse of DSIF42 Tidbinbilla to operational readiness to track Mariner 4 was huge. It was achieved just prior to the official opening through collective managerial and technical effort. Tidbinbilla's contribution to the success of Mariner 4 and many other deep space and manned missions of Apollo has been recognised by numerous awards.

To see Tidbinbilla's growth from one 26metre antenna system to the Deep Space Communications Complex of today is a joy to us old-timers.

Congratulations Tidbinbilla!

Bruce Window

Island Lagoon, Tidbinbilla, Parkes.

