

THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF WORLD WAR 1 AERO HISTORIANS

Minutes of General Meeting held Saturday 17 February 2007

Venue: The North Sydney Club.

Time: Meeting commenced at 1335 under the chairmanship of the President, John Baker.

Attendance: Nineteen members were present.

1) Apologies: Mark Lax, Ben Furby, Pauline Bell, Geoff Ruddock and Mark Baker

2) Minutes: Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 19 November 2006 were accepted as read. **Accepted (m)** D White (s) S Drew

3) Business Arising from the Minutes:

a) Conversion of videos to DVD. A draft catalogue has been completed, and DVDs may be borrowed by members. See the Vice President (Admin) Report for more information.

b) Norfolk Island – Roy Bell. Greg Mullens is evaluating various means of plaque production, and negotiations are continuing with the Norfolk Island RSL with respect to the installation of the plaque. The Committee has been kept informed regarding the final type and design of the plaque.

c) Kirribilli Club Progress. Construction of the new club is well advanced, but rooms have been booked for all 2007 meetings at the North Sydney Club as a precautionary exercise in the event of building delays at Kirribilli.

4) Correspondence: Reciprocal arrangements have been concluded with Leo Opdyke of *WWI Aero* and *Cross & Cockade International* regarding an exchange of Journals. See the Vice President (Admin) Report for more information.

5) Office Bearer Reports:

a) President: The President's Award for Literary achievement was given to John Barfoot for his article *RE 8 Pilot* in the 2006 edition of the Journal.

The Association's 2007 meeting program includes General meetings on 19 May and 18 August, as well as the Annual General Meeting on 17 November.

Volunteer speakers who are prepared to talk for about 15 minutes are required for the May meeting. Those prepared to talk should advise David Perkins. John Baker, John Goble and Mike Crisp volunteered at the meeting.

It was planned to devote the August meeting to a modeling contest, but in view of the difficulties involved in transporting models to and from North Sydney, it has been decided to change the theme of the meeting to “Bring, Buy and/or Barter”. Members are encouraged to bring along any surplus items that may be interesting to other members.

John Hancock has suffered a health setback; he has been discharged from hospital but he may not be settled at home yet.

b) V.P. Administration: (copy attached)

Leo Opdyke

Cross & Cockade International

Fleet Air Arm Museum at Nowra.

Videos to DVD

Membership Renewals

c) V.P. Special Projects:

d) Treasurer/Membership Secretary (Copy attached)

As at 16 February 2006, funds at the bank are \$6727.76

We have 1 new member, Frank McGuire from Victoria, BC, Canada, making a total financial membership of 84. 22 members are presently not financial – this is about average.

e) Newsletter Editor: The new coloured format of the newsletter is due to a change of production centre; the new printer provides a better service at about the same cost.

f) Librarian: Peter Williams has completed the lengthy task of completely reviewing the library and simplifying the catalogue.

g) Liaison Co-ordinator: Report to be attached.

h) Journal Editor: The President advised that Peter Chapman is pleased with progress on the 2007 Journal, but would always appreciate more articles.

i) Secretary: Nil

Acceptance of Reports: The above reports were accepted. **(m)** K Murray **(s)** M Travers

6) General Business:

a) Omaka Aviation Heritage Museum: Gareth Morgan told the meeting that a new Museum of Great War Aviation has opened near Blenheim, New Zealand, and includes several full-scale replicas of 1914-1918 aircraft. Several photographs were circulated.

b) Australian Aviation Artists: Derek White advised that the Artists have a new website and are hoping for growth in the future. He went on to show a new badge produced by the UK

Government for those who served alongside the military in theatres of war, eg the Merchant Navy.

c) Radio telephony: Phillip Townsend asked if anyone had information on a RFC trial of air/ground radio communications performed in front of King George V. His father was involved in a trial, similar to that shown in a 1928 book on the Hendon Air Pageant.

d) Private Museum: Greg Mullens told the meeting that he is negotiating with the owner of a private militaria museum in Mona Vale with respect to a visit by Association members.

e) Audio interviews: John Goble advised that Peter Williams has catalogued the audio tapes held by the Association with a view towards including any unpublished interviews in the Journal. A discussion ensued regarding the optimum method of transcribing interviews.

7) Raffle Draw: Two books were raffled, and the winners were:

1st Prize Mark Baker *The World's Great Fighters; 1914 to the Present Day*

2nd Prize Steve McMahon *The World's Great Bombers; 1914 to the Present Day*

8) Next Meeting: The next General Meeting will be held on Saturday 19 May 2007, at the North Sydney Club, commencing at 1330.

13) Close The meeting closed at 1435.

After the meeting some DVDs from the Association's Library were shown, but with limited success due to an apparent fault with the Club's DVD player.

President

Secretary