



THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF WORLD WAR 1 AERO HISTORIANS

Minutes of General Meeting held Saturday 19 May 2007

Venue: The North Sydney Club.

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

Attendance: 23 members were present. New member John Fleming, from the Anzac Memorial, was welcomed.

The members held a minute's silence as a mark of respect after the passing of Vera Mullens and John Handcock.

1) Apologies: M Baker, G Lasslett, M Travers, J Weingarh, R Whibley

2) Minutes: Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 17 February 2007 were accepted as read. **Accepted (m) D White (s) M Crisp**

3) Business Arising from the Minutes:

a) Norfolk Island – Roy Bell.

G Mullens reported that the NI RSL Sub-Branch is keen to have the plaque installed, but that the cost of commercial manufacture could be a prohibitive \$500-600. However, Ray Withnell has volunteered to manufacture a plaque as time permits. The installation should be completed as soon as possible.

b) Kirribilli Club Progress.

The Club is scheduled for completion in October, but it the AGM will still be held at North Sydney in case there are unforeseen delays at Kirribilli.

c) The President's Award for Literary achievement

The Award was sent to John Barfoot, and a letter of thanks from him was read to the meeting.

4) Correspondence:

Nil.

5) Office Bearer Reports:

a) President: There has been an encouraging response to the *Bring, Buy and Barter Day* planned for the August meeting. Items donated by the Estates of Alan Fraser and John Hancock will be included in those made available.

There will be three tables on the Day: one for items to be given away free; another for Society sales; and a third for items to be bartered or sold by Members. Potential barterers are requested to bring along post-it notes on which to record their details and suggested prices.

b) V.P. Administration: Following a suggestion by Mark Lax, a spokesman from the RAAF Museum at Point Cook has been invited to deliver the Eric Watson Address in November.

After discussions with the new administration of the Nowra Aviation Museum, space will be made available for an ASWWIAH display in the future.

c) V.P. Special Projects: Nil

d) Treasurer/Membership Secretary: Five new members have joined since the February meeting, and the bank balance now stands at \$5864.

e) Newsletter Editor: There are some minor problems with the Membership Directory, due to two items of software used to store data proving incompatible. This is being addressed, and the errors will be rectified.

A change is planned for the masthead of the newsletter to take advantage of the colour options now available. D White will prepare drawings of four AFC aircraft to mark the four squadrons that saw active service:

Bristol F2B B1129 of No 1 Sqn
SE 5a C9539 of No 2 Sqn
RE 8 (TBA) of No 3 Sqn
Camel E1407 of No 4 Sqn

J Goble suggested that an aeroplane flown by an Australian in the RNAS would also be suitable for use in the future. This was agreed, as were thoughts of eventual consideration of appropriate RFC and RAF aircraft.

f) Librarian: A list of items held in the library is available.

g) Liaison Co-ordinator: A visit to a private military museum in Mona Vale will be arranged after the August meeting, probably on a Saturday. Interest will be invited through a note in the next Newsletter.

h) Journal Editor: More material has arrived for inclusion in the *Journal*. The President advised that the Committee has approved purchase of a colour printer for the Editor's use.

i) Secretary: Nil

Acceptance of Reports: The above reports were accepted.

(m) K Keohane **(s)** J Fleming

6) General Business:

The problems experienced in playing DVDs at the February meeting were caused by the North Sydney Club's machine.

DVDs held by the Society are available to be borrowed by Members.

7) Raffle Draw: M Lax won *The World's Great Bombers*
M Crisp won *Fighters*.

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

9) Close: The meeting closed at 1415.

After the Meeting closed, the Members were treated to some most informative talks:

J Fleming outlined the role and future of the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park;

M Crisp described the art of rib stitching on fabric covered wings;

K Keohane spoke on the end of the Zeppelin *L19* and the part played by the British trawler *King Stephen*; and

David Perkins outlined his project to record the careers of all the Australian Great War aces.

President

Secretary