



THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF WORLD WAR 1 AERO HISTORIANS

General Meeting: Saturday 16 August 2008

Venue: Victoria Barracks. **Chairman:** J Baker

Commenced: 1340

- 1) **Apologies:** S Drew, J O'Farrell, C Owers, M Travers
- 2) **Attendance: 20**
- 3) **Minutes:** Minutes of the General Meeting of 17 May 2008 to be confirmed.
Accepted (m) M Crisp (s) J Weingarth

4) Business arising from the Minutes/Discussion Points:

a) New venue for meetings

J Baker thanked J Goble for his efforts in finding a new home for Society meetings, and informed the meeting about the benefits and restrictions that are part of the use of our new facilities. The Society is welcome to use the facilities as long as we require them, provided that the room is restored to the condition that it was in prior to each meeting.

b) Increased Membership Fees

J Baker outlined the financial problems that now face the Society: our running costs now exceed our income, especially in relation to the production and postage costs related to the *Newsletter* and *Journal*. Hence, after much deliberation, the Committee recommends that the annual subscription fee be increased by \$10 to \$35 *per annum*. This was unanimously agreed by the twenty Members present (who formed a quorum) with the recommendation that fees be reviewed annually.

c) During the discussion on Membership fees, it was noted that the Constitution requires that 20 members form a quorum, something that is more and more difficult to achieve. It was therefore resolved that a motion will be put to the AGM that the Constitution be amended to allow the quorum size to be reduced to a more practical 10 members. Members will be advised in the next *Newsletter*.

d) Norfolk Island Plaque

G Mullens advised that R Withnall will make the plaque at the earliest opportunity, but no completion date can be forecast at present.

e) 2008 *Journal* Progress

P Chapman has all the material required for the 2008 *Journal*, with some content to be held over for 2009. 120 covers will be printed, so as to provide for additional copies able to be sold in the future.

f) Possible visit to Military Museum at the RSL Retirement Village in Collaroy.

A visit to the Museum is being considered. After discussion, it was decided to also explore the possibility of a visit to the Museum at Victoria Barracks, and perhaps a trip to RAAF Richmond. M Lax and G Mullens will investigate the latter.

g) November AGM

Committee nominations

All Committee members have re-nominated for their positions, and Society members were requested to consider nominating for Committee positions, or to undertake tasks to assist the Society.

Guest Speaker

D Sheahan will speak on his experience on a tour of the Western Front.

Pat Moy Award

The 2008 Pat Moy Award has been awarded to Peter Chapman for his exceptional service with respect to production of the *Journal*.

5) Correspondence: Nil, other than newsletters from Australian and NZ Aviation Historical Societies and junk mail

6) Office Bearer Reports:

a) **President:** Covered in other Agenda items.

b) V.P. Administration: The Military History Society of NSW is to merge with the Military History Society of Australia as the NSW Sub-Branch. J Weingarth outlined the structure of the new organisation.

c) V.P. Special Projects: The May meeting in Canberra was a great success. Members were interested to learn that the aircraft seen in pieces in May have now been re-assembled.

d) Treasurer/Membership Secretary: There are currently 114 Members, and our bank balance stands at \$3841.98. After an approach by M Crisp, Hyland's Bookshop in Melbourne has donated books for Society use. Members are urged to visit the Bookshop's website.

e) Newsletter Editor: D Perkins told the meeting that the newsletter could be produced more cheaply if we had access to an A3 colour printer, but the cost is prohibitive. J Weingarth suggested that a manufacturer may be prepared to make a long term loan of a printer in return for acknowledgement in the *Newsletter*. This will be investigated.

f) Librarian: W Evans has donated 5 excellent Grub Street publications to the Library.

g) Liaison Co-Ordinator: See above regarding the Norfolk Island plaque. A picnic day may be held after the AGM, at a venue to be decided.

h) Journal Editor: See above.

i) Secretary: Nil

Acceptance of Reports: The above reports were accepted.

(m) D White (s) A Cook

7) General Business:

D White advised that he sent a *Get Well* card to Peter Townsend for his brother Peter.

The Meeting was advised that Brian Grice passed away some six months ago; his passing was marked by a minute's silence.

J Weingarth told the meeting of a recent auction in Sydney which included some Great War aviation memorabilia. A photograph of A H Cobby in his white Camel was sold for \$400, while an autographed *Sanke* card of Manfred von Richthofen went for \$4000.

D White suggested that, as there is ample parking at Victoria Barracks, allowing the easy transport of bulky items, perhaps it would be opportune to have a modelling and/or art contest at a future meeting.

J Baker then explained the procedures governing the Bring, Buy and Barter part of the meeting.

8) Raffle Draw: J Goble won *Allied Aviation of World War I*, while S Drew won *German and Austrian Aviation of World War I*. Both prizes were donated by Hyland's Bookshop.

9) Next Meeting: The Annual General Meeting will be held at Victoria Barracks on Saturday 15 November 2008 commencing at 1330.

10) Close: The meeting closed at 1440.

President

Secretary