



THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF WORLD WAR 1 AERO HISTORIANS

46th Annual General Meeting : Saturday 15 November 2008

Minutes

Venue: Building 96, Victoria Barracks **Chairman:** John Baker

Commenced : 13:32

- 1) **Apologies:** R & D Withnall, Roger Lee
- 2) **Attendance:** 25 members
- 3) **Minutes:** Minutes of the General Meeting of August 2008 were confirmed.

Accepted (m) S Drew (s) M Crisp

4) **Eric Watson Commemorative Address**

Due to other commitments, D Sheehan had to bring forward his address on his recent visit to the Western Front with a focus on retracing the steps of No 3 Sqn AFC, in which unit his father flew as a pilot. The address was most interesting, and illustrated by several photographs showing aerodromes used by No 3 Sqn, as well as Bertangles Cemetery, where Lt Sheehan acted as a pallbearer during the funeral of *Rittm* Manfred von Richthofen.

5) **Business Arising from the Minutes/Discussion Points:**

- a) The President put forward a motion to amend the Constitution as follows:

That article 10 headed 'MEETINGS' at sub clause (10) [c] be amended by deleting the figure 20 and inserting therein the figure 10.

The motion was moved by S Drew and seconded by M Crisp before being passed unanimously.

- b) The Executive endorsed the idea of more meetings in Canberra, with perhaps the next one in about 18 months.
- c) G Mullens spoke on the forthcoming Picnic Day to be held at the Kokoda Track Memorial at Concord on Saturday 29 November. Details are in the November *Newsletter*.
- d) Thanks to the efforts of M Crisp, a plaque commemorating Pte R Bell AFC has been manufactured. It will be presented to the Norfolk Island RSL for installation near the Island cemetery. Mr Crisp received a round of applause in appreciation of his efforts.
- e) A Certificate of Merit will be awarded to M Lax for his efforts in organizing the May Canberra meeting. In accepting the award, the recipient stated that J Goble was just as deserving of recognition.
- f) It was resolved that no Christmas Function will be held this year, due to the close proximity to the Concord Picnic Day.
- g) The following program is proposed for Meetings in 2009:

Feb – Guest Speakers

May – Possible DVD showing (dependent on the equipment at Victoria Barracks)

Aug – Modelling & Art Show

Nov – AGM

- h) The 2008 *Journals* are being distributed. Members are requested to nominate worthy recipients for the Literary Achievement Award.

J Baker spoke on his article on Lt W C Colvin AFC, which impressed the man's family so much that they have purchased an additional five copies of the *Journal*.

6) Correspondence: Nil, other than newsletters from NSW Aviation Historical Society and junk mail

7) Office Bearer Reports:

President: Covered in the minutes.

V.P. Administration: See attached.

V.P. Special Projects: M Lax tabled a document released by the War Memorial to mark the opening of the *Over the Front* exhibit on 28 November.

Treasurer/Membership Secretary: One new member: John Fisher from Harcourt North, Victoria. The bank balance on 14 November was \$4338.83

Newsletter Editor: D Perkins advised that he was able to save \$100 with respect to the November *Newsletter* by using a new printer in Newcastle.

Librarian: The Society has acquired Volume 2 of Ray Rimmel's *Zeppelin!* as well as a copy of a 1909 *Aero Manual*. A list of current library assets is available.

Liaison Co-ordinator: Nil

Journal Editor: P Chapman has advised that he is happy with the appearance and content of the 2008 *Journal*.

Hon. Secretary: Nil.

Acceptance of Reports: The above reports were accepted.

(m) D White (s) M Lax

8) General Business:

After discussion, it was **resolved** that the February General Meeting will commence at 14:00.

It was resolved that the Society will request the War Memorial to return the photograph negatives of the 1968 restoration of the Albatros D.Va currently loaned to the Memorial.

K Keohane requested assistance in identifying Society members in a photograph of the 2002 anniversary meeting.

J Weingarth appraised the meeting of his efforts to have HRH the Prince of Wales unveil a plaque commemorating the departure of the AFC from Leighton in 1919. The RAAF declined to participate, but a successful approach was made to P & O Cruises, as the men were transported in the P & O ship *Kaisar-I-Hind*, and an A3 bronze plaque is being prepared. Draft wording for the plaque was circulated for comment. Mr Weingarth then suggested that a similar plaque should be erected at RAAF Point Cook to mark the return of the AFC. The Executive Committee will **consider** Society participation in this project, while the new President will discuss location of the plaque with the Director of the RAAF Museum later in November.

9) Election of Office Bearers for the Year 2009

The following members were nominated as office bearers for 2009:

Position	Nominated	Seconded
President:	M Lax	J Weingarth
VP Administration:	J Goble	K Keohane
VP Special Projects:	S Drew	M Lax
Treasurer/Membership Secretary:	M Crisp	G Mullens
Newsletter Editor:	D Perkins	M Crisp
Liaison Coordinator:	G Mullens	M Crisp
Librarian:	P Williams	S Drew
Journal Editor:	P Chapman	P Williams
Hon Secretary:	G Morgan	S Drew

All candidates were elected. M Lax then addressed the meeting to thank J Baker for his efforts during his long term as President.

10) Raffle Draw: The first prize winner was John Davis who won *Allied Aviation of World War*. The second prize, *Billy Stutt and the Richmond Flyboys*, was won by John Goble, but as he already had a copy he opted for *The World's Great Bombers*. The original prize will be donated back to the Raffle pool, probably in February 2009.

11) Next Meeting: The next General Meeting will be held at 1400 on Saturday 21 February at Victoria Barracks.

12) Close: The meeting closed at 1605.

President

Secretary