



THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF WORLD WAR 1 AERO HISTORIANS

47th Annual General Meeting: Saturday 21 November 2009

Venue: Victoria Barracks. **Chairman:** M Lax

Commenced: 14:00

- 1) **Apologies:** M Crisp, G Branch and H Rowland
- 2) **Attendance:** 31
- 3) **Minutes:** Minutes of the General Meeting of 15 August 2009 were confirmed.
Accepted (m) D White (s) P Williams
- 4) **Business arising from the Minutes/Discussion Points:**
 - a) **Website** A Smith told the meeting that there have been over 22000 hits on the website, from 280 different people, since it was upgraded. Development has continued, with a Shopping Cart facility set up, and a *Journal* index and library lists added. More work is required to enhance the website – the Society’s primary link with the public.
 - b) **Email addresses for Committee** A Smith will instruct Committee members on the procedures required.
 - c) **Journal** The 2009 edition, a major improvement over its predecessors, has been printed and is available for collection or mailing.
 - d) **Sending newsletter and Membership list out by e-mail** The Society would benefit from electronic distribution of both documents, and members will be requested to indicate if they would like electronic versions.
 - e) **Electronic payment of subscriptions** A proposed demonstration of this facility had to be omitted due to time constraints.
 - f) **The Raffle (Members to vote on proposed changes)** After due consideration by the Committee, the meeting overwhelmingly voted to retain the current system.

- g) **Members tour of RAAF Richmond on 26 November** G Mullens told the meeting that there is still space available on the mini-bus, which will leave Norths Leagues Club at 10:00. Lunch will be included, at a cost of \$12.50.
- h) **Certificates of Merit for A Smith and J Weingarth** The two members were awarded Certificates for their work on the website and the AFC Commemoration bronze plaques, respectively.
- i) **Proposal of Life Membership for K Keohane and D White** The meeting voted unanimously to award Life Membership to the two members as an indication of thanks for their decades of service.

4) Correspondence: Nil

5) Office Bearer Reports:

- a) **President:** 2009 was a year of good progress for the Society: membership numbers have increased, the website is a major improvement over the earlier version and the Journal's printing standard is now equal to that of comparable organisations overseas. A formal vote of thanks to Peter Chapman was proposed and accepted unanimously.

David Perkins was thanked for maintaining the consistent high quality of the newsletter.

John Goble's efforts in securing our new meeting place at Victoria Barracks are much appreciated. The President will thank the Department of Defence for their cooperation.

The modeling and art show held in August was a success, and another will be held in the future.

- b) **V.P. Administration:** See attached

- c) **V.P. Special Projects:** See Attached

- d) **Treasurer/Membership Secretary:** See attached; 111 members and a bank balance of \$4009.07.

- e) **Newsletter Editor:** Newsletter costs are high - \$1746 for printing and posting each year, Hence a trial of sending it electronically to members with email will be conducted with the February 2010 edition.

f) Librarian: A list of publications held, plus the procedure for borrowing books, has been supplied to the Webmaster. Members are encouraged to make use of the library.

g) Liaison Co-Ordinator: See above with respect to the visit to RAAF Richmond.

h) Journal Editor: The 2009 Journal has been produced, and judged a great success.

i) Secretary: The Roy Bell plaque has been fixed to a special bench made from Norfolk Island Pine and located at the Norfolk Island RSL Sub-Branch.

Acceptance of Reports:

(m) J Baker

(s) K Keohane

7) General Business:

Thanks to the efforts of M Lax, D Perkins and A Smith, a major research tool will soon be available for both members and non-members when the Barry Videon Data Base of all Australians who served in flying organizations during The Great War and after will be available through the website. A summary of information will be visible for non-members, while members will be able to conduct detailed research.

J Weingarh brought the meeting up to date with respect to the installation of bronze plaques commemorating the AFC in England and at Point Cook.

Colin Owers has indicated he will make available to the Society, through P Chapman, his massive collection of Great War aviation photographs. It was unanimously agreed that the Society will cover the purchase of a terabyte of data storage to accommodate the collection, ie about \$300.

J Scott told the meeting of the Australian Aviation Historical Society's commemorations of the 100th anniversary of powered flight in Australia,

9) Election of Office Bearers for 2010

The Following Members were nominated as office bearers for 2010. The designation of the former position of Vice President (Special Projects) has been re-designated as Webmater,

Position	Nominee	Seconded
President	M Lax	J Weingarh

VP (Administation)	S Drew	M Travers
Webmaster	A Smith	S Drew
Hon Sec	G Morgan	J Scott
Treasuer/Mem Sec	M Crisp	D Perkins
Journal Editor	P Chapman	A Smith
Newsletter Ed	D Perkins	G Mullens
Librarian	P Williams	J Baker
Liaison Coordinator	G Mullens	J Baker

All nominees were elected to their positions unopposed.

8) Raffle Draw: 1st Prize: *The Red Air Fighter* was won by K Murray
2nd Prize: *The Men Who Changed the World* was won by J Goble.

9) Next Meeting: The next General Meeting will be held at Victoria Barracks on Saturday, 20 February 2009, commencing at 14:00. The meeting will include four short addresses on matters of interest.

Further 2010 meetings will be on 15 May at 13:30, including a visit to the Powerhouse Museum, 21 August at 13:30, followed by a Bring, Buy and Barter Fair, and the AGM on 20 November at 14:00.

10) Close: 15:35

President

Secretary

Eric Watson Commemorative Address: Air Commodore Rod Luke gave a very informative and interesting account of the history and present operations of the Temora Aviation Museum. This led to an extended question and answer session from the floor of the meeting.