



Australian Society of World War I Aero Historians

General Meeting:

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

Commenced: 13:40

Apologies: M Molkentin, S Drew

Vale: A minutes silence was observed for the passing of Society member, Professor Leon Kane-Maguire

1) **Attendance:** 28

2) **Minutes:** Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 20 November 2010 to be confirmed.

Accepted (m) D White

(s) J Scott

3) **Business arising from the Minutes/Discussion Points:**

a) **Stocktake of Society Artefacts**

G Morgan advised that a stocktake of Society property was undertaken on 5 February, and a number of items were immediately identified as being surplus to requirements. It was also discovered that much of the goods being stored are surplus copies of Society *Journals* and Cross & Cockade journals: the Society Journals will be offered for sale at events like air shows where we are represented, and members will be given a chance to purchase the C&CI journals.

The Society holds a number of artefacts related to Great War aviation, and photographs of these were circulated. It is important that a means of storage be found, and M Lax advised that the Army Aviation Museum in Queensland may be able to conserve and display our goods on a renewable loan basis, with all costs borne by the Army. **This will be explored further.** Action: M. Lax

There remains **a requirement to examine the goods still held**, including masses of correspondence and other paperwork. Significant items can be retained, and items no longer relevant can be sold or destroyed.

b) Incorporation of Society with NSW Dept of Fair Trading

M Lax told the meeting that the Committee has examined the issue and has recommended that incorporation with the the NSW Department of Fair Trading should proceed as a matter of urgency, primarily as a safeguard against any litigation against the Society.

Special Resolution: ‘That the Society applies for incorporation with the NSW Department of Fair Trading.’

Proposer: M Lax Seconder: C Owers

The issue was put to a vote, and was carried unanimously.

The Committee will **take immediate action**.

c) Public Liability Insurance

Insurances will follow on after incorporation. Quotes are being obtained and **progress will be reported** at the next meeting.

d) Production of Salable Items

A Smith showed a baseball cap with an aeroplane logo that was of the type bought at Williamtown Air Show. Similar caps, featuring Great War aeroplanes, and with the Society website address, can be produced for \$12 each, plus \$75 for setting up each design.

Member interest will be gauged in the next *Newsletter*.

e) Designs for Society Banner

G Morgan showed a rough sketch to illustrate the idea. J Franzi **volunteered** to assist with a proper design.

f) President’s Literary Award

The practice of presenting trophies/certificates is being restored. Members were asked to consider the most suitable recipient, based on articles in the 2010 Journal.

g) Forward program for meetings

Due to a double booking at Victoria Barracks in August and November, the proposed May trip to Nowra will now take place in August, and the trivia quiz planned for August will be in May. The Annual General Meeting may have to be brought forward by a week to 12 November. **S Drew will confirm that Victoria Barracks will be available.**

Catering for meetings is putting more onus and cost on the Committee alone. As everyone present benefits, it was therefore decided that in future, **the Society will provide tea and coffee, and members are encouraged to bring biscuits and/or other items to eat.**

4) Correspondence:

There was a protracted correspondence with a Mr Andrew Carter, who wanted the Society to assist him in building a replica Fokker Dr.I. It was determined that the Society is not in a position to assist, though members were **advised** to contact Mr Carter on an individual basis if they are interested.

5) Office Bearer Reports:

a) President:

M Lax told the meeting that the Society's 50th anniversary will be marked by the production of a commemorative on-line *Journal*, containing the *Journal* Editor's choice of outstanding articles from previous printed editions. Printed copies can be produced if required.

There will be a 50th Anniversary Dinner in February 2012; more information will be supplied closer to the event.

The US-based firm Lulu can produce our *Journals* at or above the quality now experienced, but at a lower cost; this will be explored. In addition, posted *Journals* will be dispatched in cello-wrapping as a safeguard against weather damage.

M Lax concluded by announcing that it is not his intention to stand as President in 2012.

b) V.P. Administration: Nil.

c) Webmaster:

There was an attack on our server by a Hong Kong-based hacker. The damage has been rectified and no personal or financial data was lost. The site should be back to normal in a few days.

The Barry Videon Database should be fully functional in May.

d) Treasurer:

A Stewart thanked his predecessor, M Crisp, for his work as Treasurer over the years. The Society now has some \$3500 in the bank, and our income and expenditure are about even. A member pays \$35 p.a as subscription, and about \$25 will be spent on his/her *Journal* and *Newsletter*. Hence, if we are to accumulate funds which will permit a greater

range of activities, **it will be necessary to increase our income**, perhaps through sales of Society goods, such as Journals and caps at air shows and the like.

e) Membership Secretary/Newsletter Editor:

There is a need for more member content in the Newsletter, and members were urged to contribute.

f) Librarian:

Member P McKeon donated a number of books to the library – a list is in the last Newsletter. Surplus books and C&CI journals were offered for sale.

G Weingarh proposed a vote of thanks, which was carried unanimously

g) Liaison Co-Ordinator:

G Mullens announced that an outing to the Power House Museum, including a guided tour, is being planned for the weekend after the August meeting.

The possibility of hiring a bus for the August trip to Nowra will be examined.

h) Journal Editor:

50% of the 2012 Journal is now ready, but more contributions will be gratefully received.

i) Secretary:

Only routine matters to report.

Acceptance of Reports:

(m) G Weingarh

(s) B Renfrew

6) General Business:

G Weingarh spoke about some minor typographical errors in his piece about Lt J Weingarh in the 2011 *Journal*.

He suggested that an extract from the *AFC Roll of Honour* article be sent to the Rector at Leighterton Church; G Morgan agreed to do this.

In addition, G Weingarh advise that the plaque marking the return of the AFC to Point Cook in 1919 will soon be installed. He then proposed that a plaque should be erected at

Point Cook to mark the Centenary of the 1912 founding of the Australian Flying Corps.
G Weingarh offered to come up with a suitable design.

7) Raffle Draw:

Luftwaffe Squadrons was won by B Renfrew. There was no general membership raffle this meeting.

8) Next Meeting: The next General Meeting will be held at Victoria Barracks on 21 May 2011 commencing at 13:30.

9) Close: 14:58

President

Secretary

After the close of the meeting, the members were informed and entertained by a presentation by Juanita Franzi on the techniques behind the production of her aeronautical artwork.