



Annual General Meeting Saturday 12 November 2011

Venue: Building 96, Victoria Barracks

Chairman: M Lax

Commenced: 13:42

Apologies: P Chapman & D Perkins

1. Attendance: 22

2. Minutes: The Minutes of the General Meeting of **21 May 2011** were confirmed.

Accepted: (m) J Weingarth

(s) M Crisp

3. Business arising from the Minutes/Discussion Points:

a) *Journal*

The 2011 edition of the Journal was distributed to those present, and will be posted to other members.

P Chapman has nearly completed the 50th anniversary special edition, which will be available on-line, with some copies to be printed.

b) **Membership numbers**

We currently have about 125 members, with new people joining through the website, which is very pleasing.

A Smith proposed that a new category of membership be introduced in an effort to cater for younger people with an interest in Great War aviation. The new category will be termed Student Membership, and be available to *bona fide* students under 25 years of age, and subject to parental/guardian consent for those under 18. Student Members would pay \$20/year, and have access to all on-line Society material, but would not have voting rights, nor receive paper copies of the *Newsletters* and *Journals*, ie only electronic editions. Only their names would appear in the Membership Directory.

After the motion was seconded by M Dawson, it was **passed unanimously**.

c) Society Artefacts: Bankstown Air Museum

A Smith advised that the Bankstown Museum is submitting an agreement regarding the long term loan of Society material for our consideration. In 2012 the Museum will move to Camden, and the Society will have a dedicated section of the new Museum. Volunteers will be sought to man the Society's exhibit on weekends.

M Lax and R Lee discussed the preservation and storage of the Society's AFC officer's uniform. After an explanation of the procedures at the Army Flying Museum, it was **unanimously agreed** that the uniform should be passed to the Army for preservation. Once displayed, the role of the Society will be acknowledged.

d) Society Medals and Audio tapes

M Lax told the meeting that the non-aviation medals once held by the Society have been returned to the family of the soldier concerned.

In the New Year, A Smith will purchase equipment for digitally storing our audio materials. M Lax will check with the National Film and Sound Archive to determine if our audio collection is already held. If not, **action will be taken** to present it with copies.

e) Salable items: Fokker Dr.I caps

A Smith should have a sample of the cap in the next fortnight. If sales are successful, new caps will be ordered annually.

f) 50th Anniversary Luncheon

A lunch to mark the Society's 50th anniversary will be held in the Officers' Mess at Victoria Barracks on Saturday 18 February 2012. The cost will be \$50/head, including pre-dinner drinks, but not wine to be consumed with the meal, which can be purchased.

A display of photographs depicting Society activities will be prepared, hopefully to be shown on a TV screen in the mess for pre-dinner viewing.

Guests will be invited, but they will pay for their meal and/or drinks. To enable the Committee to have firm numbers for planning, payment **will be sought** by the end of January.

It may be possible to arrange a tour of the Barracks and/or the Museum after the lunch. R Lee will **advise** if this is possible.

g) AFC Plaque at Point Cook

J Weingarh told the meeting that he would be representing the Society at Point Cook on 13 November for the unveiling of a plaque at Australia to mark the return of the AFC in 1919. He went on to announce his plan to raise \$100000 towards the cost of a 2m bronze statue of an AFC airman, to be erected either at le Hamel in France, or in Canberra.

h) Nominations for 2011 Office Bearers

The following members nominated for positions on the Executive Committee in 2012:

President	G Morgan
<i>Journal</i> Editor	P Chapman
Liaison Co-Ordinator	G Mullens
Librarian	P Williams
<i>Newsletter</i> Editor	D Perkins
Secretary	M Garside*
Treasurer/Membership	A Stewart
Secretary	
Vice President	M Dawson
Webmaster	A Smith

All were elected unanimously. * = subject to other developments

i) 2012 Events

In 2012 we plan as follows;

18 February = 50th Anniversary Luncheon

19 May = Four short talks on topics related to Great War aviation (**volunteers required**)

18 August = Modelling display/contest, for which there will be a prize

17 November = Annual General Meeting

In addition, a visit to the Australian War Memorial in Canberra will be arranged on a date to be determined.

4. Correspondence and Reports.

a) Correspondence: Nil

b) Reports:

i) President: M Lax told the meeting that, reluctantly, he was unable to stand as President in 2012 as his new role as President of Legacy in the ACT would be too time-consuming to allow him to also take part in ASWWIAH activities. However, he is very likely to return after his term with Legacy expires.

ii) VP Administration: N/A

iii) Webmaster: A Smith advised that the website is now functioning well, after considerable difficulties. There have been 8000 unique visitors since January. The BJV Database should be available in 2012, with nearly 6000 entries.

iv) Treasurer/Membership Secretary: A Stewart's report is attached.

v) Newsletter Editor: Absent

vi) Liaison Co-ordinator: A visit to the Powerhouse Museum was conducted in August. Suggestions of future social activities will be welcome.

vii) Librarian: 23 publications have been donated to the library this year, and our collection continues to grow.

M Dawson has prepared an additional feature for the Society Library section of the website – a short précis and review of the books held in the collection.

It was **agreed** that Mark will receive a Certificate of Merit for his work.

viii) Journal Editor: P Chapman advised that the 50th Anniversary Special Edition of the *Journal* is nearly complete, and should be a worthwhile publication, including articles from all previous issues.

ix) Secretary: In response to an invitation from the Aviation Historical Society of Australia (NSW) G Morgan represented the Society at the Arthur Butler address by Air Marshall Mark Binskin.

Acceptance of Reports: (m) M Travers (s) M Crisp

5) General Business:

M Lax told the meeting that the Pat Moy Shield for exceptional service to the Society in 2011 has been **awarded** to J Goble.

D White has acquired some non-aviation photographs relating to No 3 Sqn AFC. After discussion, it was **recommended** that they be donated to the Victoria Barracks Museum.

P Williams announced that UK-based member W Vandersteen has donated some model kits and magazines for Society use. These were made available for purchase.

A Smith **proposed** that the President's Literary Award be re-titled as the Mark Lax Literary Award as a gesture of appreciation for the President's efforts to modernise the Society. After the motion was seconded by G Weingarth, it was **passed unanimously**.

6) Raffle Draw

Two raffles were drawn, as there was no raffle drawn at the August meeting. The following members won prizes:

M Travers won *Battlebags*

R Patterson won *Reach for the Skies*

C Walton won *Billy Stutt and the Richmond Flyboys*

M Lalos won *A Man Among Mavericks*

7) Next Meeting: 50th Anniversary Luncheon

Venue: Officers' Mess, Victoria Barracks **Date:** 18 Feb 2012

Time: 12:00 for 12:30

8) Close 15:45

After the meeting, Treasurer A Stewart presented the Eric Watson Memorial Address with a talk about his recent trip to Europe and the aviation museums that he visited. The talk was profusely illustrated by many photographs, especially of aeroplanes and engines, and was much appreciated by the members.