



FAAAA

Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia

NSW Division PO Box 28 Nowra NSW 2541

Minutes for the Committee Meeting @ the White Ensign Club

Wednesday 17th August 2022 @ 1200 EST

1.COMMITTEE PRESENT:

President: Phil Carey (PC)- admin@shoalegal.com.au

Vice President & MLO: Keith Boundy (KB)- keithb@fastrac.net.au

Secretary: Jeff Dalgliesh (JWD)- jeffd.secnsw@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Ron Batchelor (RB)- ronbatch1@gmail.com

General Committee:

Dick Martin (DM)- pincher@iprimus.com.au

Howard McCallum (HMc)- howard.mccallum@defence.com.au : mccallum.howard@gmail.com

Division Members & Visitors Present:

National Secretary: Terry Hetherington (TH)- skytrain@optusnet.com.au

Webmaster: Marcus Peake (MP)- webmaster@theFAAAA.com

APOLOGIES:

John Balazic (JB) john.balazic@defence.gov.au

2.MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING:

Jeff Dalgliesh has agreed to take up the position of NSW Divisional Secretary of the FAAAA.

Moved: Dick Martin (DM)

Seconded: Paul Carey (PC)

Agreed: All Committee.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM July COMMITTEE MEETING:

Social Event (Dinner) Friday 21st October 2022

“The President has investigated this matter” & the Bomaderry Bowling Club is the preferred option-sunrise room available for 21st- \$280 for the booking. For planning \$20.00 per head for Food with a Cash Bar. Hopefully looking at 50 Total including Partners.

**Information Post Committee Meeting: PC has obtained more information regarding the Menu etc. forwarded to MP and RB for relevant Publications.*

**Information Post Committee Meeting: MP has obtained a possible programme for NAS over the weekend of 21/22nd October: “1. HMAS Albatross and HMAS Creswell will exercise their Freedom of Entry through Nowra in support of the FAA’s 75th anniversary. This will occur on the Fri 21 Oct and will likely be followed by a ceremonial sunset and street party in the centre of Nowra with proceedings between approximately 1800 – 2000 (timings TBC).*

2. The Fleet Air Arm is conducting it’s Postponed 75th Anniversary Open Day on the Sat 22 Oct. Timings will be 1000 – 1300, and pending weather include some flying demonstrations as well.”

**Note possible clash of the NAS Friday evening events with the proposed FAAA Dinner. Discussion by PH, JWD and MP resulted in decision to continue planning for the dinner but with a revised Start Time of 1930 so that Guests could view the “Ceremonial Sunset” if desired.*

ACTION: *PC to continue discussions with the proposed venue, MP Webmaster (Flyby) and RB (Slipstream) to advertise in next additions with Booking Form.*

4. CORRESPONDENCE:

In:

- Bank Statement from Greater Bank
- FAAAA President's Letter re Slipstream Editor.
- Email from Howard McCallum apology for missing last meeting
- Numerous emails and letters in relation to new Members and Membership also Raffle.
- Letters to New Members welcoming them to the Division
- Email from the Webmaster in relation to the price of Wall of Service Plaques.
- Letter from Veterans Life Research re Survey

Out:

- President’s letter to all NSW Members re Slipstream
- Numerous emails and letters in relation to new Members and Membership
- Letter from National Secretary to the National Committee re July Meeting of the NSW Division

Acceptance of Correspondence In & Out:

Moved: DM

Seconded: TH

5.PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Slipstream Editor. The departure of Paul Shiels on health grounds had raised concerns about the future managements of Slipstream. On behalf of the division and I am sure I can speak for the Association as well I am pleased to confirm that stalwart of the Association (and past editor) Ron Batchelor has thrown his hat into the ring and will very shortly take over as the new Slipstream editor. Slipstream is an integral part of the association and the loss would be fairly serious

Of course the new editor may have a view about the future format and content of the thing and that is a matter for the editor.

Secretary. I am pleased to advise that we have secured the services of Jeff Dalglish to take on the role of Secretary, a position that has been vacant since the AGM but has been carried on in caretaker role by Pincher Martin. I know that I speak for the membership

Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide.

“The Royal Commission is independent of all Australian governments. 3 Royal Commissioners have been appointed. They will inquire into and investigate the matters referred to in the terms of reference and make recommendations.

The Commissioners use: submissions, private sessions, hearings; and research to investigate the issues set out in the terms of reference.

Under the Letters Patent, the Royal Commissioners are required to submit:

- an interim report by 11 August 2022. This will focus on:
 - issues requiring urgent or immediate action, and
 - any other matters considered necessary;
- a final report and their recommendations no later than 17 June 2024.

These reports will outline the results of the investigation and the Commissioner’s recommendations.

The final report is quite some distance away. In the meantime we have been asked by the Australian Catholic University to participate in a survey they are conducting in support of their submission. I caution against becoming involved in surveys where we don’t actually know the process that will take place after the information has been gathered. We don’t know the form of the questions. If the association determines to canvas members then that would be a matter for us. However we don’t have a welfare rep and i am not comfortable about collecting personal information about such a sensitive subject without safeguards in place advice from professional in the field of PTSD and suicide prevention.

We could perhaps simply advise members of the existence of the Royal Commission and publish their terms of engagement.

Dates to Remember

Long Tan

18th August 1966 the battle of Long Tan took place in a rubber plantation near *Long Tân*, in Phước Tuy Province, South Vietnam, during the Vietnam War. 18 Australians lost their lives on that day. In an area no bigger than two football fields the men of D Company, 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, faced a much larger force and yet survived against **20-1** odds. Even so, the fight of Long Tan is considered the costliest battle for the Australians during their entire time in Vietnam.

A Time to remember

RAN Helicopter flight Vietnam

Last flight was in June 1971. After 4 years of service the unit lost 5 members killed and 10 seriously injured. During 4-years of flying hundreds of combat operations, RANHFV earned 3 MBEs, 8 DSCs, 5 DFCs, one BEM, 24 MIDs and 34 Naval Board Commendations. 723 Squadron the parent unit of the RANHFV was awarded the Battle Honour 'Vietnam 1967-71' and a Unit Citation for Gallantry 1st June 2018.

6. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

JWD being newly elected to the position of NSW Divisional Secretary does not have a formal report for this meeting other than to say that he will endeavour to maintain the high standard set by Past Secretary Dick Martin and would like to formally thank Dick (Pincher) for his dedication over many years.

JWD requested the Committees indulgence as he is not living in the Local Area and the need to keep Lines of Communications open. He has all committee telephone numbers for support purposes.

JWD will submit a report to RB shortly for the next Slipstream publication.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ron Batchelor & Jeff Dalglish to organise prior to the next Committee meeting to attend the Greater Bank in Nowra to add Jeff Dalglish to the Cheque Signature Authorisation .
Dick Martin to be removed as a Signatory.

Treasurers Report:

Moved: JWD

Seconded: RB

Note by Webmaster. The Treasurer's report has been redacted from these minutes. It can be obtained on request from the Secretary of NSW Division.

8. WALL OF SERVICE REPORT:

The Wall of Service Administrator is Overseas hence nil report.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS:

Slipstream- Ron Batchelor has agreed to take over the Editing of Slipstream

Price of Wall of Service Plaque. MP has requested that the NSW Committee consider the following:

“That we initiate the price increase immediately, as it is easy to update both the website order form and the associated (downloadable) ‘hard copy’ forms to reflect the new prices. It won’t affect those who have already ordered and will mitigate any loss/profit decrease in the meantime”

After spirited discussion agreed that as of 17th August 2022 Members pay \$200 and non-members \$250 per plaque. Non-members also are credited with 1 years Membership of the Association.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- a. TH brought it to the attention of the meeting that he had received two notifications from the WA Division of ex FAA Personnel who had passed away. These two personnel are:
 - William Henry Dunlop -10/4/1933-01/07/2022-LAMA (1952-1961).
 - Theophiles Frank Bushe-Jones- 27/03/1930- 10/06/2022- Armourer.
- b. PC addressed the Catholic University Survey re Veterans Suicide and deemed that as the National body had addressed this issue NSW Division did not have any further obligations as each organisation could only make one submission.
- c. TH/MP Discussion re Catering and Costs for October events in particular the Book Launch- still under discussion.

ACTION: TH/MP

- d. JWD asked about any further FAA 75 th Anniversary events.

ACTION: HMc to report back.

- e. HMc reported that the FAA Billboard on Moss Vale Road- just short of the Princes Highway needed repair/refurbishment or removal.

ACTION: HMc to find out who owns the Billboard & how to fix problem.

- f. JWD suggested that the Nowra City Gate Guard Iroquois UH 1B 894 needed some “Love”. Discussion agreed and indicated that the Museum was ultimately Responsible.

ACTION: JWD to raise the issue with Mr Stewart Hardwood Curator of the FAA Museum.

- g. TH is attending Vietnam Veteran’s Day Service in the Shoalhaven as National Secretary on Thursday 18th August 2022 and will lay a Wreath on the behalf of the NSW Division of the FAAAA.

ACTION: PC to supply wreath and TH to lay wreath at the service.

11.MEETING CLOSED: @ 1315.

12.NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 21st September 2022 commencing at 1200EST.

Secretary:



Jeff Dalgliesh

President:



Phil Carey