

NOTE: These Minutes are DRAFT subject to final sign-off at the next National Executive Meeting.

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held via ZOOM
05 Sept 2022 at 1500

ATTENDANCE

<i>President</i>	M. Campbell
<i>Vice President</i>	P. Carey
<i>Secretary</i>	T. Hetherington
<i>Treasurer</i>	J. Caldwell
<i>Membership Database Manager</i>	P. Norris
<i>Webmaster</i>	M. Peake
<i>Slipstream Editor</i>	R. Batchelor [was welcomed to his first Nat Exec meeting by the President]

APOLOGIES

NIL

ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Proposed:	T. Hetherington
Seconded:	P. Norris
CARRIED	

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MARCH 2022 EXECUTIVE MEETING

1. *Association Patron* – The President explained the background to his efforts to secure a Patron. Once confirmed, the nominee’s name will be released.
2. *Recruiting, Retention, and Engagement with Members* – No action at present but will be an FCM discussion point.

ACTION: ALL

3. *Fees and Charges to Divisions* – No action at present but will be an FCM discussion point.
ACTION: ALL
4. *Signage for Errol Kavanagh Memorial Oval* – Marcus reported that the new sign has been *in-situ* for approximately four months. The ACT Division President was to liaise with Mrs Kavanagh and ACT Government for a dedication ceremony, which has not yet happened to our knowledge. Mark Campbell reported that the ACT Government was very keen to proceed, and he will pursue the matter with the ACT Division.
ACTION: MARK CAMPBELL
5. *Nowra Veterans' Wellbeing Centre* – Phil Carey has engaged with staff at the Centre on two recent occasions and the staff are interested in a cooperative approach with the FAAAA. Additional specialist consulting staff have been employed. The President will defer any further approaches to political figures on the understanding that NSW Division has established a relationship with the Centre. One aspect still lacking is open notification of the Centre's range of services and Marcus Peake stated that the Website, Slipstream and FlyBy can include promotional material. The President requested Phil Carey to approach the Centre to establish how the Association may be able to help. He further requested that positive and negative feedback be sought from members who have approached the Centre for support. Notices in the Website, Slipstream and FlyBy should include that request for feedback.
ACTION: PHIL CAREY, RON BATCHELOR & MARCUS PEAKE
6. *H Hangar Fire 1976* – The President, having heard nothing recently, will establish contact with Mr Ian Carrol.
ACTION: MARK CAMPBELL
7. *FCM Guest Speaker* – COMFAA has been approached however his attendance needs to be re-established in light of Open Day activities.
ACTION: MARK CAMPBELL
8. *Secretary's Printer* – The Secretary has ordered a replacement printer which will arrive next week. The final cost was \$349 which was sanctioned by the National Executive.
ACTION: TERRY HETHERINGTON
9. *FCM Advice to Divisions* – The Secretary has forwarded the cut-off dates for Nominations, Motions, Special Resolutions and Agenda Items. To date, no returns have been received.
NFA
10. *Flood Relief Offers* – Based on advice from the Database Manager for email and postal addresses for members in areas affected by the Qld and Northern NSW floods, offers of support were sent by the Secretary to all those members. No requests for assistance were received.
NFA

CORRESPONDENCE

1. The Secretary's Report (Appendix C) showed incoming and outgoing correspondence since the March National Executive meeting. No questions were raised on this report.

Correspondence Report Proposed: T. Hetherington
Seconded: M. Campbell
CARRIED

SLIPSTREAM EDITOR AND REVISED ARRANGEMENTS

1. Ron Batchelor has offered his ongoing services as Editor, and he explained that he intends to discontinue the use of ISSUU flipbook format and revert to PDF format for the online version on the FAAAA website.
2. Due to an oversight by the Secretary, not all National Executive members, including the President had been advised that Ron had resumed the position of Editor. Terry Hetherington referred back to email messages sent over the past six weeks and apologized for not promulgating this advice. [*In the preparation of these Minutes the Secretary located the advisory email, dated 22 Aug, which was resent to National Executive members.*]
3. Ron Batchelor described the content of the September issue of Slipstream and spoke about his intentions for future editions.
4. President Mark Campbell cautioned of the sensitivities that surround Slipstream but stated that he was encouraged by Ron's offer to return on a full-time basis.
5. National Executive members discussed matters related to future costs or savings, format, content and style. Marcus Peake proposed advising members of the intended differences by email, however Mark Campbell asked Ron to include details in the September issue. Further discussion followed and Marcus pointed to the FCM standing agenda item on Slipstream; thereafter the President tasked James, Paul and Ron prepare the usual report and recommendation on Slipstream costings for consideration by the Federal Council.
ACTION: TREASURER, EDITOR AND DATABASE MANAGER
6. Ron Batchelor advised that he will be unavailable to attend the FCM and reassured the meeting that the September issue will be distributed in the coming fortnight. The President thanked Ron for his input, and Ron left the meeting at this point.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. The President stated that the RANHFV reunion at Old Bar was a success and he spoke highly of the organiser John Macartney. He intends to speak with John to see if he has an interest in becoming the Association Welfare Officer.
ACTION: MARK CAMPBELL
2. The President indicated that he and COMFAA have established a strong rapport, having both attended the Old Bar reunion.

3. The President provided an overview of the 75th Anniversary Seminar with COMFAA, CAPT Todd Glynn and himself as the speakers. He has strong reservations about ‘Flying Stations II’ and he is inclined not to be in the forefront at the book launch.
4. Mark Campbell advised that he has not identified a successor for the President’s role, and he tasked the Secretary with relaying that advice to all Divisions as soon as possible to seek a possible replacement.
ACTION: TERRY HETHERINGTON
5. Marcus Peake requested COMFAA’s personal email address to include him on the FlyBy distribution.
ACTION: MARK CAMPBELL
6. The President enquired of Marcus Peake about his official dealings with COS HQFAA, which Marcus reported was satisfactory.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

1. The Vice President reported that CAPT Todd Glynn has expressed interest in resuming a seat on the NSW Division committee when practicable.

TREASURER’S REPORT

1. Treasurer James Caldwell confirmed that all Executive members had received the report he had distributed, and he noted that the financial situation was sound. (Appendix B).
2. All Divisions were responding favourably to invoices issued to them. He reported that Queensland Division’s financial transactions are now back with the Division Treasurer.

Treasurer’s Report Proposed: J. Caldwell
Seconded: M. Peake
CARRIED

SECRETARY’S REPORT

1. Terry Hetherington reported that all Divisions have received advice in preparation for the FCM and to this stage no issues have been raised.
2. The Secretary will support the new Slipstream Editor with all aspects of his role with an eye to accuracy, layout, appropriateness, quality and relevance. The President emphasised the importance of these functions and he urged Terry to be diligent and assertive in upholding expected norms.

ACTION: TERRY HETHERINGTON

3. The Secretary requested discussion on the existing Constitution article dealing with Life Membership with a view to providing specific guidance to Divisions in raising a nomination. General discussion followed which was summarised by Marcus Peake and Mark Campbell in proposing that the matter be noted at the FCM and that discussions will continue on how to support Divisions, most possibly with an SOP.

ACTION: TERRY HETHERINGTON

4. The Secretary will be standing for re-election at the 2022 FCM.

Secretary's Report Proposed: T. Hetherington

Seconded: M. Campbell

CARRIED

WEBMASTER'S REPORT

1. Marcus Peake summarised his written report and noted in particular his disappointment with the recent website repair, with certain areas still needing attention.
2. Large format files taking up excessive space are being re-digitised into high resolution PDF files. This will address other problems with the website, but it will take a couple of years to finalise.

Webmaster's Report Proposed: M. Peake

Seconded: P. Norris

CARRIED

DATABASE MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Paul Norris noted that membership numbers have declined to 778, with virtually no new membership applications.
2. Paul is preparing for the FCM and will be attending in person.
3. The President enquired if the lack of applicants can be put down to inactivity at the Divisional level. Paul explained that the response to applicants varies greatly between Divisions

Database Manager's Report Proposed: P. Norris

Seconded: T. Hetherington

CARRIED

EDITOR'S REPORT

The report by the new Editor, Ron Batchelor, was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. *FCM Preparations* - The Secretary proposed contacting the FAA Museum Manager to request use of the same gallery as the ANI Seminar. The meeting will start at 1330 and the venue is to be confirmed. A Zoom link will be established for Delegates and members unable to attend in person.
ACTION: TERRY HETHERINGTON

2. *Events on Friday 21st October* – Marcus Peake outlined the day’s activities and will maintain contact with members who have expressed interest in attending the informal dinner on Friday evening. The venue will be the Shoalhaven Ex-Servicemen’s Club Chinese buffet restaurant on completion of the Freedom of Entry and Ceremonial Sunset. Marcus will request firm details of the Navy activities from COS HQFAA.
ACTION: MARCUS PEAKE

3. *Membership Database* – Paul Norris spoke briefly about a possible upgrade to the Database Software (Filemaker Pro) but declined to go into further details until he discusses possible solutions with Marcus Peake. He stated that the database is eight years old and improved versions are available.
ACTION: PAUL NORRIS & MARCUS PEAKE

4. *FlyBy Charge* – Marcus Peake is prepared to maintain the *status quo* and provide the newsletter free to the 1200 subscribers. Possible reconsideration next year.
NFA

5. *Proposed Book on RAN A-4 Skyhawks* – Marcus Peake referred members to the prepared brief and sought the National Executives’ opinion on support from the FAAAA. In essence the Association will be requested to act as the sponsor for a DVA ‘Saluting Their Service’ grant. He requested agreement to do this, which was unanimously given. Should the DVA grant application fail, Marcus proposed that a discussion point be raised at the FCM for potential funding by the FAAAA at some time in the future. (See Appendix F for brief)
ACTION: MARCUS PEAKE

6. *Loss of Queensland Division Applicants* – Marcus Peake opened discussion on this matter. It was decided to raise the issue of poor processing of applicants by all Divisions, in particular Queensland, as an agenda item at the FCM.
ACTION: TERRY HETHERINGTON & MARK CAMPBELL

7. *Constitution Articles on Webmaster and Database Manager* – The Secretary indicated that roles of these two positions are not addressed in the Constitution. He proposed that it be noted at the FCM with a view to amending the Constitution by Special Resolution and initiating an SOP at next year’s FCM. This was agreed unanimously.
ACTION: TERRY HETHERINGTON

8. *Donation Request from HARS* – The Secretary referred to an email request from HARS for insurance funding of the two Navy Heritage Flight operating aircraft. The Secretary declared a Conflict of Interest and withdrew from any input on this discussion, except to answer questions. Subsequent discussion was held to determine if donations from other Divisions had been pledged. Queensland have committed \$2000, to be handed over by their Vice President during the week preceding the FCM. The NSW Division President, Phil Carey, stated that his Division would favourably consider any forthcoming request up to a ceiling of \$2500. Paul Norris was of the opinion that the National Executive should donate an amount on behalf of the smaller and less financially sound Divisions. Paul Norris moved that the National Executive donate \$2000 to HARS Navy Heritage Flight operating aircraft insurance fund. The motion was seconded by Phil Carey, who also requested the Secretary to forward the request to the NSW Division Secretary.

CARRIED

ACTION: TERRY HETHERINGTON, TO ADVISE HARS AND NSW DIVISION.

9. *Captain Robert RAY MBE, RAN (rtd)* – The Secretary advised members that Captain Ray is suffering extremely poor health and steps are being taken at Navy HQ and HQFAA to satisfy his final wishes, upon his demise. CAPT Ray was the Operations Officer for RANHFV Flight 2, and he entered the Navy in July 1956 in the initial intake at HMAS Nirimba as an Aircraft Artificer Apprentice.

10. *Tasmania Division Email* – The Secretary has received an email from the Tasmanian Division President, Dennis Hinds, pointing out the disappointingly low number of members and the inability to even reach a quorum at their AGM. Dennis predicted that the Division was in danger of being unviable and he will talk of their plight at the FCM. Marcus Peake suggested that the Victorian Division Executive be advised in advance of the FCM. The Secretary will forward Dennis Hinds’ email to the National Executive and the Victorian Division Executive.

ACTION: TERRY HETHERINGTON

11. *Sale of Association Caps* – James Caldwell advised that cap stocks are very low, and he will be seeking out a new supplier.

ACTION: JAMES CALDWELL

Meeting Closure and scheduling of next Meeting

The meeting closed at 1737.

Next meeting: The FCM will commence at 1330 on Saturday 22nd October at the Fleet Air Arm Museum.

Original signed by

.....
Mark Campbell
President

Original signed by

.....
Terry Hetherington
Secretary

**National President's Report
FAAAA National Executive Meeting September 2022**

The last few months have been dominated by planning for the FAA 75th Anniversary celebrations, dealing with what I perceive is late planning by HQFAA for these celebrations, dealing with a barrage of complaints about the perceptions by many on the incorrect timing for the 75th celebrations. Planning for the ANI/FAAAA Seminar in October 2022 as part of the 75th Celebrations, the Flying Stations MkII book launch and finally planning for and attending the RAN Helicopter Flight Vietnam Reunion in Old Bar in August 2022.

I represented the Association at the FAA 75th Anniversary cocktail party that was held on Saturday 2 July at the FAA Museum. Due to the late notice, several other FAAAA members were unfortunately unable to attend the event.

I represented the views of several (quite vociferous!) FAAAA people that the 75th Anniversary celebrations were being planned for the incorrect time, direct to COMFAA. I was politely but firmly advised that COMFAA had taken the view that the timing was appropriate, and that no further discussion would be countenanced. I fed this back to the various complainants.

The weather forecast for the weekend of 2/3 July was extremely wet, and COMFAA took the (quite appropriate in my view) decision (on the preceding Friday) to postpone the planned HMAS Albatross Open Day on Sunday 3 July. This led to several complaints and at least one resignation by a FAAAA member. This resignation, as a result of a Navy call on a Navy event was attempted to be ameliorated by myself and the National Secretary, but to no avail. I do not intend to lose any sleep over the matter. The subsequent weather completely justified COMFAA's decision. The Open Day will now be held on Saturday 22 October 2022 clashing with the FCM which will be a matter to be discussed at this National Executive.

A RAN Helicopter Flight Vietnam Reunion was held 16 – 18 August 2022 at Old Bar NSW in conjunction with the FAA 75th celebrations and Vietnam Veterans Day. I assisted with liaison between the Reunion organiser and HQFAA/COMFAA. COMFAA and a HQFAA team attended the Reunion. They conducted a school visit with a 723 SQN EC135 helicopter and also a flypast in conjunction with the Marchpast of the RANHFV veterans. COMFAA and I also spoke at the Vietnam Veterans Day Remembrance Ceremony.

An excellent liaison and rapport is now in place with COMFAA. I have failed to convince him that he should be a member of the FAAAA, but he is very supportive and appreciative of Association support and involvement with the FAA. I will take the Webmaster's views, but it appears that general comms with HQFAA, while not excellent are improving.

The program of the ANI/FAA Seminar in October called for coverage of the 75-year history of the FAA. I was asked to present this topic. Despite the fact that I am no historian, I have agreed to fill this role. The FAAAA website is proving to be an excellent resource for this endeavour.

I remain keen to stand down as National President at this FCM. After discussions with six possible replacements, I have one volunteer. We shall discuss this matter at this NE meeting.

I remain unaware of how Ian Carroll is progressing towards the proposed Group Bravery award for those who attempted to fight the December 1976 Hangar fire at HMAS Albatross.

Mark Campbell
National President
2 September 2022

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION of AUSTRALIA

BALANCE SHEET

As at 02 SEPT 2022 (in Aust Dollars) (Accrual Basis)

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>	
<u>ASSETS</u>	01.03.22	02.09.22

Cash and Bank Accounts

FAAA (Aust) General Account 100****

FAAA (Aust) SS Account 100****

FAAA (Aust) Fixed Term Deposit 700**
(Matures 01 July 2022) @ 0.70%**

Total Cash and Bank accounts

SHOWN ASSETS HELD AT BANK

LIABILITIES & DEPOSITS

Less Liabilities

Plus O/S Accounts & Dep

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

**James E Caldwell
Treasurer
02.09.22**

Note by Webmaster.

The figures in this report have been removed for security purposes. An unredacted copy is available from the National Secretary on request.

Appendix C. Secretary's Report

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT 05th SEPT 2022

Correspondence (06 Mar ~ 02 Sep 2022)

DATE	SENDER	IN
25 Mar	COMFAA	COMFAA seeking our input for the 75 th celebrations
28 Mar	COMFAA EA	Requesting dates of National & Division AGM's
29 Mar	WA Division	Voluntary workers insurance policy
01 Apr ~ 31 Aug	COMFAA COS	Multiple emails re FAA 75 th and ANI Seminar
18 May ~ 14 June	Associations Branch WA	Multiple emails re Constitution amendments at FCM 2021
23 May	Community Underwriting	Insurance Policy renewal
25 May ~ 02 Sep	Nat Exec members	Reports and Agenda Items for Nat Exec meeting 05 Sept
04 June	John Macartney	Invitation to RANHFV anniversary event
06 Jun ~ 02 Sep	Divisions and Nat Exec	Multiple emails re 2022 FCM
12 Jun ~ 02 Sep	Australian Naval Institute	Multiple emails re ANI Seminar and FSII Book Launch 21 Oct
29 June ~ 02 Sep	Paul Shiels & Ron Batchelor	Multiple emails re resignation of Paul and appointment of Ron as Slipstream Editor
14 July	Grant Jesser	Resignation of membership
02 Aug ~ 02 Sep	President Queensland Division	Life Membership nomination from Queensland Division
18 Aug ~ 02 Sep	Divisions and Nat Exec	Life Membership nomination from Queensland Division
23 Aug	John Macartney	Attendance at RANHFV anniversary event thank you
DATE	RECIPIENT	OUT
14 Mar	Multiple Qld. & northern NSW members	Offers of support to flood victims
29 Mar	WA Division	Voluntary workers insurance policy
01 Apr ~ 31 Aug	COMFAA COS	Multiple emails re FAA 75 th and ANI Seminar
18 May ~ 14 Jun	Associations Branch WA, Nat Exec and Divisions	Multiple emails re Constitution amendments at FCM 2021
23 May	Community Underwriting	Insurance Policy renewal
06 Jun ~ 02 Sep	Divisions and Nat Exec	Multiple emails re 2022 FCM
12 Jun ~ 02 Sep	Australian Naval Institute	Multiple emails re ANI Seminar and FSII Book Launch 21 Oct
29 Jun ~ 02 Sep	Divisions and Nat Exec	Multiple emails re resignation of Paul and appointment of Ron as Slipstream Editor
02 Aug ~ 02 Sep	Divisions and Nat Exec	Life Membership nomination from Queensland Division
02 Sep	Nat Exec	Agenda and Reports for Nat Exec meeting 05 Sept

Preparations for 2022 Federal Council Meeting, FAA 75th Anniversary and ANI Seminar

- As can be seen from the volume of emails reported in the Correspondence Report, your President, Webmaster and I have been engaging with HQFAA, the Australian Naval Institute and the FAA Museum to plan and coordinate events occurring over the period 21 and 22 October.
- At this stage it appears that all the main players are happy, and it remains for us to decide on the timing for the FCM and whether a social dinner will take place for the FCM attendees, members and their partners.

Slipstream

- Distribution of the March edition went ahead uneventfully, however June's edition was delayed due to Paul Shiels' medical emergency. It concerned me that there was an inordinately large number of unfinancial members to whom the June issue was not sent. I took it upon myself to write each of those members a letter, and that action, together with the efforts of Paul Norris and respective Division Secretaries resulted in a trickle of late renewals.
- I wish to thank James Caldwell and his staff for the use of his office and boardroom for the packing, stacking and mailing of June Slipstream.
- With the acceptance by Ron Batchelor of the editor's role I have advised Ron that he will continue to have my support with tasks like proof-reading and quality checking with each edition.

Life Membership

- The principles of awarding this form of recognition are being hotly debated at the moment and I am of the view that objective selection criteria should be formulated and incorporated into an SOP.

National Executive Nominations

- I have indicated that I will stand for a further term as Secretary, and I am heartened to note that other NE members feel likewise. I wish our outgoing President Mark all the best as he steps down from his tenure.

This concludes my report.

Terry Hetherington OAM
NATIONAL SECRETARY
02 Sept 2022

Webmaster's Report for National Executive Meeting of 5th September 2022

1. The Webmaster's work continues to be a mixture of *FlyBy* magazine, which occupies the majority, historical datasheets and the website itself. The first two are proceeding well, with a broadening variety of contributors starting to provide good quality content.
2. The website itself is functional, but still has many of the problems evident from its rebuild. The many and intricate links between the hundreds of pages are fragile, and the layout of the 'old' articles distorted by the build process and the different page builder. I am reminded also (by the Developer) that our website is the largest of all of their clients and needs to be trimmed.
3. The answer, which will take some time to implement, is to gradually replace the existing material with re-digitised high resolution PDF files. These have several advantages: they demand only about 10% of the volume otherwise taken by separate images and HTML content; they are fully scalable, easily printed and downloadable for archiving or readers' research.
4. The downside is that each one takes about a month, but work is progressing. So far we have completed PDF articles as follows:

Genre	Subject
General History	Monte Bello Burning Straight Deck Ops The Original Observer Aircraft of the FAA Naval Aviation in the RAN 1914-1947 Naval Aviation in the RAN 1948-1957 Carriers for the Commonwealth Operation Bursa
Fixed Wing	Aermacchi MB-326H Trainer HS748 A4 Skyhawk Sea Venom (to be published 01 October)
Helicopters	Kaman Seasprite – Billion Dollar Blunder Bell 206B Kiowa Putting Flights to Sea
Theatres	Helicopters Over the Sinai Korea – The Forgotten War

5. Aside from this historical aspect of the website, it continues to function flawlessly in its role of capturing Applications for Membership and Wall of Service plaques, and as a means to impart general information about the FAAAA, its people and its governance.

Marcus Peake. Webmaster.

Appendix E. Database Manager's Report

Membership Database Activities Since Mar 2022 NE Meeting

Membership Database Management activity since the March NE meeting has been routine with membership updates, processing new memberships, cancelling those that chose not to renew, and sadly recording a growing list of members who have 'Crossed the Bar.'

In addition to the March and June softcopy Slipstream promulgation advice emails, I have also sent out a number of bulk emails undertaken on behalf of the National Secretary, NSW Div President and both the NSW and QLD Div Secretaries to members with recorded email addresses. Following my relocation to sunnier climes, I had also planned to attend the QLD Div AGM that was held in Brisbane in July purely as an observer, however the details of where the AGM was to be held were not emailed to me by the SEC QLD until late the evening before the day of the AGM and by then I had already made other arrangements, so was not able to attend.

Changes from the latest Australia Post sort codes for the period 26th August 2022 to 23rd February 2023 have been incorporated into the database. This change is by far the largest change I have had to process with just about every sort code group requiring update due to Australia Post having deleted unused postcodes.

Membership Statistics

Our current membership stands at 777 members, unfortunately another drop from 801 as at the Mar NE Meeting.

Since the March meeting we have gained 27 new members, as follows:

- a. 9 for NSW Div, 2 of whom joined by purchasing a Wall of Service plaque and 4 previous members who re-joined;
- b. 1 for ACT Div;
- c. 6 for VIC Div, 2 of whom are Associate members and 1 previous member who re-joined;
- d. 6 for QLD Div, 2 of whom are Associate members (one the spouse of a deceased Life Member) and 1 previous member who re-joined;
- e. 3 for WA Div, all previous members who re-joined; and
- f. 2 for SA Div.

Offsetting the 27 new members, we lost 49 members; 5 resignations and 29 cancellations due to non- membership renewal for 2022, and 16 members having sadly "Crossed the Bar", 2 of whom were Life Members.

We currently have 2 membership applications that have been received in the past week that are still to be finalised, i.e. prospective members yet to commit after being advised of fees payable.

Upcoming Activities

Upcoming activities will be preparation for the FCM. I have advised the National Secretary of my nomination to continue in the database management role and it is my intention to travel down to Nowra to attend the FCM in person.

Paul Norris

FAAAA National Membership Database Manager

Brief for National Executive on Proposed A4 Publication

- FAAAA Members Peter Greenfield and David Prest have compiled a first draft of a book on the RAN's A4-G Skyhawks. You can see the draft [here](#).
- Greenfield has been in discussion with Peter Ingman of Avonmore Books about publishing. He is keen to assist and has suggested that funding will be required in two parts:
 - An up-front **Editing Fee** for editing, proof reading and graphic design and all aspects of work up to the print stage. This will be in the order of \$5-8K.
 - A **Printing Fee** to produce the first run of books. Avonmore is prepared to cover this fee, and would recover it from retail sales.

Proposal

- At this stage there is no suggestion that the FAAAA will be asked to contribute funding directly.
- Avonmore Books has suggested that the Editing Fee could be covered by a DVA "Saluting Their Service Grant." This requires a sponsoring organisation which can't be a Government Entity such as Defence or the FAAM, so we have been asked to take on that role.
- Ingman has suggested he complete the necessary Grant Application on our behalf as he has a good understanding of what DVA will be looking for.
- Both the Book's authors and Avonmore are committed to producing a high-quality product that tells the story of the RAN's A4s through the stories of people who flew and maintained it.

Discussion

- There are several good reasons for the FAAAA to support the publication of this book:
 - The opportunity to tell our A4 story first hand is diminishing with the ageing demographic of those who flew and maintained the Skyhawks.
 - It is consistent with one of the key Objects of the Association – viz: 'to foster the preservation of the history of aviation in the RAN.'
 - The work has largely been done, and the initial draft shows quality.

- The publisher has a proven track record of producing quality material – for example, 'Flying Stations II.'
 - There is a chance that it can be produced at nil cost to the Association and/or its agents.
-
- If, however, the DVA grant application is unsuccessful, a back-up plan to fund the Editing Fee would be prudent. One option would be to seek FCM agreement to authorise payment of up to \$10K from Federal resources. Reimbursement options might be:
 - None. We accept it is in the best interest of the Association to have the A4 story published, and write off the cost in pursuance of our Object to foster history.
 - Open discussion with the Publisher to see if we can harvest a small fee for each copy sold.
 - Raise revenue by other means – i.e. by increasing the Slipstream Levy or Capitation fees, or by a plan to start charging for 'FlyBy' magazine.