



FAAAA

Fleet Air Arm Association of Australia

(New South Wales) Inc

NSW Division PO Box 28 Nowra NSW 2541

Minutes for NSW Division Committee Meeting White Ensign Club HMAS Albatross Wednesday 17th May 2023, 1200, EST

1.Executive Present:

President: Phillip Carey (PC)

Vice President & MLO: Keith Boundy (KB)

Secretary: Jeffrey Dalgliesh (JWD)

Treasurer: Ronald Batchelor (RB)

General Committee Present:

Howard McCallum (HMc)

Todd Glynn (TG) by Telephone

John Balazic (JB) Wall of Service Administrator.

Division Members and Visitors Present: Captain Chris Clyde Director of Aircraft Engineering RAN representing COMFAA CDRE David Frost Honorary Member NSW Division, WO Gordon Davis Command WO FAA representing CO HMAS Albatross and Marcus Peake National Webmaster NSW Division Member

Apologies: Terry Hetherington National Secretary and NSW Division Member.

2.Acknowledgements: President Phillip Carey acknowledged recent Coronation of King Charles III and undertook to review NSW Division Publications and Portraits to replace Queen Elizabeth II material with King Charles III material when available if applicable.

3.Minutes of Previous Committee Meeting:

Moved: John Balazic

Seconded: Jeff Dalgliesh

4.Business Arising from March AGM and Committee Meeting:

- a. General Committee Position – Howard McCallum was not present at AGM. Election deferred until the May NSW Committee Meeting.

ACTION: Howard McCallum present re-elected to the General Committee by show of hands. NFA.

- b. State of FAA Billboard on Moss Vale Road. Previously HMc has spoken to the Museum Director and understands that the FAA Billboard is Museum Property. HMc has now reported Museum Director is not able to help with a refurbishment project.

After some discussion both from Committee and Visitors regarding alternate solutions either to refurbish or bulldoze the sign the following was decided:

ACTION: Ongoing. HMc to ascertain who owns the land that the sign is located on. NSW Division will fund the refurbishment estimated as approximately \$1000.00, Navy to ascertain if the Sikorsky Paint Shop would accept a donation to repaint the sign. HMc to co-ordinate.

- c. State of Nowra City Gate Guard Iroquois UH 1B 894. Discussed and WO Gordon Davis CWO FAA believes HMAS Albatross Command can help.

ACTION: Ongoing. CWO Davis to engage with CO HMAS Albatross regarding a way forward and President Phillip Carey to liaise with the CWO.

- d. FAAA NSW Draft Constitution status.

ACTION: Ongoing. Review and re write nearing completion by PC before review by NSW Division Committee members.

- e. Membership Cards. Marcus Peake queried the use for these cards and whether they were going to be issued yearly or if they would be perpetual. PC answered that the cards are to replace existing NSW Division Membership Cards with Credit Card style and material/size cards and that they would be perpetual.

ACTION: Ongoing. PC to appoint someone to print and distribute with Slipstream.

- f. RB has published NSW Division 1st newsletter. Future versions not to include Minutes of Committee Meetings- Snippets of interest only. Do not include personal email addresses of any Members or NSW Division Financial data.

ACTION: Committee to Review after 3rd Edition. RB to review distribution as some Members present at the meeting did not receive the first edition.

- g. St George Account had not been closed but majority of funds transferred to Greater Bank Account.

ACTION: Ongoing. RB to monitor St George Account and transfer any funds deposited in the Account. To close the account when able.

- h. National Webmaster Marcus Peake has “read only” access to the Greater bank Account.

ACTION: NFA

- i. At AGM Ian Carroll suggested that a Cost Benefit Analysis should be conducted by the National Body regarding standardisation of Subscription across all Divisions – MP stated that this approach had been previously investigated with no agreement from other divisions.

ACTION: NFA NSW Division. Referred to National Secretary.

- j. Honorary memberships for 2023/24 . Process complete.
ACTION:NFA
- k. Raffle Draw: RB has distributed Prizes except for 3rd Prize.
ACTION: RB to distribute 3rd Prize to Member Murray Coppins.
- l. Over and Underpayment of Membership.

ACTION: Ongoing. Overpayment to be treated as a donation and underpayment be viewed on a case-by-case basis. If a member who has nominated Hardcopy Slipstream underpays and has an email address revert to soft copy Slipstream.

5. Correspondence:

In:

- a. Updated List of NSW Members.
- b. Bank Statement from Greater Bank
- c. Payment of Membership (Numerous).
- d. Change of email address -Jerry O'Dea.
- e. Mail concerning un-financial Members and what date cut- off from receiving FlyBy and Slipstream.
- f. Mail from PN regarding re-joining Member
- g. Monthly WoS Report JB.
- h. Re-joined Member Karen Skomba N3372 PN
- i. Possible re-joining Non – Member Colin Brightling N3241 PN.
- j. Request from Dr Liana Markovich DVA for dissemination of info to Veterans RANHFV.

Out:

- a. Numerous emails and letters in relation to new Members, Membership, and un-financial status.
- b. Letters to New Members welcoming them to the Division- Paul Norris/Jeff Dalgliesh.
- c. Mail concerning un-financial Members and what date cut- off from receiving FlyBy and Slipstream.
- k. Welcome letter to re-joining Member Karen Skomba. N3372 and Colin Brightling N3241 PN. JWD.
- d. Letter to John Macartney, Terry Hetherington, and Marcus Peake re dissemination of Dr Liana Markovich DVA info re Veterans RANHFV/135th AHC.

Acceptance of Correspondence In & Out

Moved: Keith Boundy

Seconded: John Balazic

6. President's Report:

Report presented Attachment 1.

Moved: Jeff Dalgliesh

Seconded: Ron Batchelor

7. Secretary's Report:

The period since the AGM has been quiet with the main thrust of the Executive being focused on attempting to have the un-financial Full and Associate Members pay 2023 Subscriptions. Several strategies have been employed and have included reminders, renewal notices and requests for payment of 2023 renewals being published in Slipstream and monthly FlyBy publications. Many phone calls have been made to un- financials', approaches made at social functions, Phil Carey the President has written to "Snail Mail" un-financials and the Secretary has emailed all un- financial with email addresses. We have had some response reducing our un-financials from 105 to approximately 30.

NSW Division has had three new Memberships registered since the AGM in March, two re-joining Members, one transferral from the ACT, and three Members who have moved interstate and are in the process of transferring to other Divisions. The new Members are: CDRE David Frost COMFAA Honorary Member, Greg Nathan ex CPOATA Full Member, and Anthony Morgan Associate Member. Re-joining Members are CMDR Colin Brightling and ex ABATC Karen Skomba and Anthony (Tassie) Mason ex Tracker and Helicopter Aircrew has transferred to NSW from the ACT Division.

Membership for NSW Division is 363. This can be broken down to show: 331 Ordinary Members, 10 Life Members, 9 Lifetime (Perpetual) Members, 13 Associates, and 1 Honorary Member. On 15th May 2023 31 Full Members remained Unfinancial. 15 have "Snail Mail" and 16 email addresses. While the April Slipstream, both Hardcopy and Electronic (Softcopy) were delivered to all Members financial and un- financial clearer guidelines are necessary regarding un-financial Members and when delivery of Slipstream is stopped. NSW Division did not indicate that un-financial members were not to be sent the April Slipstream in elected version. This issue to be discussed in Other Business and the National Data base Manager has been informed that for 2023 31st May is the cut-off date therefore May Slipstream will be delivered to all members – both financial and un-financial.

The National Database Manager, Paul Norris continues to be extremely helpful and does an admirable job in updating our membership records and keeping us informed of changes.

Jeff Dalgliesh does not have direct access to the NSW Division Mailbox and Ron Batchelor monitors the Division Mailbox when able. A less than optimum situation.

NSW Member Everet Jenkins passed away on 31st March 2023 aged 94 years, NSW Member Don Gunn passed away on 08th April, and have been notified that NSW Member ex LAMAE Errol Shelley RANHFV 3rd Flight has passed away, also past NSW Member Bevin Hardy on 12th April 2023. Two well-known Aircrew Officers Captain Robert (Bob) Ray (O) MBE RAN Ret'd and Captain Ronald (Ron) McKenzie (P) RAN Ret'd both passed away on 25th March 2023. Captain Ray was a member of the 2nd Contingent RANHFV and Captain McKenzie was CO of VS816 when the Squadron reformed with S2E Trackers. Both Officers were present or past Members of the ACT Division.

Late Edition: Have just been advised that NSW Member Roy Matheson passed away on 08th November 2022, aged 65 years. Roy joined the RAN on 24/06/1975 and discharged on 23/04/1979 with the rank of ABAVN, having served at *Cerberus*, *Penguin* and *Albatross*, and aboard HMAS *Melbourne* (1976 – 1979). After discharge he joined the police force where he served with distinction for many years.

ANZAC Day:

The President has already reported on his movements in the Shoalhaven area, the Vice president Keith Boundy attended the Service at Callala, and the Secretary attended the Dawn Service at Georges Heights in Sydney before marching under the HMAS Melbourne Association banner. Afterwards comradeship was held at the Edinburgh Castle Hotel in Sydney. FAAAA members who participated were David Benge, Murray Smythe, Guy Cooper, Bill Barlow and Jeff Dalgliesh. WO 1st Class David Smythe, Australian ARMY and son of NSW Member Murray Smythe accompanied the group. Murray Smythe has received an FAAAA Flag from the President and intends to register for 2024 ANZAC Day and form up as the FAAAA NSW Division.

Moved: Keith Boundy
Howard McCallum

Seconded:

8. Treasurer's Report:

Note by webmaster. Dollar figures in the first part of this report have been redacted for this on-line version. Applicable people can get a copy of the report from the NSW Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT MARCH - APRIL 2023

OPENING BALANCE		\$
INCOME		
	MEMBERSHIP Direct Deposit	\$
	Membership Banked	\$
	WALL OF SERVICE	\$

TOTAL INCOME		\$
EXPENDITURE		
	Plaques	
	Newsletter Postage	\$
	Laser Printer inks	\$
	Slipstream	\$
	2 x Letterboxes	\$
	Refreshments Annual Meeting	\$
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		\$
FIXED ACCOUNT		\$

MP queried why the Division has two Letterboxes. RB replied that one was for general correspondence and other for the newly instituted Magazine.

Moved: John Balazic
Seconded: Keith Boundy

9.Wall of Service Report: J. BALAZIC Administrator

In November 2022, the cost of a plaque was increased due to foundry costs. The new pricing of a plaque is \$200.00 for FAAA Members and \$250.00 for non-FAAA members, which includes their first year's membership into FAAAA.

The current status of Wall of Service (WoS) plaques/applications is as follows:

- a. The total number of plaques on the wall now stands at 1066,
- b. Three plaques were mounted on the Wall during the weekend 1 – 2 April 2023, due to adhesive failure,
- c. Order number 52 is open with six applications, and
- d. An updated list of all plaques mounted on the Wall of Service (dated 11 December 2022) is available for viewing on the FAAA of A website.

MP queried WoS as to the minimum number of plaques that were acceptable by the Foundry for a batch? Reason being that reduction in orders has extended the time from an order being placed and the plaque being fitted to the Wall. JB to investigate and report back in July.

Moved: Jeff Dalgliesh
Seconded: Howard McCallum

10.General Business:

- a. Membership: Present Membership 363: Life Members 10; Life (Perpetuals) 9: Associate 13: Honorary 1: Full 331. Number unfinancial = 31 on 15/05/2023.
- b. Hunter Valley and Sydney based Association Members requested FAAAA NSW Division Banner.
ACTION: PC sent Banner to Murray Smythe who has become the Custodian. Need to register with March Organisers for 2024 ANZAC Day.
- c. Viability of continuing Raffle after 2023/24. Discussed and agreed to continue Raffle into the future.
ACTION: John Balazic to discuss ticket sales with new Museum shop front Management.
- d. IAW DRAFT Constitution para.8.(d) All Officers shall be elected at the AGM and shall hold office for one (!) year after which they may nominate for re-election. Propose to change the period to three (3) years. Vacancies in Executive and General Committee to be addressed at the yearly AGM.
ACTION: Enact a 3-year term immediately with vacancies on the Executive or General Committee being advertised as being available for election at the yearly AGM.
- e. Review the Notification process and timeline for NSW Division FAAA Membership Renewal and Review when membership becomes invalid. Discussed by President Phil Carey, National Webmaster Marcus Peake and Jeff Dalgliesh Secretary. 2023 Cut Off Date 31st May.
ACTION: National Council will issue a Policy and NSW will add to the evolving NSW Constitution as a Standard Operating Procedure and comply. National data base manager, National Treasurer and Secretary have been informed of the 2023 Cut Off date.
- f. How Capitation Fees are Administered. Marcus Peake explained the rather convoluted system that is in place at present. \$7.00 per capita Member 1 year in arrears on 30th June i.e. For 2023 each Division is billed on their Member Numbers on 30th June 2022.
- g. Email Request from wife of N2499 Robert Willis. Family trying to obtain a WO uniform for family Photo Record.
ACTION: RB to suggest Museum to the family.

11. Any Other Business:

- a. Captain Chris Clyde RAN the Director of Aviation Engineering representing COMFAA gave a general update on FAA activities including the delivery of the replacement to the MRH90 aircraft. The 13 new Romeo aircraft be delivered from mid 2025. The recent ARMY Taipan ditching was mentioned and reason being an Uncontained Turbine failure.
- b. CWO FAA WO Gordon Davies mentioned a recent visit to a passing out ceremony at HMAS Cerberus Recruit school attended by the CO

HMAS Albatross and CWO FAA as being informative – happy with the Quality of FAA recruits but Quantity lacking. He also mentioned changes in return of service particularly for females. Some Technical sailors now coming direct to HMAS Albatross for technical training instead of going to Wagga Wagga.

- c. Committee Member Howard McCallum gave an informative brief on his activities as the HQ-FAA Staff Officer Naval Aviation Reserves (SONAR) and how Reserves are now managed particularly on leaving the full-time service. Also, the importance of integrations with the Illawarra Shoalhaven Defence Network.
- d. Howard McCallum asked if anybody had access to old Squadron group photos. Suggested check old Photographic shop records.
- e. Marcus Peake mentioned a proposed mini-FAA reunion at Old Bar in August 2023 as part of the annual John Macartney's RANHFV Vietnam Veteran's Day. John Macartney is hoping to have UH -1B 898 as an attraction. More information to be disseminated when available.

12. Meeting Closed: The President thanked all for attending and closed the Meeting at 1315 EST.

13. Next Meeting: Wednesday July 2023. commencing at 1200EST

Phil Carey
Jeff Dalgliesh

President:
Secretary

Attachment: 1. Presidents Report.