



**MINUTES FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE
OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION
HELD AT KIRRIBILLI CLUB, 11 HARBOUR VIEW CRESENT,
LAVENDER BAY NSW ON TUESDAY 26TH MAY 2015**

1. Meeting opened at 1100hrs by Harry Hoger (Vice-President) presiding.
2. The Ode was recited by Harry Cole
3. **Attendees:**
 - Harry Hoger - Vice- President
 - Richard Pike - Treasurer
 - Neil Bennett- Secretary
 - Damien Tyrrell- Welfare
 - Ian Morris- Webmaster
 - Otto Aberle- Events
 - Gary Byard- Membership
 - Frank Poole- Memorial
 - Jeff Heron- Forum Moderator
 - Frank Maloney
 - Harry Cole
 - Greg Haggett
4. **Apologies:**
 - Barry Minster- President, Norm Wells- Heritage, Bill Mertin, Don Hughes
5. **Proxies:**
 - Norm Wells to Frank Maloney
6. **Visitors:**

Ken Raymond (23rd Intake) dropped into the meeting after the lunch break and sat in on the meeting for a little while. Ken was down from Newcastle on business and took the opportunity to call and pick up an Appy flag along with some Membership Forms for the 23rd Intake's Reunion to be held at Nelson Bay NSW over the coming Queen's Birthday weekend. He also made both Gary's and Richard's day with quickest process of a membership registration.
7. Ratification of the appointment of the new Committee Members.

Motion: In accordance with Annex A 3 e. of the Constitution, That Greg Haggett and Don Hughes be appointed to fill the Ordinary Committee member vacancies and that Damien Tyrrell be appointed to fill the Welfare vacancy.

Proposed by: Frank Poole

Seconded by: Neil Bennett

Carried

8. President's Resignation

Due to work commitments and like many having taking on to many things that over committed his available time, Barry Minster submitted his resignation as President of the AAAA Inc. effective immediately.

Motion 1

That Barry Minster's resignation as the President of the AAAA Inc. be accepted.

Proposed by: Neil Bennett

Seconded by: Gary Byard

Carried

Motion 2:

That Harry Hoger be appointed President of the AAAA Inc. and that the position of Vice President of the Association remain vacant until next AGM.

Proposed by: Neil Bennett

Seconded by: Harry Cole

Carried

9. Confirmation of Minutes of previous committee meeting:

Moved: Gary Byard

Seconded: Jeff Heron

Carried

10. Business arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:

Nil business arising from the Minutes

11. Correspondence In/Out:

Various emails received and sent regarding new committee members

Emails regarding missing membership paperwork which has been sorted

Emails regarding Intake gatherings namely 22&23 Intakes

Emails regarding Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Unit Citation from Len Avery (161), RAEME Vietnam Vets, RAEME NSW, Brian Nichols (VM & current AAAA Chaplin)

Email from Brian Daly regarding the Queens Birthday weekend get together at the Bulimba Bowling Club which is a new venue for this event.

From Max Osborn 10th Intake Photo of attendees at Jock McWhinney's funeral

Emails re Public Liability Insurance for Appy Events (23rd Intake) Ken Raymond

From ACT Government Work Safety Licensing & Community Regulation re acceptance of our Constitution Amendments

102 Field Workshop RAEME Reunion Newsletter

President's Resignation email

12. Reports:

a. Treasurer's Report. [report]

Balance Sheet as of April 2015

Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash On Hand			
Cheque Account	\$15,048.67		
Total Cash On Hand		\$15,048.67	
Saving Funds			
Term Deposit 0353694976	\$10,000.00		
Term Deposit 0352506961	\$16,866.21		
Term Deposit 0350539410	\$6,038.61		
Total Saving Funds		\$32,904.82	
Trade Debtors		\$95.00	
Total Current Assets		\$48,048.49	
Total Assets			\$48,048.49
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade Creditors	\$171.89		
GST Paid	-\$228.10		
Total Liabilities		-\$56.21	
			-\$56.21
Net Assets			\$48,104.70
Equity			
Current Year Earnings		-\$3,760.40	
Historical Balancing		\$51,865.10	
Total Equity			\$48,104.70

Profit & Loss Statement February 2015 through to April 2015

Income	
Membership	\$5,120.00
Sales- Memorabilia	\$360.00
Postage Collected	\$72.00
Memorial	\$500.00
Donations	\$900.00
Reunion 2015	
Total Income	\$6952.00
Cost of Sales	
Gross Profit	\$6952.00
Expenses	
Merchant Fees	\$72.55
News Letter	\$92.59
Postage	\$348.35
Committee Expenses	
Travel	\$1,118.91
Bank Fees	\$7.75
Memorial Expenditure	\$743.74
Reunion Expenditure	
Accommodation	\$228.50
Venue	\$250.00
Total Expenses	\$2,892.39
Operating Profit	\$4,059.61
Other Income	
Other Expenses	
Net Profit / Loss	\$4059.61

Motion: That the Treasurers Reports as presented be accepted.

Moved by: Frank Poole

Seconded by: Harry Cole

Carried

a. President's Report.

Due to Barry's resignation there is no Presidents Report.

b. Vice President's Report.

Harry, firstly welcomed the new Committee Members Damien Tyrrell and Greg Haggett to their first meeting. He then presented a verbal report on his thoughts of where the Association is heading and doing in the future.

Emphasis being on how the General Public see us as an organisation, and what is our

relevance to our members now and in the future.

However the current priority is supporting Otto (as Events Manager) to a successful conclusion to the October Reunion in Albury.

Motion: That the Vice President's Report as presented be accepted.

Moved by: Richard Pike

Seconded by: Frank Maloney

Carried

c. Secretary's Report.

As per Correspondence

Motion: That the Report Be accepted.

Proposed by: Harry Cole

Seconded by: Ian Morris

Carried

d. Heritage Officer's Report –

HERITAGE REPORT TO AAAA COMMITTEE Sydney 26May 2015

Firstly may I offer my apologies for my inability to attend this meeting due to a previously arranged conflicting commitment.

Other than give congratulations to the hard working Jeff Heron for his research efforts across recent months regarding old Balcombe staff appointments I have little to report on current heritage matters.

WEBSITE

At this forum might I comment on the access difficulties experienced by committee members, association members and general ex App web scanners that I have received negative comments from. I do not believe our new more locked up members only (if you can get in) intake lists of graduates and deceased apprentices should be so. It is certainly attracting wide criticism from ex apps who have been frequent users over the years. When it is open it is a research tool for interested parties from across the world when it is locked up it is all an in house secret and fails to let outsiders see who and how many of us there were. Websites are education tools for those who are interested and should be generally open password free with the exception of confidential committee business minutes. AGM Minutes on web committee minutes restricted viewing password controlled. I believe the website should be repaired with urgency and name listings made password free.

MEMBERSHIP

It intrigues me that our meetings never get into discussions developing recruiting ideas across the nation (we are a national association) and seem to rest on our laurels hoping for a re boot of membership brought on by the next bi annual national event. I believe our numbers are crashing. There is no reports of regional recruiting effort. Regional reps should be encouraged and expected to conduct small get togethers. If regional reps have nothing to report well the question is WHY? It is the only way our association will continue. Regional representatives' should be encouraged by our executive members to be active rather than dormant. It takes little effort to organise a BYO picnic BBQ to catch up with each other and widen their group. These activities need to be pushed by national management to motivate an expectation into regional reps.

MEETING AGENDAS

I notice the extensive agenda planned for today's meet much more than previous meeting that finish in fury uncompleted last time our secretary complaining that 3 hrs is too long. All that may be so – Then to achieve a reasonable objective and an appropriate managed discussion the chair needs to curtail chat or announce an appropriate duration for the meeting so discussion can be completed. Or reduce the agenda.

Finally may I complement Otto our new Event Manager on the great and detailed planning he has put in for the coming Event. Unfortunately Otto I will not be there to enjoy your efforts as I will be travelling in Europe for seven weeks from 3 Oct. A river trip followed by a visit to son and family on Aust Army posting in UK.

NormWells
Heritage Officer AAAA

Motion: That the Heritage Report as presented be accepted.

Moved by: Frank Poole

Seconded by: Richard Pike

Carried

Norm's comment were acknowledge by the Committee.

e. Welfare Officer's Report.

I recently joined the committee as the Welfare Officer, and I would like to thank and acknowledge the commitment by the outgoing officer, Frank Poole, who stepped up to fill the gap over the last few months on top of his other committee duties.

As way of introduction, I attended Bonegilla in 1985-1987 as a 40th class Electronic Technician and spent time in RASigs and AAAn, concluding my Army career in 1997. I moved into corporate life, and began a business and general management career with technology companies Boeing, World Space, Ericsson, Motorola, NEC and ABB. I look forward to supporting our members and the wider apprentice community.

So far I have focused on becoming familiar with the responsibilities of the role, and working to understand what resources are available so we can provide a high level of service to our community.

RESPONSIBILITIES

(1) advise members on their welfare and other Commonwealth and State Government entitlements. NOTE: it is not the intention to duplicate the services offered by other service associations, but to supplement them by advising members of the best association to assist or to provide primary advice when members are not members of other associations; and

(2) liaise with similar service bodies (eg Returned and Services League, Vietnam Veterans Federation, Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Association) on welfare matters; and

(3) organise Welfare Officer training for both him/her self and for Regional Representatives when required; and

(4) on the advice of the death of a member, ensure that information is correct, ensure that the NOK is being cared for and send condolences, and advise the Webmaster of updates required on the Website – Regional Representatives have a role to play here; and

(5) on advice of a member in hospital, sick or otherwise indisposed, arrange a visit from a member to ensure his/her welfare. Again Regional Representatives may be used; and

(6) act as a member of the Memorial Sub- committee.

WELFARE ENTITLEMENTS

Advocacy and welfare support is provided through a strong partnership arrangement between the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) and the Ex- Service Organisations (ESOs). The relationship has evolved over many decades to the current position.

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) developed the Training and Information Program (TIP) to provide training and information for welfare and pensions officers who are volunteers working within ex-service organisations

(ESOs). TIP training is delivered to enable them to provide the best possible advice to veterans and former serving members of the defence forces seeking their services.

Any volunteer or paid practitioner who provides pension, advocacy and welfare services to members of the veteran and defence communities and their families must have insurance.

While not the exclusive source of this protection, the Veterans' Indemnity and Training Association (VITA) is an example of the protection available. VITA fees for volunteers are covered by the ESO that endorses you.

ESO Membership

Membership is open to all ESOs and Veteran Support Centres. Where a national organisation joins, all of the state organisations and local sub-branches receive coverage. VITA charges a membership fee of \$200. In the past, DVA has assisted with a 50% contribution to the cost of the Professional Indemnity

Insurance and full cost of the Accident Insurance.

VITA accepts applications for membership under the following guidelines:

- Payment of an annual membership fee as set by the AGM of VITA;
- Be a bona fide ESO providing free advice and/or advocacy service to members of its client base;

- Follow the rules and guidelines of the VITA constitution, and;
- Meet the accreditation requirements for their pension/welfare practitioners.

I have contacted VITA for full details of the ESO membership and operational protocols.

NOTE: Until AAAA is registered correctly, TIP training undertaken by nominated committee members and representatives, and appropriate insurance is in place, we should not be providing any advice to members or the apprentice community.

While we may still refer them to other ESOs or the DVA website, members may be required to be a member of that ESO to receive advice.

EX-- - SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

I have started collating list of service bodies and associations that have similar objectives to AAAA, and making contact with them:

Organisation Contact

Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Federation Australia

Australian Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Veterans' Association

Australian Special Air Service Association (ASASA)

Defence Families Australia

Defence Force Welfare Association (DFWA)

Legacy Australia Council

Department of Veteran Affairs Sent/replied

Partners of Veterans Association (PVA)

Soldier On Limited

Returned & Services League of Australia (RSL) Sent

Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (VVAA)

Vietnam Veterans' Federation of Australia (VVFA)

War Widows' Guild of Australia

Australian Veterans and Defence Services Council Incorporated

RAEME Association Yes

RASigs Association Sent

RAE Foundation Sent

AABC Association Sent

The AAAA is a paid-up Group Member of the Defence Force Welfare Association (DFWA).

TRAINING

Key to the provision of advocacy and welfare support is the existence of four support programs, namely the:

1. Training Information Program (TIP)
2. Building Excellence in Support and Training (BEST) Grants Program
3. Veteran and Community Grants (V&CG) Program
4. ESO Insurance Program – Veterans’ Indemnity and Training Association. Training

TIP Level One: Basic training in Welfare and Compensation aimed at new practitioners authorised by their Ex-Service Organisation.

TIP Level Two: Advanced training aimed at senior practitioners with an On Job Training (OJT) and Mentoring responsibility within their ESO.

This is delivered online, and in a 2-3 day classroom environment.

A training program will be developed, pending further TIP and VITA information.

MEMORIAL

- Nothing to report at this time.

Kind Regards,

Damien Tyrrell

Welfare Officer

WELFARE REPORT - May 2015

This is an update to the April 2015 report with updates highlighted with sidebars in the left margin.

Main points:

- A. VITA application has been requested, awaiting receipt; and
- B. TIP course nominations need to be voted on at a general meeting;

RESPONSIBILITIES

- (1) advise members on their welfare and other Commonwealth and State Government entitlements. NOTE: it is not the intention to duplicate the services offered by other service associations, but to supplement them by advising members of the best association to assist or to provide primary advice when members are not members of other associations; and
- (2) liaise with similar service bodies (eg Returned and Services League, Vietnam Veterans Federation, Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Association) on welfare matters; and
- (3) organise Welfare Officer training for both him/herself and for Regional Representatives when required; and
- (4) on the advice of the death of a member, ensure that information is correct, ensure that the NOK is being cared for and send condolences, and advise the Webmaster of updates required on the Website – Regional Representatives have a role to play here; and
- (5) on advice of a member in hospital, sick or otherwise indisposed, arrange a visit from a member to ensure his/her welfare. Again Regional Representatives may be used; and
- (6) act as a member of the Memorial Sub-committee.

WELFARE ENTITLEMENTS

Advocacy and welfare support is provided through a strong partnership arrangement between the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) and the Ex-Service Organisations (ESOs). The relationship has evolved over many decades to the current position.

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) developed the Training and Information Program (TIP) to provide training and information for welfare and pensions officers who are volunteers working within ex-service organisations (ESOs). TIP training is delivered to enable them to provide the best possible advice to veterans and former serving members of the defence forces seeking their services.

Any volunteer or paid practitioner who provides pension, advocacy and welfare services to members of the veteran and defence communities and their families must have insurance.

While not the exclusive source of this protection, the Veterans' Indemnity and Training Association (VITA) is an example of the protection available. VITA fees for volunteers are covered by the ESO that endorses you.

ESO Membership

Membership is open to all ESOs and Veteran Support Centres. Where a national organisation joins, all of the state organisations and local sub-branches receive coverage. VITA charges a membership fee of \$200. In the past, DVA has assisted with a 50% contribution to the cost of the Professional Indemnity Insurance and full cost of the Accident Insurance.

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- Follow the rules and guidelines of the VITA constitution, and;
- Meet the accreditation requirements for their pension/welfare practitioners.

| It took some effort to reach the VITA representative, through multiple emails and calls, and

we are now awaiting the application documentation, which is being sent via standard mail. There are 43 current member organisations of VITA. AAAA is not an existing or former member.

NOTE: Until AAAA is registered correctly, TIP training undertaken by nominated committee members and representatives, and appropriate insurance is in place, we should not be providing any advice to members or the apprentice community.

EX-SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

I have started collating list of service bodies and associations that have similar objectives to AAAA, and making contact with them:

Organisation	Contact
Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Federation Australia	
Australian Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Veterans' Association	
Australian Special Air Service Association (ASASA)	
Defence Families Australia	Sent
Defence Force Welfare Association (DFWA)	Sent
Legacy Australia Council	Sent
Department of Veteran Affairs	Sent/replied
Partners of Veterans Association (PVA)	Sent
Soldier On Limited	
Returned & Services League of Australia (RSL)	Sent
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (VVAA)	Sent
Vietnam Veterans' Federation of Australia (VVFA)	Sent
War Widows' Guild of Australia	
Australian Veterans and Defence Services Council Incorporated	
RAEME Association	PoC confirmed
RASigs Association	Sent
RAE Foundation	Sent
AABC Association	Sent

The AAAA is a paid-up Group Member of the Defence Force Welfare Association ([DFWA](#)).

TRAINING

TIP Level One: Basic training in Welfare and Compensation aimed at new practitioners authorised by their Ex-Service Organisation.

TIP Level Two: Advanced training aimed at senior practitioners with an On Job Training (OJT) and mentoring responsibility within their ESO.

Fees and costs

All TIP courses are free of charge. Travel, accommodation and incidentals are covered by the ESO.

Recommended Training

It is recommended that those Representatives, who wish to participate, qualify for Level 1 and the Welfare Officer complete VPAD and Level 2 as well, to provide additional guidance.

Identifier	Course Type	Comments and prerequisites
Welfare Level 1 courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Phased course For experienced or new practitioners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase one - Complete online training Phase Two - Complete classroom sessions consolidating items not

		conducive to online training
Veteran Practitioner Access Database [VPAD] course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Day course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 1 – 2 day course • Enhancement training • VEA Pension [Level 1], MRCA Military Compensation [Level 1], Welfare [Level 1] and System administrators as a minimum
Welfare Level 2 courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Phased course • For experienced or new practitioners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase one - Complete online training • Phase Two - Complete classroom sessions consolidating items not conducive to online training • Level 2 – 3 day course (VPAD User course an advantage)

Nomination procedure

The nomination procedure to attend TIP [Victoria] courses or training includes:

- All nominations must be submitted on the 'Nomination Form'
- All the details on the nomination form must be completed
- The sponsor ESO name and contact must be included
- The Nomination Form must be endorsed by an ESO Office Bearer and gives the nominee 'authorised Attendee' status. 'Authorized Practitioner' status is provided when ESO issues written authority.
- Nominations must be authorised at an ESO general meeting.
- Nominations are to be sent to the TIP [Victoria] administration located at the Gippsland Veterans Welfare Centre, Sale. At the listed address:-

Ms Angela Ravan	Course Registrar: TIP [Victoria]
PO Box 902, Sale, Victoria. 3850	Office: 03 51431633
Fax: 03 51431889	E-Mail: vetcensale@netspace.net.au

Recommended Program for Welfare Officer

Dates	Course	Location	Comments
June 2015	Welfare 1 & 2	online	Complete asap
28-30 Jul	Welfare 1	Hume Vet Centre	
26 Aug	VPAD	DVA Melbourne	No pre-requisites
22-23 Sep	Welfare 2	DVA Melbourne	complete Welfare Level 1

References

- [DVA Training and information program - TIP](#)
- [TIP organisation national webpage](#)
- Attachment A - list of TIP courses
- Attachment B - training program for Victoria

VALE NOTIFICATIONS

VALE NOTIFICATIONS

- We have had many of our colleagues pass recently, too many.

243111 Kenneth Brian HUSSELL 17 April 2015 13th Class Musician, AABC
242834 Blair Anthony (Chesty) Bond 31 March 2015 9th Class Vehicle Mechanic, RAEME
58582 John Mark RING 28 March 2015 8th Class Telecom Mechanic, RAEME
24257 Sidney Harold CHEESMAN 25 March 2015 4th Class Vehicle Mechanic, RAEME
34269 Arthur John (Jock) MCWHINNEY 16 March 2015 10th Class Blacksmith, RAE
55592 Anthony Raymond (Danny) KAY 13 March 2015 23rd Class Carpenter & Joiner, RAE
342696 Kevin John DIROU 25 February 2015 10th Class Electrician, RAEME
18749 Ronald John (Scrubby) DYNE 20 February 2015 17th Class Vehicle Mechanic, RAEME
182448 Wayne John VICARY 18 February 2015 38th Class Motor Mechanic, RAEME
342914 Roger Anthony PERFREMENT 27 December 2014 17th Class Carpenter & Joiner, RAE
233135 John Miller (Johnny) LAYTON 11 December 2014 40th Class Electronics Tradesman,
RAEME
242843 Dennis James DAWES 06 April 2014 9th Class Carpenter & Joiner, RAEME
1204077 Michael Mervyn BRIESE 11 March 2013 27th Class Vehicle Mechanic, RAEME
64285 David "Duke" John ANDERSON 14 May 2015 8th Intake Fitter and Turner, RAEME
58643 Robert George ANDERSON 26 April 2015 11th Intake Fitter and Turner, RAEME
242891 Roy Allan TYRRELL 08 October 2006 8th Intake Musician, AABC

- For those that have not seen it, I have attached an example of the AAAA bereavement card that is sent to next of kin.

SICK PARADE

15 April 2015

Peter Snowden 9th Class Fitter & Turner, RAEME

Peter Snowdon was admitted to the Mater Private (QLD) on Monday for intravenous injections of antibiotics to try and clear up an infection he has. Will be in for about 10 days.

16 February 2015

Mal Campbell 22nd Class Electrical Fitter, RAEME ASM C Company 1969

Mal has been diagnosed with terminal Leukaemia with only months left.

MEMORIAL

- Nothing to report at this time.

Kind Regards,

Damien Tyrrell
Welfare Officer

Motion: That the Welfare Report as presented be accepted.

Proposed by: Harry Cole

Second by: Gary Byard

Carried

Following the extensive research that Damien has carried out regarding gaining accreditation as a Welfare Officer, the time and expense involved to obtain these accreditations would be a prohibitive cost to the Association and the general consensus of the Committee is that we should to act as a conduit to the Welfare Service that currently provided by other Service Organisations for those Members requiring assistance with welfare matters.

f. Membership Secretary’s Report.

Membership Report MAY 2015

The current membership state is:

440 financial/Life members, consisting of:

Membership Type

Ordinary	216
Retired	218
Associate	4
Life	2
	440

Overdue

Mar-12	8
Sep-12	18

Mar-13	22
Sep-13	22
Mar-14	61
Sep-04	20
Mar-05	69
Total	220

With the March 2015 renewals being sent late in March the numbers are improving with a several still in the internal pipeline, as the senders have elected to send them to me via the email system (that's what Appies do don't they... take short cuts when possible).

What is dammed frustrating is of the 179 hard copy renewals posted (snail mail) in February, covering the "late payers from March 2012 to Sep 2104 less than 17 have responded.

We do have nineteen new members accepted during the reporting period, (Jan – May 2015) which is always heartening. I am now including the basic details of the new members in my reports and recommend this format be included in the Apprentice About.

A break down of outstanding renewals, by state will be presented to the meeting for distribution to the State Reps for follow up action.

Regt No	Surname	Christian Names	Prefered Name	Intake	Posted Corps	Trade
322431	Mathewson	Andrew John	Andrew	35	RAEME	Fitter & Turner
1201069	Churches	Neil	Neil	22	RASIGS	Radio Mechanic
63351	Squibb	Peter Robert	Peter	34	RAE	Carpenter and Joiner
18951	Blake	Victor Noel	Vic	21	RAEME	Vehicle Mechanic
48706	Elsley	Kevin Maxwell	Kevin	21	RAEME	Radar Mechanic
179523	Weigh	Michael	Mick	33	RAEME	Vehicle Mechanic
326609	Tyrell	Damien Wayne	Damien	40	RASIGS	Electronics Technician
18743	Corcoran	Terrence Lloyd	Terry	17	RAEME	Vehicle Mechanic
454027	Rustan	Andrew David	Andy	40	RAEME	Vehicle Mechanic
18666	Tunbridge	Kerry Charles	Kerry	14	RAEME	Vehicle Mechanic
317834	Sanders	Clarence William	Clarrie	30	RAEME	Fitter & Turner
3175586	Unmack	Graeme Arthur	Graeme	35	RAEME	Vehicle Mechanic
314470	Whitehead	Paul Neville	Paul	26	RAEME	Fitter & Turner
64377	Porteus	Ivan	Ivan	20		Vehicle Mechanic
326572	Haggett	Gregory James	Gregory	40	RAE	Plumber
184964	Dagan	Jeffrey Allen	Jeff	43	RAEME	Fitter & Turner
222766	Denny	Ricky Ernest	Rick	28	RASIGS	Electronics Technician
18996	Barnett	John	John	21	RAEME	Vehicle Mechanic
317834	Sanders	Clarence William	Clarrie	30	RAEME	Fitter & Turner

A warm welcome to these new members.

Gary Byard (21st VM)

Membership Secretary

Motion: That the Membership Report as presented be accepted.

Proposed by: Frank Poole

Seconded by: Harry Cole

Carried

g. Events Manager's Report.

Events Manager's Report for May 2015

October 2015 Reunion

Budget Costings. The Reunion budget costings were provided to the treasurer for comment and were peer-reviewed by Frank Poole prior to finalizing the charges for the Reunion. A summary of the budget costings is provided in the following chart.

Item	Item Costing	Attendee Numbers				
		200	250	300	350	400
Registration Charges						
Miscellaneous Costs		31.33	30.44	29.84	29.42	29.10
Meet & Greet Function		33.47	31.87	30.80	30.04	29.47
AGM		1.51	1.21	1.01	0.86	0.76
Street March		13.82	11.05	9.21	5.71	6.91
Latchford Visits		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Church Service		5.81	5.13	4.68	4.36	4.11
BBQ Lunch		23.29	22.63	22.18	21.87	21.63
Sub Total Registration		109.23	102.33	97.73	92.26	91.97
Dinner Charges						
Dinner		52.40	51.83	51.45	51.17	50.97
Sub Total Reunion Costs		161.63	154.16	149.17	143.43	142.94
Final Reunion Costs		161.63	154.16	149.17	143.43	142.94

The budgeting process allowed a contingency of 10% and a profit margin of 10% for all activities. The budgeting process showed that based on the known costs and a Reunion charge of \$145 per person, the Reunion should return about \$2,260 for 200 attendees ranging to \$10,700 for 400 attendees.

Registrations. Registrations for the October 2015 Reunion opened on 6 May 2015, using an on-line registration system. Both the Treasurer and Moderator have been given access to the database,

the treasurer as he will enter receipt numbers for payments received and the Moderator as he has offered to co-ordinate registrations as he has done in previous years. Major advantages of the on-line system being used is that reunion delegates are responsible for entering their own data thereby saving time and effort in someone transcribing the data from a paper form into the database, and that managers in different locations can view (and edit with appropriate authorizations) the registrations received. For security purposes, it is not intended to provide others access to the database. The database can, and will be used, to provide attendee reports for the various functions during the weekend.

As at 25 May 2015, 72 registrations have been received, with 10 being for the dinner only. 16 are attending unaccompanied. Current receipts total \$10,313.

May Reconnaissance. On 14 May 2015, a visit was made to Albury to begin development of the Memorial Service and to view the proposed Sunday BBQ location.

Memorial Service. Rev Alan Kelb has agreed to officiate at the Memorial Service which is intended to be conducted at the Apprentice Memorial at South Bandiana. Jim Hislop and Dave Miller also attended the meeting with Alan. The theme for the Service was decided as 'Service to the Nation' covering both military and post-military service. It was thought appropriate to mention by name those apprentices who have passed away since the last Reunion in 2013. I am now seeking nominations for people to undertake the following:

- a. Someone to say the Ode,
- b. Someone to lay the wreath, and
- c. Someone for the reading.

Sunday BBQ Lunch. Redback Mobile BBQs have been contracted to provide the Sunday lunch meal, with the Museum Foundation providing the bar service. During my visit to South Bandiana I found the sheds in the compound to the south of the Museum (where we had the 2008 Reunion) to be full of vehicles, most of which looked as though they were not mobile. Museum staff advised it took about a week to move them in preparation for the 2008 Reunion and the same time afterwards to return them. Understandably they appeared reluctant to do the same again this year. I considered erecting 20x40 tents in front of the sheds, but as they could not be tied-down easily on the hard-stand, I discarded this idea. In examining the grassed area to the north of the Museum I concluded this was a suitable area for the Sunday lunch. The area is bounded on three sides by either fences or buildings, thereby preventing anyone from straying away from the area. It is open to the road. 20x40 tents can easily be erected and secured in this area. The only risk is softness underfoot if there is heavy rain in the days leading up to the Sunday. I am therefore in the process of seeking approval to use this area for the Sunday lunch.

Otto Aberle

Otto Aberle
Events Manager
AAAA

25 May 2015

Motion: That the Events Managers Report be accepted.

Proposed by: Richard Pike

Seconded by: Gary Byard

Carried

h. Public Officer's Report.

Confirmation that the amendments to the Constitution/rules of the AAAA Inc. have accepted and registered by the Office of Regulatory Services and that the amended Constitution apply to the governance of the Association.

Ray Wilson

Public Officer

Motion: That the Public Officer's as presented be accepted.

Proposed by: Neil Bennett

Seconded by: Harry Hoger

Carried

i. Webmaster Report

Webmaster's Report

The New Website

After much effort by a small group on the Committee (Ian Morris and Jeff Heron) the new Association Website went live at about 1100 hrs on 10 Mar 2015.

When we were designing the site we decided to keep those parts of the website that were of particular interest to apprentices, as "Members Only" (ie "Intake Lists", "Vale", "Newsletters", "Membership List" and Minutes of Meetings"). We also decided to eventually restrict access to the "Members Only" area to members of the Association. However, in view of the problems associated with setting up the new "Members only" area, the committee needs to consider this matter carefully.

For Consideration:

- a. Should we have a "Members Only" area on the website?
- b. If so, what content should it contain?
- c. Do we restrict access to only members of the Association?

Like all major software releases there are bound to be teething problems. We had a very vexatious problem with the "Login/Registration" function. Many users found it impossible to access the "Members Only" area because of this issue. On the old website we had a "pretend" login for the Members Only Area where everyone had the same username and password of "member" and "aasappy" (not a very secure approach). One of the improvements in the new website design was to have a more secure Login/Registration system. The old "member/aasappy" logins were cancelled for everyone and everyone has to register using a new "Username" and Password" of their own choice. Unfortunately this was not made plain on the login form and apologies to everyone who had difficulties because of this.

Also related to the "Registration" function, the website was flooded with hundreds of fake

registrations. These fake registrations are caused by rogue software programs called "Robots" or "Bots" that search the internet for any site where they can create a fake registration. Not only does this distort our membership figures but they can also have a darker purpose. The fake registrations have to be deleted as quickly as possible which is a very onerous task. There are usually fairly simple ways to prevent fake registrations in the first place, however the way our website is built we could not apply any of these simple fixes. In the long run we will be able to. However in the meantime the only way to deal with the fake registrations was to disable the registration process completely. This was done. However, there were still some instances of users not being able access the "Members Only" area. That has now been rectified and, for the time being, anyone can freely access any part of the website without logging in or registering.

Nagging problems still remain in regard to "Page Unavailable" errors which may occur randomly from time to time. I am working on a solution but so far have had limited success.

Association Records

For many years Wally Rotow brought our records up to date, managed queries and maintained the "Fast Facts" list. Wally was retired some months ago and was unable to continue in this role. He did suggest a replacement but that arrangement has not worked. Currently the "Fast Facts" list is not being updated and we have no one to answer queries.

Ian Morris

Webmaster

18/5/15

Motion: That the Webmaster's Report as presented be accepted.

Proposed by: Richard Pike

Seconded by: Harry Hoger

Carried

As the Website is still suffering from some gremlins, President Harry has been doing some homework and made contact with a local IT problem solving firm and presented them with our problem and they were positive that they could sort it out.

The Committee gave Ian (Webmaster) the authority to contact the firm and have them diagnose the problem (fee \$200) and obtain a quote for the repair of the fault and to contact the Committee Members for approval of any further expenditure that may be required to rectify the problems.

Action. Ian Morris

Motion; That we retain the option of Username/Password for financial members only for access to Members only area of the Website.

Move by: Harry Hoger

Seconded by: Gary Byard.

Carried

As Wally Rotow has been compulsory retired from his position at CARO means that the updating of our Records that he has carried out over the past years is now in abeyance as his suggested replacement has not worked out and enquires are being made to find a willing replacement.

j. Forum Moderator's Report.

AAAA WEBSITE FORUM MODERATOR'S REPORT
FOR Committee MEETING 26th May 2015

This report notes that the Website Forum has had some but not a lot of action since the February 2015 report. Penske Power Systems (ex-MTUDDA) job advertisements continue to be one of the main areas of activity.

The Forum continues to receive numerous hits every week, and we continue to provide a reunion service to numerous people and groups.

With the renewal of the AAAA Website, it was decided in the short term to retain the Forum as it stood with a link from the main Website. This works ok but, without any way of identifying "hits", I can't report any increased or reduced Forum activity.

Jeff Heron
AAAA Website Moderator
21st Radio Mechanic

Jeff indicated that the site is being used but commented that the younger generations of Appys are using Facebook as a means of communicating with their fellow Intake members as there are currently a number of Intake sites in operation and that we should consider linking into these sites as means of increasing our communication network.

It was suggested that we should contact Past President Barry with a proposal that, time permitting, he may be able to assist us in this endeavour acting as Moderator.

Motion: That the Moderators as presented be accepted

Moved by: Harry Cole.

Seconded by: Frank Poole

Carried

k. Memorial Sub-committee's Report.

**CHAIRMAN MEMORIAL SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT FOR
COMMITTEE MEETING 26 MAY 2015**

1. Having been away for much of this reporting period, there is not a great deal to report.
2. Since the last paver report, pavers have been ordered by Greg for the following:

| WALLY TIEKLE |

KEN POCOCK
SGT DR GRAY
BERN SULLIVAN
ED SULLIVAN
BRIAN & BEV GLYDE
BADEN JEFFREY
ALAN WALKER
ROGER PARSONS
R PIKE
BILL LEACH
DAVID MILLER
KEVIN SHIRLEY

Most have now been laid by Jim but Greg is waiting for photos of some of these pavers to send to the people who ordered the pavers.

An order for a Remembrance Plaque has just been received.

We are waiting for delivery of the RAEME acknowledgement plaque for the gates, which is expected in Bandiana any time now.

Access to the Memorial is still very difficult due to increased security at Gaza Barracks.

Frank

Frank Poole
Chair, Memorial Sub-committee

Frank indicated that he would be going to SME at its new Home on VIETNAM DAY for the rededication on the memorial for those who paid the supreme sacrifice during the Viet Nam conflict and sought permission to lay a wreath in memory of those Apprentices that lost their lives in the service of our Country.

Permission was granted for purchase of a wreath to the value of \$150 for this occasion.

Frank has now received the photographs of the installed plaques for both Jack Westernhagen and Fred Millar that will be forward to the next of kin.

Frank Maloney posed the question of whether there was a memorial plaque on the Memorial Wall for Don Dalton who was the Past Patron of the Association prior to Fred.

Motion: That the Memorial-Chair report as presented be accepted.

Proposed by: Damien Tyrrell

Seconded by: Greg Haggett

Carried

1. Merchandising Report

Sales since February totalled \$360. Richard informed the meeting that there are caps in stock and that he was intending to order more for the reunion. He also displayed a polo shirt with the badge on the breast with the intention of ordering a quantity for sale at the reunion.

There will be no date or extra writing on these shirts as any that are left over from the

Reunion will be able to be disposed of through the Merchandising system or at later events.

Richard reported that Gary Byard was receiving complaints that the current badges (external adhesion type) were peeling off and that he has located an earlier style badge (internal adhesion type) that will be used as a template for the Association badge to replace the current stock that Gary is holding.

A supply of memorabilia items will be available at the Reunion and Richard requested Committee Members to give some thought to what may be used as raffle prizes during the week ends activities.

Motion: That Merchandising Report as presented be accepted.

Moved by: Gary Byard

Seconded by: Harry Cole

Carried

m. Regional Representative Reports

CANBERRA REGION REPORT FOR COMMITTEE MEETING 26
MAY 2015

1. No hospital visits, funerals or welfare referrals have been necessary this reporting period.
2. Regional Lunch
 - a. A regional lunch was held as a change on a Monday at the Kippax Curry House, suggested by Bruce Glossop but where some required a compass to find the place. With 19 in attendance and down a bit (we won't repeat Monday), we were well looked after by the owner and served a three course banquet with an abundance of various Indian dishes, all well received, and the surplus was taken home in 'doggy bags'.
 - b. Otto briefed the gathered hungry mob on the latest for the Reunion and the usual raffle raised \$60.00 for the Memorial fund.
3. The next luncheon is planned for early July and subject to a suitable venue I hope to have a guest speaker as well as the usual Association briefing.

Frank

Frank Poole
Canberra Region Representative

13. General business:

- a. Albury City Council

President Harry asked the question, how do we show our appreciation to the Albury City Council.

Otto suggested that following the street march and speeches by the Reviewing Officer and the Council Representative that a Certificate of Appreciation be presented to the Council.

Discussions are currently being held with Council Representatives in reference to them sponsoring the street march in covering the Traffic control costs as these duties are subcontracted out to a private organisation.

Action by: Harry Hoger & Otto Aberle

b. Events Registration and Membership Application

Due to the current Website problems Ian in his capacity as a Webmaster has not proceeded with this application however he will investigate the subject further when the Website starts to behave itself.

Action by: Ian Morris

c. 22nd Intake Get together for Mal Campbell

Richard Pike reported that 25 of Mal's Class mates gathered for pleasant cruise and luncheon and many tall stories of times past and giving Mal their support during this difficult time.

Richard informed the meeting that Mal had quite a hand in the production Sid Cheesman's book Boys to Soldiers and that this still about 100 copies available from the Museum at Bandiana at a cost of \$20.00. All proceeds from sale of these books will remain with Museum for the upkeep of the Apprentices Display.

At the end of the day Mal went around his class mates bidding farewell before whispering in Richard's ear "Look after the boys."

d. Gallipoli at Balcombe

The Secretary reported on the Anzac Day Centenary service carried by the Balcombe Grammar School on Thursday 23rd of April 2015 which was attended by a number of Apprentices who had received an invitation from the school to attend this function.

Some of the attendees were Jim Riley (13th), Ron Jarvis (14th) and Peter Muir (25th).

The celebrations kicked off the night before when a group of year 9 students wanted to hold their own Dawn Service so with the help of school staff they set up camp on the school's sports oval for their overnight exercise rising at dawn for their Dawn Service.

This was followed in the school hall with the Anzac Memorial Service attended by all the School's students, staff, parents and guests with the Anzac Address given by Commodore Jim Dickson RAN Rtd.

Towards the end of the service they called on all Apprentices in attendance to stand so that they could be recognised followed by a call for all other Returned Service Persons to stand so that they may also be recognised.

At the completion of the service, parents and guests were treated to morning tea, compliments of the students.

e. Apprentice Wall of Honour

During discussions with Mathew Dodd the Principal of BGS, he indicated that the school was contemplating erecting a Wall of Honour to include the names of all Apprentices who attended Balcombe. This activity would be a practical project for the students in their technology classes in the school's well equipped classroom.

There was no request assistance from the AAAA other than a list of names. The walls construction will be similar to that of the Story Boards erected on the old Parade Ground and will located in the School's Memorial Garden when completed.

At this stage Harry Hoger raised the question of how do we as a group show our appreciation to Balcombe Grammar School for their assistance in the Back to Balcombe Event and their current endeavours in keeping the memory of the Apprentice School at Balcombe alive. One proposal was that BGS be a candidate for the first Patron's Award to be presented at a later date.

Action by: Harry Hoger

f. Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm Unit Citation

The following Apprentices who served with 161 Reece Flight as part of the 1RAR Group attached to the 173rd Airborne Brigade (Separate) are entitled to the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

Barry Bean 13th, Neil Bennett 13th, Peter Booth 10th, Derek Budd 14th,

Donald Cockerell 12th, Ian MacDonald 11th, John Nicholls 14th, David O'Brien 14th,

Owen Reynolds 13th, Robert White 14th, Rex Willis 16th

This award has come about following a lot leg work by 1RAR in doing a presentation to the appropriate people in Canberra.

g. Upcoming Intake events

The 22nd Intake event has been recorded earlier in the Minutes.

The 23rd Intake is holding their Reunion at Nelson Bay NSW over the Queen's Birthday weekend the 6th/7th/8th June 2015. Contact is Ken Raymond. Further information is listed on the Website.

The 10th Intake are holding their Reunion at Albury on the 21st/22nd/23rd October 2015 prior to AAAA Reunion. Contact Frank Poole. Further details are on the Website.

h. The Year Ahead

1. Review of our Objectives, Services and Activities.
2. An old fashioned SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) Analysis
3. Goals for the Year Ahead

4. An Action Plan

Due to time restraints discussion on this subject has been deferred until next year and for the incoming Committee to consider.

i. Post Reunion Survey

Otto has indicated that he intends to carry out a post reunion survey to gauge the interest amongst the Members on themes and duration between major reunions with regards to ageing population within the group.

Action by: Otto Aberle

14. Confirmation of next meeting date and venue

Motion: That the next meeting prior to the Reunion and AGM will be at the Event Manager's call and will involve a subcommittee including the President, Treasure, Events Manager and Moderator and to be held in Sydney.

Moved by: Frank Maloney

Seconded by: Gary Byard

Carried

15. Meeting closed at 1430hrs