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## **MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION HELD AT ALBURY ON SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2015**

1. The President, Harry Hoger, opened the meeting at 0930 hrs.
2. The Ode was recited by Harry Cole.
3. Attendees:  
Harry Hoger - President  
Jim Hislop – Trustee, Richard Pike – Treasurer, Damien Tyrrell – Welfare Officer, Ian Morris - Webmaster, Otto Aberle – Events Manager, Gary Byard – Membership Secretary, Jeff Heron - Forum Moderator, Ray Wilson - Public Officer, Harry Cole, Greg Hagggett, Roger Andrews, George Bambling, Greg Bayliss, Chris Berry, Doug Bestwick, Malcolm Botfield, Darren Campi, Edward Carpenter, John Carpenter, Ron Cook, Joanne Cornelius, Morgan Cornelius, Brian Daley, Terry Dillon, Mal Edmiston, Reg Elder, Graeme Field, Ken Fox, John Franklin, Russell Glasson, Selwyn Graham, Steven Green, Terry Gross, Peter Hayes, Thomas Johnson, Rev. Alan Kelb, Michael Kronk, Steve Laycock, Ian Laurie, Stewart Lawrence, Graeme Lawrie, Max Lockwood, Bob Ludlow, Craig Malcolm, Arthur McConnell, Lucas McGann, Alan Meiklejohn, Barry Minster, Michael Moran, Jack Morrison, Charles Myhill, Kevin Noon, Rodney Norman, Ken Ord, Scrooge Osbourne, Frank Owen, Gary Parker, Robert Player, Neil Richards, Jim Riley, Bob (Buck) Rogers, Ian Rose, Andrew Rostan, Wally Rotow, Gary Sargent, Peter Thompson, Rex Veal, Roy Vincent, David Walsh, Greg Watts, Allen Weight, Richard Willigen, Sid Young  
Neil Bennett - Secretary
4. Apologies:  
Brigadier Andrew Mathewson, Rev Bryan Nicholls, Norm Wells, Bill Mertin, Owen Reynolds, Anthony Mann, Frank Poole, John Cotton, Frank Maloney, David Brandie, John Ross, Peter Lambert, Ross Blaney, Denis Pegg, Laurie Dawson, Bill Clover
5. Proxies:  
Bill Mertin to Harry Hoger  
Owen Reynolds to Harry Hoger  
Anthony Mann to Harry Hoger  
Norm Wells to Frank Maloney to Neil Bennett
6. Confirmation of Minutes of previous meeting:  
*Moved that the Minutes of the 2014 AGM as presented be accepted: Jeff Heron*  
*Seconded: Barry Minster*  
*Carried*
7. Business arising from the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting. There was no Business arising.

8. Correspondence In/Out:

- a. Notice of Meeting for the 2015 Annual General Meeting and Agenda.
- b. Correspondence in consisted of apologies from Brigadier Andrew Mathewson, Norm Wells, Bill Mertin, Owen Reynolds, Anthony Mann, Frank Poole, Frank Maloney, David Brandie, John Ross.
- c. Resignations from Norm Wells as Heritage Officer, Rev. Bryan Nicholls, as a Chaplain for Victoria and Don Hughes as a Committee Member.
- d. Renewal of the Public Liability Insurance Policy which was due 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015 which our honourable Treasurer has taken care of.
- e. From John Noonan (4<sup>th</sup> Intake) in reference to the passing of Harold (Toby) Frunks (2<sup>nd</sup> Intake) through correspondence with Harold's daughter Deborah Felton.
- f. Copy of the Alliance of Defence Service Organisations submission to the Senate Inquiry into Mental Health.
- g. From the Defence Force Welfare Association Decision in reference to ADF Pay through the WORKPLACE REMUNERATION ARRANGEMEN2014-2017 VARIATION.
- h. To and from Balcombe Grammar School in reference to the creation by the students of the School creating story boards containing the names of all Apprentices that attended the Balcombe site. The boards are to be erected in the Schools Memorial Garden when completed

9. Reports:

- a. Treasurer's Report.

**Australian Army Apprentices Association**  
**Statement of Financial Performance**  
**1st Oct 2014 to 30th June 2015**

|                            |                      |                           |            |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| <b>Income</b>              |                      |                           |            |
|                            | Membership           | \$10,865.00               |            |
|                            | Memorabilia          | \$875.00                  |            |
|                            | Postage              | \$152.00                  |            |
|                            | Memorial             | \$745.00                  |            |
|                            | Donations            | \$1,855.00                |            |
| <b>Reunion</b>             |                      |                           |            |
|                            | Registrations        | \$10,593.00               |            |
|                            | Dinner               | \$5,875.00                |            |
|                            | Donations            | \$726.00                  |            |
| <b><u>Total income</u></b> |                      | <b><u>\$31,686.00</u></b> |            |
| <b>Expenditure</b>         |                      |                           |            |
|                            | Merchant fee         | \$221.17                  |            |
|                            | Newsletter           | \$631.48                  |            |
|                            | Postage              | \$510.19                  | see note 3 |
|                            | Committee expenses   | \$5,729.07                | see note 2 |
|                            | Bank fees            | \$51.85                   |            |
|                            | Insurance            | \$917.87                  |            |
|                            | Memorial expenditure | \$3,637.84                | see note 4 |
|                            | Presentations        | \$454.40                  | see note 5 |
|                            | Membership           | \$672.74                  | see note 6 |
|                            | Web site             | \$589.30                  |            |

|                |                                 |                    |            |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
|                | Memorabilia                     | \$978.87           |            |
| <b>Reunion</b> |                                 |                    |            |
|                | Accommodation                   | \$228.50           | see note 7 |
|                | Venues                          | \$750.00           | see note 8 |
|                | Printing                        | \$63.75            |            |
|                | Refunds                         | \$190.00           | See note 9 |
|                | <b>Total Expenditure</b>        | <b>\$15,627.03</b> |            |
|                | Bank interest                   | \$33.27            |            |
|                | <b>Surplus/Deficit for year</b> | <b>\$16,092.24</b> |            |

**Australian Army Apprentices Association**  
**Statement of Financial Position as at 30th June 2015**

**Accumulated Funds**

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 2014                        | \$51,865.10        |
| Plus Surplus/less deficit   | \$17,243.91        |
| <b>As at 30th June 2015</b> | <b>\$69,109.01</b> |

**This is represented by**  
**Current assets**

|                              |                    |  |         |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--|---------|
| Cash at Bank                 | \$34,436.40        |  |         |
| Term deposits                | \$34,056.49        |  | Note 1  |
| Members Outstanding payments | \$1,465.00         |  |         |
| Stock at 30 Jun 2015         | \$4,214.26         |  | Note 10 |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>  | <b>\$74,172.15</b> |  |         |

**Less Current Liabilities**

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Unpresented Chq's (2) | \$848.89           |
| <b>Net Assets</b>     | <b>\$73,323.26</b> |

**Australian Army Apprentices Association Inc**  
**Notes for Accounts 1st Oct 2014 - 30th Jun 2015**

|         |   |                    |  |
|---------|---|--------------------|--|
| Note 1  | Term deposits   | \$32,904.82        |  |
|         | Interest  | \$350.00           |  |
|         | Interest  | \$590.32           |  |
|         | Interest  | \$211.35           |  |
|         |   | <u>\$1,151.67</u>  |  |
|         |   | <b>\$34,056.49</b> |  |
| Note 2  | Travel and accommodation for AGM 2014 and 3 committee meetings. |                    |  |
| Note 3  | Post office boxes, newsletters and memorabilia freight in.      |                    |  |
| Note 4  | Plaques, pavers, maintenance.                                   |                    |  |
| Note 5  | Outgoing patron presentation and appreciation plaques           |                    |  |
| Note 6  | Membership renewal printing and postage                         |                    |  |
| Note 7  | Accommodation in Albury during planning phase.                  |                    |  |
| Note 8  | Deposits on Albury venues.                                      |                    |  |
| Note 9  | Member overpayment for reunion                                  |                    |  |
| Note 10 | Stock value has not been included before.                       |                    |  |

*MICHAEL FARRAR*

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CRONULLA NSW 2230*

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To the members of the Australian Army Apprentices Association

I have audited the Financial Statements as presented for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

I make the following observations;

1. The books were found to be in good order and made the audit a lot easier than last year.
2. The accounting procedures used are appropriate to meet the needs of the membership.
3. The audit tested a number of transactions which satisfied me that the accounts are correct as presented
4. The Association is financially sound and has sufficient funds to meet its commitments.
5. The fixed deposits of the Association were not presented.

I commend the Treasurer for the quality of his books presented.



Michael Farrar  
Honorary Auditor

10 September 2015

*Moved that the Treasurer's Report be Accepted: Richard Pike  
Seconded: Harry Cole  
Carried*

**b. President's Report.**

**President's Report for 2015 Annual General Meeting**

The time since our last AGM to now has been well spent. The Committee has been productive and very supportive of each other's responsibilities.

The words we use to build a language that we each use to communicate have become an asset that keeps us moving in the same direction.

This Association requires your continual support through Membership fees, purchasing Memorabilia and Donations.

Every Committee Member has their email contact listed, keep us informed of your concerns.

My thanks to all on the Committee for their support and energy.

Harry Hoger 20<sup>th</sup> RM  
President  
AAAA Inc.

*Moved that the President's Report as presented be accepted: Harry Hoger*  
*Seconded: Ian Morris*  
*Carried*

- c. Vice President's Report. Nil report as position is currently vacant.
- d. Secretary's Report.

The busiest time of the year is to make sure that everything is in line for the AGM. Organising General Meetings during the year are not as onerous as the AGM due to the willing assistance by all the Committee members to make the work involved to bring these tasks to fruition easier.

A special thanks to Jeff Heron for his assistance in sorting out any IT (FRED) problems that I experience at various times during the year.

Being a VM Does has its drawbacks at times when comes to IT problem solving.

Neil Bennett (13<sup>th</sup> VM))  
Secretary

*Moved that the Secretary's Report as presented be accepted: Alan Meiklejohn*  
*Seconded: Jeff Heron*  
*Carried*

- e. Heritage Officer's Report.

Dear Harry and fellow Committeemen,

I wish to advise for reasons outlined below that I will not be accepting nomination for re-election as Heritage Officer of the AAAA when my tenure expires at the coming October AGM.

In July 2014 I was encouraged to take on the position of President at my metropolitan Perth RSL Sub Branch which was in need of a recharge due to falling membership and an urgent need for building refurbishment to our 1923 Heritage listed hall. Since taking office I have been heavily involved in the refurbishment of our buildings obtaining heritage approval and some \$45,000 of funding to accommodate the necessary repairs. It has been a hard slog maintaining the momentum of sub- contractors on site a much more time consuming task than I had expected. Across the year we have achieved a lot and the members are very proud of the result.

Additionally I am the President of the Ex 22 Const Sqn RAE Assoc which at times becomes another time consuming computer responsibility.

In recent months I have been very aware of my inability to apply time to AAAA email traffic and committee business due to my other commitments a situation I cannot see changing in the near future and long planned travel plans will keep me away from this year's AAAA Albury reunion and AGM. My second AGM absence in a row.

For some years it has been my intention to write a military history book and as memory starts to cloud as the years roll by it becomes more of an urgency to get it done. It is my hope to be able to dedicate myself to that task in 2016 and accordingly I seek to release myself from committee computer email workload responsibilities to achieve that objective.

I was appointed to the position of Heritage Officer on the run up to the Balcombe/ Mornington Reunion I enjoyed very much working with old mate Frank Maloney establishing the story boards in the old camp particularly unearthing the Napoleon Bonaparte connection to the Balcombe name. I have enjoyed the role and the support of many members of the Association.

I remain a financial member of the association and wish the President and Committee Members best wishes in their efforts to make the AAAA be more attractive as an association to encourage enlistment of those who served as Army Apprentices at Balcombe and Bonegilla.

AS Felicity and myself are about to go travelling in Europe and Britain for some 7 weeks I ask that you minimise your email traffic to us to personal messages to ntwells@inet.net.au and remove me as heritage@austarmyapprentice.org from your address list so to avoid a large sort out when we access or mail.

In closing I look forward to catching up at any reunion I manage to make around the country in the future and remain available for heritage advice if it is sought on a AAAA matter.

With best wishes.

Norm Wells  
Heritage officer AAAA

*Moved that the Heritage Officer's Report as presented be accepted: Damien Tyrrell  
Seconded: Jeff Heron  
Carried*

**f. Welfare Officer's Report.**

**1-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.

**2-WELFARE ENTITLEMENTS**

Based on the discussion at the last meeting on 26 May 2015, all work in progressing training with TIP and membership with VITA has ceased.

It was agreed at the meeting on 26 May 2015 that it is not the intention for AAAA to be a provider of primary advice, therefore no training is required.

The law states that 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.

It was pointed out that the current Welfare Officer responsibilities include a reference to primary advice, which needs to be removed.

To better reflect the service provided by AAAA, it is proposed at the next Annual General Meeting that the constitution and role responsibilities be amended as follows:

Current:

(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.

Proposed:

(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.

To further assist in this process, it is proposed that a webpage be added to the AAAA website that will list details of other service organisations and links to information on welfare entitlements.

### 3-EX-SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

I have started collating a 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).

It has become clearly apparent that other organisations are not as interested in working with AAAA as we are with them. Nearly all organisations have failed to reply or acknowledge our correspondence. A number of the Corps associations have even failed to return phone calls. We will continue to reach out to these groups and foster a long term relationship.

#### 4-TRAINING

With the removal of the requirement to provide primary advice, any training associated with it has become unnecessary.

The Welfare Officer responsibilities state “(3) organise Welfare Officer training for both him/her self and for Regional Representatives when required.”

This responsibility is not in conflict with providing primary advice and can remain unchanged for potential future use, “when required”.

#### 5-VALE NOTIFICATIONS

- Since 25 May 2015:

|         |                             |             |  |
|---------|-----------------------------|-------------|--|
| 242513  | Harold Joseph FRUNKS        | 30 Aug 2015 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Intake Welder              |
| 58519   | George David HODGINS        | 22 Aug 2015 | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Intake Fitter & Turner     |
| 58777   | Ronald Leslie THOMSON       | 22 Aug 2015 | 17 <sup>th</sup> Intake Carpenter & Joiner |
| 1201756 | James “Skippy” HOPKINSON    | 18 Aug 2015 | 23 <sup>rd</sup> Intake Fitter & Turner    |
| 342756  | Barry Noel GREENGERGER      | unknown     | 11 <sup>th</sup> Intake Bricklayer         |
| 18705   | Robert Joseph SMITH         | 08 Aug 2015 | 16 <sup>th</sup> Intake Fitter and Turner  |
| 18614   | Graeme Benjamin John LESLIE | 30 Jul 2015 | 13 <sup>th</sup> Intake Radio Mechanic     |
| 243321  | Kevin James SIMMONS         | 24 Jul 2015 | 18 <sup>th</sup> Intake Musician           |
| 18639   | James Brian JOYCE           | 10 Jul 15   | 8 <sup>th</sup> Intake Electrician         |
| 1202433 | Paul William LOGAN          | 01 Jul 15   | 24 <sup>th</sup> Intake Radio Mech         |
| 325502  | Michael Andrew SCOWN        | 29 Jun 15   | 38 <sup>th</sup> Intake Electronics        |
| 243217  | Patrick Joseph SULLIVAN     | 03 Oct 14   | 15 <sup>th</sup> Intake Vehicle Mech       |
| 48601   | Ian David GRAHAM            | 28 Feb 14   | 15 <sup>th</sup> Intake Fitter & Turner    |
| 243451  | Reginald Kevin KELLY        | 07 Jul 07   | 20 <sup>th</sup> Intake, Vehicle Mech      |

#### 6-SICK PARADE

Brian Windsor, 9th Intake VM, had had a fall and was hospitalised in Canberra. Frank Poole kindly offered to visit him on 11 Oct 15.

#### 7-MEMORIAL

Nothing to report at this time.

Damien Tyrrell  
Welfare Officer

*Moved that the Welfare Officer’s Report as presented be accepted: Gary Sargent  
Seconded: Gary Byard  
Carried*

- g. Membership Secretary’s Report.

## Membership Report Annual General Meeting 2015

It is with pleasure I present the Annual Report of the Membership Secretary for this, the 2015 AGM.

One of the highlights of the year has been the increase in membership, particularly by the “junior” intakes. It is this spark of interest that will see our association continue for some years to come. Naturally we, as a group, are limited by the date of the passing out of the final intake, and the Association will only prosper with the interest, and participation by the youth of the graduated.

Naturally the interest generated by the All Intakes Reunion has generated membership enthusiasm, and I believe the Committee will be pleased to see the new members renew at the end of their current membership period.

The current membership state is: 475 financial/Life members, consisting of:

| Membership Type |            | Overdue      |            |
|-----------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Ordinary        | 228        | Mar-12       | 8          |
| Retired         | 240        | Sep-12       | 18         |
| Associate       | 5          | Mar-13       | 19         |
| Life            | 2          | Sep-13       | 22         |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>475</b> | Mar -14      | 62         |
|                 |            | Sep -14      | 18         |
|                 |            | Mar-15       | 58         |
|                 |            | Sep 15       | 46         |
|                 |            | <b>Total</b> | <b>251</b> |

Unfortunately it is the failure to/ or late action on renewals that has a negative impact on the overall membership. If you are reading this and have yet to “take action”, for the sake of the Association, please do.

A breakdown of outstanding renewals, by state, was presented to the last committee meeting for distribution to the State Reps for follow up action.

### New Members October 2014 – October 2015

Please note that completed applications for membership have yet to be actioned.

| Service# | Intake | Trade       | Posted Corps | Surname          | Given Names         | Preferred Name |
|----------|--------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 222803   | 28     | Elec Fitter | RASIGS       | <b>White</b>     | Kevin Frank         | Kevin          |
| 65226    | 45     | VM          | RAEME        | <b>Richards</b>  | Neil Edward         | Neil           |
|          |        |             |              | <b>Brunter</b>   | Alwyn               |                |
|          |        |             |              | <b>Stockwell</b> | T                   |                |
|          |        |             |              | <b>Lawrence</b>  | Stewart             |                |
| 324669   | 37     | C&J         | RAE          | <b>Rye</b>       | David Alexander     | David          |
| 242691   | 7      | VM          | RAEME/RAE    | <b>Muir</b>      | Arthur James        | Arthur         |
| 1203114  | 25     | VM          | RAEME        | <b>Mahon</b>     | Gary Leonard        | Gary           |
|          |        |             |              | <b>McConnell</b> | Arthur              | Arthur         |
| 1206165  | 31     | Elec Fitter | RAEME        | <b>Goltz</b>     | Noel Frederick John | Noel           |
|          |        |             |              | <b>Hamilton</b>  | Robert              |                |
| 2306696  | 37     | VM          | RAEME        | <b>Gordon</b>    | John Patrick Laven  | Moose          |
|          |        |             |              | <b>Emery</b>     | Christine           | Christine      |
| 316054   | 28     | Elec Fitter | RAEME        | <b>Britton</b>   | Darryl John         | Darryl         |
| 62140    | 25     | F&T         | RAEME        | <b>Woolston</b>  | Steven Raymond      | Steve          |
| 1203089  | 25     | VM          | RAEME        | <b>Roughley</b>  | Chris               | Chris          |
| 242593   | 4      | VM          | RAEME        | <b>Neenan</b>    | John Maurice        | John           |
| 320633   | 33     | VM          | RAEME        | <b>Bragg</b>     | Lindsay Gordon      | Lindsay        |

AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

| Service# | Intake | Trade             | Posted Corps | Surname            | Given Names          | Preferred Name |
|----------|--------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 56389    | 27     | F&T               | RAEME        | <b>Weight</b>      | Allan John           | Allan          |
| 317910   | 30     | F&T               | RAEME        | <b>Norrie</b>      | Malcolm Robert       | Mal            |
| 242616   | 5      | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Morrison</b>    | James Clinton        | James          |
| 219208   | 24     | Elec Fitter       | RAEME        | <b>Mullins</b>     | Raymond Patrick      | Ray            |
| 218132   | 23     | Plumber           | RAE          | <b>Mullins</b>     | John Francis         | John           |
| 320664   | 33     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Hunt</b>        | Trevor Alan Neville  | Trevor         |
| 342652   | 9      | Elec Fitter       | RAEME        | <b>Field</b>       | Graeme Donald        | Graeme         |
| 326056   | 39     | ET                | RASIGS       | <b>Donnelly</b>    | William              | Bill           |
| 185695   | 44     | F&T               | RAEME        | <b>Sharpe</b>      | Jamie William        | Jamie          |
| 556334   | 43     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Irving</b>      | Andrew George        | Andrew         |
| 226604   | 32     | VM                |              | <b>White</b>       | Shane                | Shane          |
| 317901   | 30     | F&T               |              | <b>Watts</b>       | Gregory Richard      | Gregory        |
| 218141   | 23     | Elec Fitter       | RAEME        | <b>Raymond</b>     | Ken                  | Ken            |
| 18681    | 15     | F&T               | RAEME        | <b>Meiklejohn</b>  | Alan George          | Alan           |
| 230651   | 37     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Mahoney</b>     | Craig Maxwell        | Craig          |
| 327246   | 41     | ET                | RASIGS       | <b>Lake</b>        | Robert Simon Francis | Rob            |
| 326582   | 40     | Acft Fitter       | RAEME        | <b>Kay</b>         | Ian David            | Ian            |
| 1205551  | 30     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Hayes</b>       | Peter Geoffrey       | Peter          |
| 326052   | 39     | Elec Fitter       | RAEME        | <b>Glasson</b>     | Russell Robert       | Russell        |
| 318532   | 31     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Fenton</b>      | Richard Stephen      | Dick           |
| 1201099  | 22     | Elec Fitter       | RAE          | <b>Campbell</b>    | Patrick John         | Pat            |
| 17419    | 32     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Clancy</b>      | Daniel Joseph        | Daniel         |
| 238293   | 44     | Elec Fitter       | RASIGS       | <b>Carter</b>      | Adam Scott           | Adam           |
| 48704    | 21     | Elec Fitter       | RAEME        | <b>Byrne</b>       | John Avid Kelsey     | John           |
| 319649   | 32     | C & J             | RAE          | <b>Baker</b>       | Peter Bernard        | Peter          |
|          | 21     | VM                |              | <b>Bracegirdle</b> | Geoffrey Charles     | Braces         |
|          |        |                   |              | <b>White</b>       | Shane                |                |
|          |        |                   |              | <b>McQuinn</b>     | Steven               |                |
|          |        |                   |              | <b>Young</b>       | David                |                |
|          |        |                   |              | <b>Jarratt</b>     | Phil                 |                |
|          |        |                   |              | <b>Hunt</b>        | Trevor               |                |
|          |        |                   |              | <b>Campbell</b>    | Fredrick             |                |
|          |        |                   |              | <b>Brown</b>       | Stuart               |                |
|          |        |                   |              | <b>Berry</b>       | Andrew               |                |
|          |        |                   |              | <b>Vincent</b>     | Roy Alan             | Roy            |
| 47730    | 30     | F&T               | RAEME        | <b>Winter</b>      | Mark Desmond         | Mark           |
| 316114   | 28     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Rochford</b>    | Stephen John         | Stephen        |
| 342987   | 20     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Norris</b>      | Norman Lindsay       | Lindsay        |
| 18573    | 11     | Arch Draughts man | RAE          | <b>Muirhead</b>    | Michael              | Mike           |
| 326078   | 39     | C&J               | RAE          | <b>Harrison</b>    | Phillip Ralph        | Phil           |
| 64320    | 11     | F&T               | RAEME        | <b>Dillon</b>      | Terance              | Terry          |
| 63992    | 38     | Elec Fitter       | RAEME        | <b>Ormerod</b>     | Ricky                | Ricky          |
| 242768   | 8      | Elec Engr         | RAEME        | <b>Rose</b>        | Ian Sinclair         | Ian            |
| 3175586  | 35     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Unmack</b>      | Graeme Arthur        | Graeme         |
| 317834   | 30     | F&T               | RAEME        | <b>Sanders</b>     | Clarence William     | Clarrie        |
| 314470   | 26     | F&T               | RAEME        | <b>Whitehead</b>   | Paul Neville         | Paul           |
| 326609   | 40     | ET                | RASIGS       | <b>Tyrell</b>      | Damien Wayne         | Damien         |
| 18666    | 14     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Tunbridge</b>   | Kerry Charles        | Kerry          |
| 454027   | 40     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Rostan</b>      | Andrew David         | Andy           |
| 317834   | 30     | F&T               | RAEME        | <b>Sanders</b>     | Clarence William     | Clarrie        |
| 326572   | 40     | Plumber           | RAE          | <b>Haggett</b>     | Gregory James        | Gregory        |
| 222766   | 28     | ET                | RASIGS       | <b>Denny</b>       | Ricky Ernest         | Rick           |
| 184964   | 43     | F&T               | RAEME        | <b>Dagan</b>       | Jeffrey Franci       | Jeff           |
| 179523   | 33     | VM                | RAEME        | <b>Weigh</b>       | Michael              | Mick           |
| 64377    | 20     | VM                |              | <b>Porteus</b>     | Ivan                 | Ivan           |
| 48706    | 21     | Rdr Mech          | RAEME        | <b>Elsley</b>      | Kevin Maxwell        | Kevin          |

| Service# | Intake | Trade    | Posted Corps | Surname          | Given Names  | Preferred Name |
|----------|--------|----------|--------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 18951    | 21     | VM       | RAEME        | <b>Blake</b>     | Victor Noel  | Vic            |
| 322431   | 35     | F&T      | RAEME        | <b>Mathewson</b> | Andrew John  | Andrew         |
| 63351    | 34     | C&J      | RAE          | <b>Squibb</b>    | Peter Robert | Peter          |
| 1201069  | 22     | Rad Mech | RASIGS       | <b>Churches</b>  | Neil         | Neil           |

A warm welcome to these new members.

Gary Byard (21<sup>st</sup> VM)  
Membership Secretary

*Moved that the Membership Secretary's Report as presented be accepted: Harry Hoger*  
*Seconded: Barry Minster*  
*Carried*

**h. Events Manager's Report.**

Following a passionate plea from the Committee in January 2015 for someone to come forward and accept the position of Events Manager to organize the 2015 Reunion, I put my hand up and was duly appointed.

My initial thoughts were to adopt the concept put forward for the 2015 Reunion by my predecessor, however, it quickly became apparent during a visit to Albury - Wodonga in February 2015, that a better approach would be to concentrate the Friday and Saturday events on the Albury CBD. This revised concept was approved by the Committee at its February meeting, as well as the theme being the 20th anniversary of the closure of the Army Apprentice Scheme.

Soon after the February Committee meeting, design concepts for the Reunion motive and memorabilia began to appear in my Inbox. I wish to acknowledge here the efforts that Jeff Heron has put into designing the graphics for this Reunion and his tireless support all the way along. No request was too difficult, and often he was ahead of me with ideas. Many thanks Jeff for your help and support – it was very much appreciated.

A new approach was adopted for the Reunion registration process based on an on-line system. This made things much easier for the organizers, as individual Reunion attendees entered their data themselves into the registration database, and each of the organizers, being in different geographic locations, could view the database in real time. I acknowledge that it might have provided some challenges for some people, but, by and large it worked well. A paper-based system was established parallel to the on-line system for those who might have been IT challenged.

My approach to the financial side was to endeavor to make the Reunion cost competitive whilst at the same time providing value for money.

As at 30 June 2015, after some seven weeks of registrations being open, there were 70 registrations received with 109 people registered to attend – well on the way to achieving the Reunion target which looks very promising of being achieved.

Otto Aberle  
Events Manager

*Moved that the Events Manager's Report as presented be accepted: Harry Hoger*  
*Seconded: Harry Cole*  
*Carried*

**i. Public Officer's Report.**

## **AAAA Public Officer's Report 2015**

The AAAA Amended Constitution was accepted by the ACT Office of Regulatory Services in March 2015.

The AAAA Incorporation was renewed with the ACT Office of Regulatory Services in October 2015.

Ray Wilson  
Public Officer

*Moved that the Public Officer's Report as presented be accepted: Harry Hoger  
Seconded: Jeff Heron  
Carried*

**j.** Webmaster's Report.

### **WEBMASTER'S REPORT**

#### **Introduction**

It has been another very busy year with the main activity being the Website Redevelopment project. The major milestone was reached with the completion of the project after nearly two years effort.

#### **Completion of Website Redevelopment Project**

Following 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. Like all major software releases there were 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 and for the time being, anyone can freely access any part of the website without logging in or registering. We will eventually restrict access to the "Members Only" area with a proper login registration system.

Adding further to our problems the website was hacked around the end of April. It was a particularly nasty virus and all the usual avenues of support failed to provide a solution. Thanks to the help of President Harry Hoger in locating a website consultancy that specialised in these situations we were able to restore the website to normal operation.

We also installed additional security measures and so far we have had relatively trouble free operation.

## **Future Tasks**

There are always enhancements and routine maintenance that must be performed to keep a website running well. Of particular need (some) of these future tasks are as follows:

- a. Online Membership Application and renewal.
- b. Online merchandise sales.
- c. Availability of the SPAASSM collection.
- d. Enhancements to the "Contact" form.
- e. Enhancements to the "Photo" pages.
- f. Count down timer for major events.
- g. A "What's New" banner.
- h. Facility to allow a team approach for website maintenance.
- i. And, no doubt, many more tasks that will arise.

Ian Morris  
Webmaster

*Moved that the Webmaster's Report as presented be accepted: Jeff Heron  
Seconded: Richard Pike  
Carried*

- k.** Forum Moderator's Report.

There is no Moderators Report for this Meeting.

- l.** Memorial Sub-committee's Report.

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE APPRENTICE MEMORIAL SUB-COMMITTEE**

With the restriction on entry to Gaza Ridge Barracks at Bandiana it has not been possible to visit either the Apprentice Memorial or the Apprentice displays at the Army Museum. Hopefully the concern about terrorism interference will be reviewed and normality returns.

The dedication plaque on the RAE donated flag pole has been replaced and now better describes Apprentice involvement in the Corps.

A plaque recognising the contribution of ex-Apprentice staff at ATTC Bonegilla in fabricating the Memorial gates and of the RAEME Association in contributing the material has now replaced the original plaque that did not satisfactorily recognise this very significant contribution to the Memorial.

Over the past twelve months two further Remembrance plaques have been mounted and four pavers added to the pavement

Plans to hold a memorial service for Fred Millar (first Apprentice and Trustee) and Jack Westernhagen (Life Member) had to be abandoned as a result of the restricted access mentioned above. The Remembrance Plaques for the two have now been mounted on the Memorial Walls and framed photos of the plaques have been presented to Mary Westernhagen and Linda Millar.

The Jock McWhinney reflection seat was cleaned and re-stained by Jim Hislop. Unfortunately, some well-meaning person attempted to clean the bronze plaques with Brasso which resulted in

a white residue remaining on the plaques. Fortunately Jim was able to clean them and remove the residue.

To enable us to retain our prices for plaques against increasing prices from our original supplier, we sought and found a new provider who will supply at our old price. Jim also sourced a local provider for engraving pavers who will do single pavers and does not entail pavers being sent back and forth to Melbourne.

Over the year I stood in as Welfare Officer until Damien Tyrrell stepped up to fill the vacancy. I represented the Association at SME for Vietnam Veterans Day and laid a wreath in memory of the three Sapper Apprentices who died on overseas service.

Unfortunately Norm Wells and Rev. Bryan Nicholls JP resigned from the Sub-committee and I take this opportunity of thanking them for their work on the Sub-committee and to me personally.

I also thank those members who have made a donation towards the maintenance of and improvement to our Memorial when renewing their membership.

Finally, I gratefully acknowledge the absolutely essential assistance provided by Greg Mulcahy in managing the procurement of plaques and pavers, and of Jim Hislop and Charlie Myhill in local ordering of pavers, fixing of plaques and pavers, flying flag and generally ensuring the Memorial is maintained.

Frank Poole LtCol(R) RAE(tn)  
Chairman, Memorial Sub-Committee

*Moved that the Memorial Sub-committee's Report as presented be accepted: Harry Hoger*  
*Seconded: Harry Cole*  
*Carried*

**m. Merchandising Report.**

Merchandising is covered in the Treasurer's Report.

**10.** Stand down of Office Bearers and Committee Members due for re-election as per the requirements of the Association's Constitution. They are the following positions:

- a. the President, and
- b. the Secretary, and
- c. the Events Manager, and
- d. the Heritage Officer, and
- e. the Webmaster, and
- f. three (3) of the Ordinary Committee Members.

**11.** Nominations:

- a. President: Harry Hoger - Nominated by: Jeff Heron, Seconded: Harry Cole  
There being no further nominations Harry Hoger was elected as President.
- b. Secretary: Neil Bennett - Nominated by: Harry Hoger, Seconded by: Jeff Heron  
There being no further nominations Neil Bennett was elected as Secretary.

- c.** Events Manager: Otto Aberle - Re-nominated, Seconded by: Jeff Heron  
There being no further nominations Otto Aberle was elected as Events Manager.
  - d.** Heritage Officer: Harry Cole - Nominated by: Harry Hoger, Seconded by: Neil Bennett  
There being no further nominations Harry Cole was elected as Heritage Officer
  - e.** Webmaster: Ian Morris - Re-Nominated, Seconded by: Neil Bennett  
There being no further nominations Ian Morris was elected as Webmaster.
  - f.** Vice-President: Greg Haggett - Nominated by: Harry Hoger, Seconded by: Damien Tyrrell  
There being no further nominations Greg Haggett was elected as Vice-President.
  - g.** Committee: Barry Minster - Nominated by: Harry Cole, Seconded by: Jeff Heron
  - h.** Committee: Lucas McGann - Nominated by: Harry Hoger, Seconded by: Michael Moran
  - i.** Committee: Joanne Cornelius - Nominated self: Seconded by: Gary Byard
  - j.** Committee: Craig Malcolm - Nominated self: Seconded by: Gary Byard
  - k.** The fourth Committee vacancy was created by Greg Haggett being elevated to Vice-President.  
There being no further nominations from the floor, the four nominees were elected to the Committee.
- 12.** General business:
- a.** Elevation of a Member to Life Member Status. The Association's Honorary Trustee, Jim Hislop, presented Ian Morris with his Life Membership Badge in recognition for his work over many years as the Association's Webmaster in the development and the upgrading of the Website.
- 13.** Other business. Due to the weekend's programme time constraints, no further General Business items were tabled for discussion.
- 14.** Confirmation of next meeting date and venue: TBA, Brisbane being a likely venue.
- 15.** Meeting closed at 1020 hrs.