



**AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED**

ACT Incorporation No: A04404

PO Box 4091, Kogarah Bay, NSW 2217 www.austarmyapprentice.org

Patron: Major General Andrew Mathewson, AM

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PRESIDENTS REPORT FOR THE AGM MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION 22ND OCT 2016

Since our last AGM, the committee has conducted two meetings, the results of which are posted on our web page under the appropriate link.

All positions are active and are fully committed to by each member. On behalf of the membership I thank each one for their contribution to the management of this association's affairs. The inception of social media gateway, You Tube channel, and visitor counter on our web page lead our significant achievements for the year.

The association key ring is a fund raising project, which together with our merchandising sales, membership subscription fees, keep us financially buoyant. Conducting the 2016 AGM at Bulimba, Brisbane is an achievement in itself. From requests over the past years to having the proposal receive committee approval, to the actual event is a milestone.

To date we have witnessed a rise in apprentice lunches being conducted in many more locations. This meeting is in step with the membership wishes. The participation in the Balcombe Grammar Schools Anzac day service also contributed to the committees activities during the year.

Reports such as this should provide a snapshot of our times for future readers. Since the last AGM this nation's security level has been increased due to threats to our way of life. This has restricted our free and easy access to our memorial located in the grounds of Garza Ridge Barracks, Bandiana.

This association's members are part of the military family who have created the society we have today. This arc of our history is being impacted by our need for security. What further changes may occur to gain entry to our memorial will be posted in our future newsletters.

I also would like to thank this association's representatives in other states and territories. Each one carries a torch for us. Visions for the future are now being formalised to maintain our core objectives, which are having a strong, vibrant and meaningful association.

Harry Hoger 20th RM

President Australian Army Apprentices Association Inc



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**VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION 22 OCTOBER 2016**

Since the last committee meeting there has been a lot of correspondence among the committee on a variety of topics which is an encouraging sign that the Association is growing and the committee is actively discussing the future. I have been in contact with Brig Andrew Freeman and he was keen to become a member and also expressed interest in taking an active role within the organisation when time permits. I believe his participation will add further exposure which in turn will encourage growth in membership numbers.

The lunch in September for the NSW members held at the Kirribilli Club was attended by only 8 or so members and while being of only a few hours in length, was still an enjoyable afternoon. One attendee was a 41st Elec Tech and his wife which was good to see and he did hope to bring in more members of his intake to the Association.

One of the tasks assigned to me by the President from the last committee meeting was to initiate a Wikipedia page dedicated to the Australian Army Apprentice movement. This process has started with the preliminary submission being sent to the administrator for review and approval. At the time of writing this report, no feedback has been received and I intend to keep the committee up to date when approval is granted. Once approval is granted, more information including photos and videos can be added to further enhance the information available on the page.

Regards,

Greg Haggett 40th P&G
Vice President AAAA(inc)



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**SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION 22ND
OCTOBER 2016**

This is 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.

| | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| Table text | | |
| | | |

Name-- Neil Bennett
Secretary

4th October 2016

Australian Army Apprentices Association Inc

Notes for Accounts 1st Jul 2015 - 30th Jun 2016

| | | | |
|---------|--|---------------------------|----------|
| Note 1 | Term deposits Jun 2015 | \$34,056.49 | |
| | Interest | | \$341.55 |
| | Interest | | \$567.34 |
| | Interest | | \$203.12 |
| | | \$1,112.01 | |
| | | <u>\$35,168.50</u> | |
| Note 2 | Travel and accomodation for AGM 2015 and 3 committee meetings. | | |
| Note 3 | Post office boxes, news letters and memorabilia freight in. | | |
| Note 4 | Plaques, pavers, maintence. | | |
| Note 5 | Membership renewal printing and postage | | |
| Note 6 | Accommodation in Albury during planning phase. | | |
| Note 7 | Reunion venue and meal. | | |
| Note 8 | Reunion planning | | |
| Note 9 | Place mats, show bags, etc for reunion | | |
| Note 10 | Presentations during reunion | | |



AAAA Inc - 2016 AGM Membership Secretary Report

In Dec 2015 Gary Byard resigned from his position of Membership Secretary and Craig Malcolm resumed the role (Craig was Membership Secretary before Gary).

The current state of the membership (as at Oct 5, 2016) is 581 **Financial members** which is an increase of 106 from the 475 members this time last year.

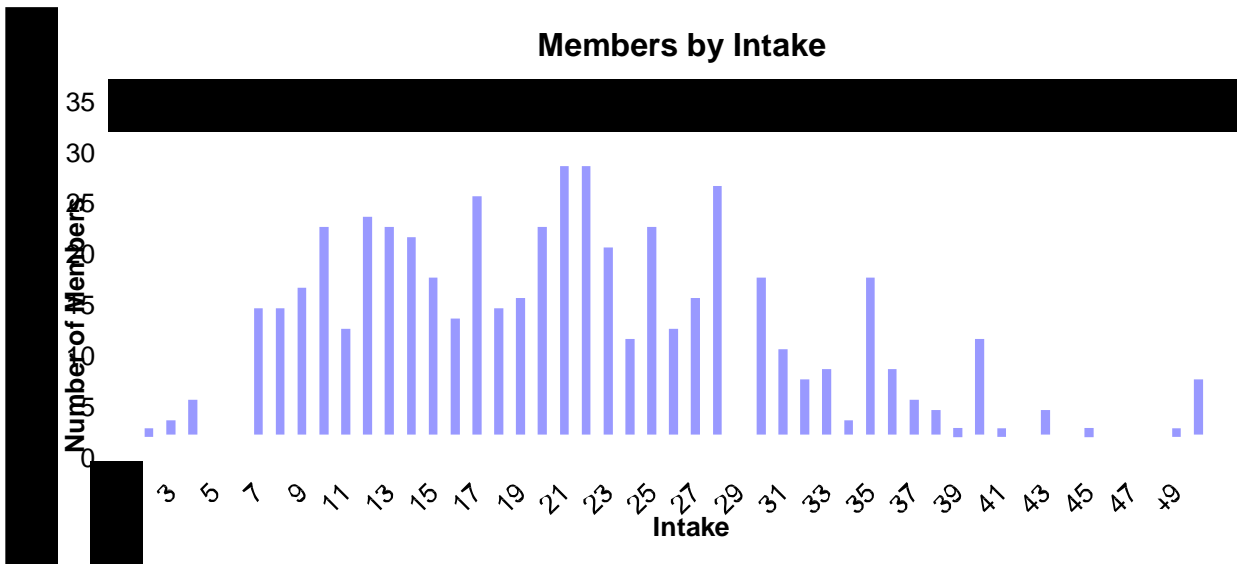
| Membership Type | 2016 |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Ordinary Memberships | 265 |
| Retired Memberships | 305 |
| Associate Memberships | 8 |
| Life memberships | 3 |

Table 1 - Members by Membership Type

AN ANALYSIS OF THE MEMBERSHIP IS AS FOLLOWS:

By Intake

The majority of members are from the 7th to the 28th intakes but there is good growth of the later intakes.



Membership Expiry

Membership expiry is on 1 Mar and 1 Sep of each year with members now having the opportunity to pay for one, three or a five year membership.

At the committee meeting in July, it was proposed (and accepted) that a new initiative be introduced in the future and from the September renewal period, members now have the option to sign up for five (5) years. As an incentive for members to take up this offer, members who sign up for five years will receive a discount of one year's membership.

This option has been widely received with 75% (67 of 89) of new and renewing members taking up this option.

Table 2 shows the current membership expiry dates:

| Expiry Date | Number |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Mar-17 | 57 |
| Sep-17 | 119 |
| Mar-18 | 103 |
| Sep-18 | 71 |
| Mar-19 | 131 |
| Sep-19 | 17 |
| Mar-20 | 3 |
| Sep-20 | 2 |
| Mar-21 | 15 |
| Sep-21 | 52 |

Table 2 - Membership Expiry Dates

New Members and Membership Renewals

Over the period since October 2015, 40 new members have joined the association. There are currently 131 lapsed members with 36 of these due in September 2016. Renewals are still coming in from the September renewal campaign, so this number will reduce.

| Expiry Date | Number |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Mar-12 | 6 |
| Sep-12 | 14 |
| Mar-13 | 8 |
| Sep-13 | 13 |
| Mar-14 | 62 |
| Sep-14 | 7 |
| Mar-15 | 12 |
| Sep-15 | 9 |
| Mar-16 | 19 |
| Sep-16 | 36 |

Table 3 – Lapsed membership expiry dates

By State:

The membership is currently evenly distributed throughout the eastern states.

| State | Number |
|--------------|---------------|
| QLD | 163 |
| NSW | 124 |
| VIC | 163 |
| WA | 58 |
| NT | 3 |
| TAS | 12 |
| SA | 18 |
| ACT | 35 |
| Overseas | 5 |

Table 4 - Membership by State



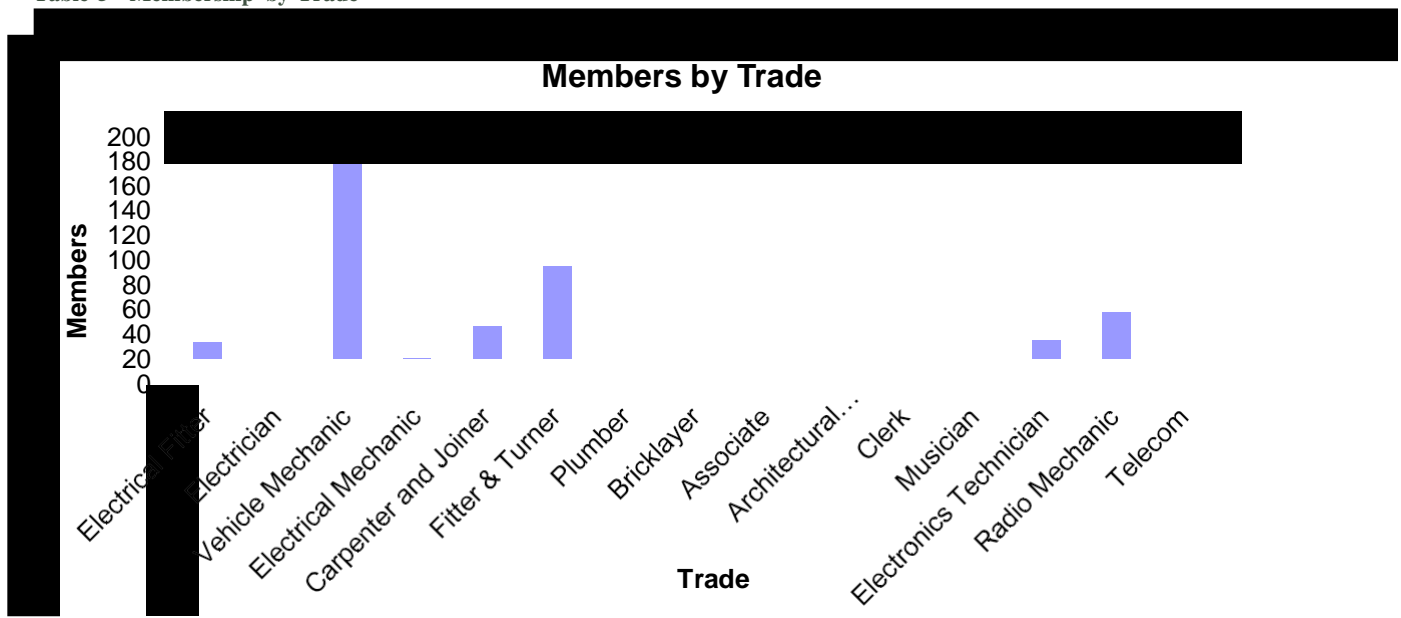
By Trade

Members Trades are recorded by the Trade they indicate on their Membership Application (or Renewal Form) and some trades have had a number of name changes, especially the electronic trades. The majority trade of the membership remains Vehicle Mechanic.

| Trade | Number |
|----------------------|--------|
| Electrical Fitter | 34 |
| Electrician | 5 |
| Vehicle Mechanic | 182 |
| Electrical Mechanic | 22 |
| Carpenter and Joiner | 47 |
| Fitter & Turner | 96 |
| Plumber | 19 |

| Trade | Number |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Bricklayer | 8 |
| Architectural Draftsman | 3 |
| Clerk | 11 |
| Musician | 15 |
| Electronics Technician | 36 |
| Radio Mechanic | 69 |

Table 5 - Membership by Trade

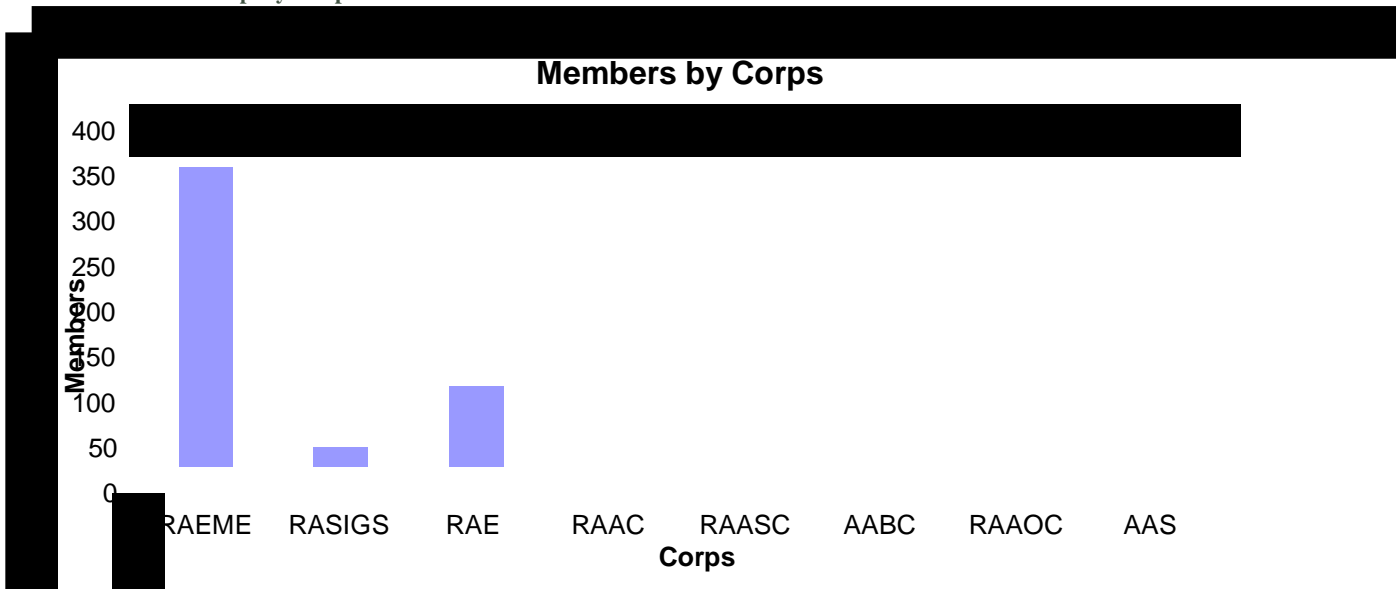


By Corps

RAEME is by far the dominant corps with over 50% of the membership. Members are recorded by the Corps they indicate on their Membership Application (or Renewal Form). Currently membership records do not have all members Corps recorded as many members have not indicated their corps on their Membership or Renewal Forms.

| Corps | 2016 |
|--------|------|
| RAEME | 359 |
| RASIGS | 51 |
| RAE | 118 |
| RAAC | 2 |
| RAASC | 3 |
| AABC | 12 |
| RAAOC | 1 |
| AAS | 2 |

Table 6 - Membership by Corps



E-Mail addresses

Of the 581 members, we have the e-mail addresses of 545 members. It is important that the Association has up to date e-mail addresses as this significantly reduces the mail out costs to the Association as most correspondence is suitable for delivery by e-mail.

Craig Malcolm (31st ET)
Membership Secretary

membership@austarmyapprentice.org



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**WEBSITE MODERATOR'S REPORT FOR THE AGM OF THE
AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION 22ND OCTOBER
2016**

1. The Website Forum continues to have light activity, mainly the Penske Power Systems job advertisements. In the year since the 2015 AGM, there have been almost 200 jobs advertised.
2. I have no way of knowing how effective these are or if anyone has obtained employment as a result.
3. Richard Pike, Frank Poole and the Australian Defence Consultancy Group have also placed a couple of employment opportunity notices.

Jeff Heron
Website Forum Moderator

2nd September 2016



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**HERITAGE OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE AGM OF THE
AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION ON 22ND
OCTOBER 2016**

During the previous 12 months I have been checking up on the history of a few historical articles and events of the Army Apprentices School at Balcombe during the early 1950's period which included notes about some of the "unusual" instructors that trained the army apprentices in that period.

I have been helped by seeking the recollections of some of the much earlier intakes and including some of my own 7th intake group.

There would be many unusual and strange stories to be told about events and even staff instructors that should be recorded and read and I would be most appreciative to receive some of these anecdotes from those various intakes who were at Balcombe during the 1960-1980 period and also those who were at Bonegilla in the later stages of the apprenticeship scheme.

I am also very appreciative of the support and advice I receive from our very professional association committee members when I sometimes request assistance in a particular aspect of my position as Heritage Officer

Harry Cole
7th intake VM

Heritage Officer Australian Army Apprentices Association

14th September 2016



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**REPORT FOR THE 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION ON 22ND
OCTOBER 2016**

MEMORIAL SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Access

1. Since the last AGM there has been little change to the Memorial as the restriction on access due to the Army Logistic Training Centre (ALTC) base security requirements limit visits to two days of the week, and then only if escorts can be provided from the Army Museum and for advance notice being given to the Museum.
2. This has affected our ability to promote Remembrance Plaques and to provide NOK with a service for ashes and the placing of plaques. It has also effected the sale of engraved pavers and to monitor maintenance needs.

Utilisation

3. Despite the above problems, a Remembrance Plaque was mounted for Mal Campbell.
4. It was gratifying that the memorial is sufficiently well thought of to have been used as a background for the Commandant ALTC to use for a photo shoot and for a Memorial Service for ALTC staff member WO2 Max Holt, who lost his life in a motor cycle accident. We will encourage the use of the Memorial by anyone who has a need for such a site, provided due respect is shown.

The Intake Pathway

5. With the assistance of Col MacLean, Commandant of ALTC, we received the agreement of the Bandiana Estate Manager, and of his, to construct a pathway from the rose garden to our Memorial. This will have 49 "steps" each commemorating an intake. The final design has not yet been agreed on.
6. With the assistance again of Col. MacLean, the OC of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (ASEME) has agreed to consider what assistance they can provide in the construction of the pathway where there is training value in design and construction.
7. With the agreement of the CO ASEME, and if there are no objections from Apprentices who were involved, the intake and RIP tablets that are placed against trees in the avenue of trees leading into Latchford Barracks will be refurbished and relocated as part of the pathway.
8. There will be a large tablet at the start detailing for each intake the trades that graduated and the number for each trade. A draft specification has been circulated to the Memorial Sub-Committee members for their comments and when finalised, with input from ASEME, it will be referred to the Committee. More on the final design as the project progresses and we can better determine a budget.
9. This project has been envisaged as a result of the Memorial donations made by members when they join or renew their membership. Thank you and please keep them coming as we will need to

raise additional funds and seek sponsorship to complete this project.

Thanks

10. As usual, my personal thanks for the assistance and support provided by Greg Mulcahy and Jim Hislop. Without this help the Memorial would be difficult to manage. Thank you to both of you.

Frank

Frank Poole LtCol(R) RAE(tn)
Chairman, Memorial Sub-Committee
Australian Army Apprentices Association
7 Tobin Place
Holder ACT 2611
0416 193387
Frank.poole@grapevine.com.au



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**WEBMASTER'S REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION 22
OCTOBER 2016**

1. It has been a difficult and somewhat disappointing year as far as the website is concerned. While the regular maintenance activity (Photos, Vale Notices etc) has become quite routine, the high hopes I had last year for a range of development tasks failed to materialise. In fact the only task which progressed is the Photos enhancements. We can now add new albums, galleries and photos in an orderly fashion. Still some work to do on photos but it was a big step forward.

2. The reason for the slow rate of progress is the complexity of the software involved and the lack of documentation. Much of my time has been spent in learning mode and documenting as I go. We have sought outside help but there are few contractors able or willing to analyse a custom built system. There are some very useful online courses which are helpful but often only relate generally to the software involved. For the year ahead there will be steady progress with the following items still on the to do list (not necessarily in priority order):

- a. Reinstatement of Members Only Area
- b. Online Membership Application and renewal.
- c. Online merchandise sales.
- d. Availability of the SPAASSM collection
- e. Enhancements to the "Contact" form.
- f. Count down timer for major events.
- g. A "What's New" banner
- h. A "Site last Updated" box
- i. Facility to allow a team approach for website maintenance.

Ian Morris
Webmaster
15 Sep 16



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**PUBLIC OFFICER REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION 22 OCT
2016**

1. In compliance with the requirements of the ACT Government Associations Incorporation Act, the Australian Army Apprentices Association's Annual Return for the 2014-2015 reporting period was submitted to and accepted by the ACT Government Justice and Community Safety Division on 5 Aug 2016.

Ray Wilson
Public Officer

25 Sep 2016



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**REPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN
ARMY APPRENTICES ASSOCIATION ON 22ND OCTOBER 2016**

MEMORIAL SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Access

1. Following my discussions with Col. MacLean, Comdt ATLC, and with the President and Membership Secretary, I proposed to the Comdt ALTC that the Association issue members with a Membership Card which would have conditions by which they could access the Memorial without have to provide notice to the Museum and for them to arrange an escort and allow access at any day, not just when the Museum was open and an escort available.

2. Col. MacLean had advised that although he is sympathetic he has no discretion in security access procedures to bases. However, he did suggest that members could apply for a red uncleared community area only pass and attached an application form. I will apply and if successful will place the details on our web site.

The Intake Pathway

3. Planning is progressing with the pathway and ASEME will probably be able assist with the construction, which will save us some expense and provide ASEME trainees with a practical exercise as part of their course.

4. I have attached my report of my site visit with WO1 Johnson of last Wednesday.

Thanks

5. As usual, my personal thanks for the assistance and support provided by Greg Mulcahy and Jim Hislop. Without this help the Memorial would be difficult to manage. Thank you to both of you.

Frank

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Chairman, Memorial Sub-Committee
Australian Army Apprentices Association
7 Tobin Place
Holder ACT 2611
0416 193387
Frank.poole@grapevine.com.au

Attachment:

1: Report of Site Visit

APPRENTICE MEMORIAL INTAKE PATHWAY **SITE VISIT 12TH OCTOBER 2016**

Background

1. Following discussions by Frank Poole, Chairman Army Apprentices Association Memorial Sub-Committee with Col. Andy MacLean Comdt ALTC, LtCol Colin Blyth CO ASEME, WO1 Robert Turnbull RSM ASEME and WO1 Brendan Johnson RAE Standards Officer, it was agreed that ASEME would examine the possibility of assisting with the construction of an “intake pathway” at the Army Apprentice Memorial at Bandiana as a training exercise.
2. The initial user requirement/basic specification was refined and forwarded to WO1 Johnson and a site visit arranged to discuss the project.

Site Visit

3. Frank Poole met with WO1 Brendan Johnson on site at the Memorial on 12th October 2016 and resolved or identified the following issues.
 - a. The centre line was pegged and initial measurements were made between the rose garden path and the RAEME memorial stone and tablet; length 13.9 metres and width 1.9 metres.
 - b. As each of the 49 intake steps would be only about 28cm wide the original envisaged design of larger “steps” as part of a path was reconsidered and a basic design of a staggered flag stone pavement of cement steps of about 24cm x 100cm was agreed with a brick or concrete edging to the pathway width of 190 cm and a gravel or grass infill between pavers and to the edging. This should overcome drainage problems and allow each step to be identified with an intake by embedding a cast metal tablet into the cement step.
 - c. It was agreed that ASEME students would design the path to our requirements and write the technical specifications. This would be done in consultation with, and agreement by, the Association and final agreement by Comdt. ALTC and Estate Management.
 - d. ASEME would provide the construction element and the Association would need to meet the cost of material and any hire that may be necessary.
 - e. It is anticipated that the work would be carried out in the first half of 2017.
4. Latchford Avenue of Intake Trees
 - a. It was intended that the Association request that the intake tablets against the trees forming the entrance avenue to Latchford Barrack be made available for refurbishment and incorporation into the Intake Pathway. This was influenced by the condition that the tablets were in, the number of dead trees and the difficulty of access to Latchford by Apprentices to view the trees and tablets.
 - b. However, it has been reported that the dead trees have been replaced and the tablets refurbished, or where missing, replaced. If this is confirmed I would recommend we do not remove them from Latchford as they have now been cared for and respected and their place at Latchford will remind trade trainees of the Army Apprentice Scheme heritage.

Responsibilities

5. It was agreed that the following preliminary arrangements be carried out:

- a. The Association
 - i. Following an estimate of costs from ASEME, that a budget be drawn up. (Chair, Memorial Sub-Committee and Treasurer)
 - ii. That fund raising be carried out to cover any shortfall in the Memorial account and the estimated cost for completion. (Chair, Memorial Sub-Committee, Treasurer, Webmaster, members and others)
 - iii. That a grant submission be prepared and submitted to DVA (Chair, Memorial Sub-Committee, Treasurer, President)
 - iv. That wording for the intake steps and the main explanatory tablet and the style of tablets be agreed. (Heritage Officer, Greg Mulcahy, Jim Hislop, Chair Memorial Sub-Committee, Association Committee)
 - v. That Chair Memorial Sub-Committee brief ASEME trainees prior to the project being started.
 - vi. That Chair Memorial Sub-Committee provide regular reports to the Committee and maintain liaison with ALTC and ASEME staff.
 - vii. That the User Requirements/Specifications be revised following this site meeting. (See para 6 below)
- b. ASEME
 - i. Initially, provide an estimate of costs for anticipated material to be used in construction of the pathway to allow the Association to budget for this expenditure. This will not include the provision and cost for tablets and plaques which will be an Association cost.
 - ii. Liaise with Chair, Memorial Sub-Committee on timings and what and when material is required and method of payment.
 - iii. Provide early draft designs, preferably with options, for agreement by the Association.

Revised User Requirements/Specifications for an Intake Pathway at the Apprentice Memorial Bandiana

- 6. Objectives of the Pathway
 - i. The pathway is to recognise each of the 49 intakes of Apprentices and be part of the Army Apprentices Memorial, the responsibility of the Australian Army Apprentices Association.
 - ii. The pathway will provide a link from the rose garden to the RAEME-donated stone-mounted Killed on Overseas Service plaque and will form part of the Army Apprentice Memorial.
- 7. Construction
 - i. The pathway will be approximately 14 metres long and 2 metres wide across the pavement.
 - ii. The pathway will consist of 49 staggered reinforced concrete pavers contained within the defined width of the pathway determined by the width of the RAEME memorial stone's plinth. The design will ensure that vehicle traffic that may cross or travel on the pavement will not cause subsidence, cracking or damage to the pavement or pathway.
 - iii. The design will ensure that the pathway does not constitute a "dam" to water movement across the area and adequate drainage across or under the pathway is to be ensured.

- iv. The finished path must not present a trip hazard.
 - v. Each step will recognise a particular intake with the following details on a tablet embedded into the paver: Intake number, whether Balcombe or Bonagilla, years of enlistment and graduation and number graduated
 - vi. Low maintenance of the pathway is to be a consideration of the design.
8. Periphery Work
- i. An explanatory plaque will be placed on a plinth at the start of the path providing a brief description of the Australian Army Apprentices Schools at Balcombe and Bonagilla and details for each intake showing enlistment and graduation years, Balcombe or Bonagilla and numbers graduated in each trade.
 - ii. A waterproof box to contain Memorial and Association Brochures and a donation box may also be included as part of this plaque support structure.

Conclusion

The cooperation and assistance of ASEME and WO1 Johnson is greatly appreciated.

Frank

14th October 2016

Frank Poole LtCol(Ret) RAE(tn)
Chairman, Army Apprentices Memorial Sub-Committee
memorial@austarmyapprentice.org



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**REPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN
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CANBERRA REGION REPORT

Lunch 22nd September

1. As a one off change from our usual watering hole at the Golden King Restaurant, this time it was Italian, on the north side rather than south and on a Thursday rather than Wednesday.
2. The general consensus of the 21 attending was that the venue overlooking the Belconnen Lake was very attractive but the menu and food was better at the Golden King.

Family BBQ

3. With the assistance of Kevin Noon, a family BBQ has been arranged for Sunday 13th November at the RMC Sgts Mess.
4. All apprentices are welcome but please let me know you wish to attend. Reminder notices will be sent out shortly.

Christmas Lunch

5. Our usual Christmas Lunch will be held this year on Wednesday 14th December at the Golden King Restaurant in Phillip.
6. A banquet with hats, bonbons and prizes will make this an opportunity to celebrate Christmas among friends. Partners are welcome and a notice will be going out shortly. If you are not in the Canberra region and wish to come, please let me know so I can place you on my email list.

Frank Poole

Canberra Regional Representative

14th October 2016



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**EVENTS MANAGER REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY APPRENTICES
ASSOCIATION 22 OCTOBER 2016**

1. The major event of the year was the National Reunion in Albury/Wodonga in October 2015 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the closing of the Army Apprentice Scheme. This Reunion followed the now traditional format of commencing with the Meet & Greet on the Friday afternoon, followed by a street march through the Albury CBD supported by the Army Band Kapooka on the Saturday morning. On Saturday afternoon visits were possible to ASEME at Bandiana to view the trade wings. Saturday evening saw the popular Reunion Dinner followed by a Memorial Service at the Apprentices Memorial at Bandiana on the Sunday. The Reunion concluded with a BBQ lunch.
2. The Official Guests were the last CO/CI and RSM of the Army College of TAFE.
3. The Reunion was attended by just over 200 ex-Apprentices and nearly 100 partners, making this the smallest reunion since 1998. Nonetheless, everyone enjoyed themselves and many compliments were received by the Organising Committee after the event.
4. At the March 2016 Committee meeting a proposal to return to Albury/Wodonga for the 2018 Reunion to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the commencement of the Army Apprentice Scheme was approved.

Otto Aberle
Events Manager
21st VM

8 October 2016