

AUSTRALIAN WORLD WAR ONE DESCENDANTS
Minutes of AGM July 25th, 2012

Meeting opened 7.40pm

Apologies: Mr and Mrs Stephenson, Daphne and Sharron McKeever, Francis and Brian Butcher, Ellen Campbell, Peter Skinner, Peter Horan, Ann Bartlett, Merelyn Chiddy, Fay Connell, Barbara Gentilcore, Richie Newnham

Minutes of the 2011 AGM: Read and accepted. Moved by Royce Lockhart and seconded by Kel Sykes.

President's Report: A good turn out on Anzac Day and we appreciate Ashfield RSL including us in their march the Sunday before Anzac Day. Greg thanked Richie Newnham for attending the RSL briefings before and after Anzac Day, and also Mark Griffiths for his work done on our website. It came to our attention this year that we had not carried out the proper reporting to the Department of Fair Trading for some time. Thanks to Rick for his work in bringing us up to date with the Department of Fair Trading. All positions are currently being described and duties documented. Documented roles will prevent any future inconsistencies and provide a clear path for all reporting requirements and banking of monies. This will also remove any future oversights or anomalies being carried over to future committees.

The Committee will discuss possible sponsorship to Legacy for a book or recollections from surviving WW1 widows, and also a photographic centenary project. We also need to look at replacing the poles that hold up our banner. This will be followed through and hopefully replaced before next Anzac Day.
Greg requested the Treasurer's report.

Accepted by Bruce Connell and seconded by Kel Sykes

Treasurer's Report: Rick did not attend on the night and sent through a printed report. The organisation is in a good financial position with a Bank balance as of 30th June, 2012 of \$8,636.87. We have 31 ties in stock @ \$25 and 51 scarves @ \$20 a total value of \$1790. Our total assets are \$10,426.87.

We are now up to date with our financial reporting to the Department of Fair Trading. As we have incurred less expenses, we have reduced our membership fees to pass these savings on to our members.

Accepted by Bruce Connell and seconded by Sue McFadden

Vice President's Report: Read by President Greg as Richie was not well and could not attend.

Richie attended a meeting prior Anzac Day at the RSL, they are happy with the WW1 Descendants, we are well turned out and act in respect of the Day. Some concern about the WW2 descendants waving to the cameras and about the number who still march behind their relatives' banner. Ian Callaway, the March President, has retired due to ill health and they are looking for a replacement for him. Richie also attended a meeting of the March Committee after Anzac Day. There is concern about the Diggers standing in the jeeps during the March due to their age and land rovers are not to carry more than the nominated amount of passengers.

Accepted by Warren Squires and seconded by Les Atkinson

Secretary's Report: A good Anzac Day with 78 members marching. We had 16 new members joining us on the Day and Arline is still waiting for twelve to return their paperwork. It was wonderful to have 8 junior Australians marching on the Day, honouring their great, great, great Grandfathers and Uncles. This is the future of the Anzac spirit - we must never let it be forgotten. Arline has deleted some members from the database as they have not marched or paid since 07, 08, or 09. We have 134 active members, however some are interstate and are unable to march on a regular basis. All membership fees are now due in April, not as previous where some were due in November. All Members who previously paid in November have been notified.

Arline attended the Fromelles remembrance service at the War Memorial in Hyde Park on 19th July 2012 and laid a beautiful box of Australian wild flowers on behalf of our organisation. We were acknowledged amongst the official wreath laying party, and it was lovely to hear our name called out along with Maree Bashir, Legacy, Veteran's Affairs etc. It was a very moving service.

The only correspondence in or out was to Dooley's and the RSL. headquarters.

Accepted by Greg Cowle and seconded by Sue McFadden

Publicity Officer's Report: Karen approached a number of RSL clubs and they very kindly ran a slide show about our organisation prior to Anzac Day. No formal advertising as this proved to be very expensive with very little return. Our dress code was good on Anzac Day, our ties and scarves looking very professional. It is O.K for carers to march with our elder members and we can issue them with a black Martial's armband to wear during the March. Karen will be attending Kings College on Remembrance Day and will present the young men that so distinctly and graciously carried our banner for us on Anzac Day and their organiser, with boxes of Anzac biscuits as a thank you. Our gathering at the hotel after the March was well attended. They had provided a good separate room for us and the food was good and the service was fast. We have booked the same location for next year. Coverage was very good on the ABC. The announcer went into good detail about our history and our Ideals. Again as a group, we looked very impressive.

Accepted by Arline Ronsisvalle and seconded by Royce Lockhart

Greg thanked Barbara Gentilcore for holding the position of Public Officer since the last AGM. Barbara could not attend the meeting.

All positions declared vacant and call for nominations for new committee.

Much discussion was had regarding the election of the new committee. Proxies had been sent with the AGM notification, but none had been received prior to the meeting by our Secretary. A Returning Officer was not required. Discussion continued as to whether the AGM should proceed, and it was unanimously voted that we continue.

Royce Lockhart suggested that if we are to continue with a proxy form in future years, nominations for each position must also be included. He moved a motion that this years' election be taken from the floor. This was unanimously accepted and a secret vote followed. President Greg said that he was aware of an undercurrent of dissention gaining momentum from some ex-committee members. He said that change is good, as long as it is purely to uphold the honour and respect of why and for whom we want to pay tribute, and not for personal gain.

The results were as follows:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President:	Greg Cowle (10 votes)	Nom. by Karen, seconded by Kel
	Ken Barrington (3 votes)	Nom. by Les Atkinson, seconded by ???
V/Pres.:	Richie Newnham (11 votes)	Nom. by Greg, seconded by Karen
	Les Atkinson (2 votes)	Nom. by Ken Barrington, no secondment
Treasurer:	Sue McFadden (11 votes)	Nom. by Karen, seconded Bruce Connell
	Peter Hawkins (2 votes)	Nom. by Ken Barrington, no secondment
Secretary:	Arline Ronsisvalle	Nom. by Karen, seconded by Sue
	No other nominations	
Asst Sec/	Karen Dawson	Nom. by Arline, seconded by Greg
Publicity	No other nominations	

GENERAL COMMITTEE:

Mark Griffiths	Nominated by Royce, seconded by Karen
Bruce Connell	Nominated by Sue, seconded by Karen
Kel Sykes	Nominated by Karen, seconded by Arline
Royce Lockhart	Nominated by Les, seconded by Ken
Les Atkinson	Nominated by Ken, seconded by Kel
Barbara Gentlecore:	To remain as Public Officer.

Thank you to all who attended and the new committee look forward to a year working together to serve the Australian WW1 Descendants.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm