



RAAF Association (NSW Division) - RADAR BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE RADAR BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton, on 10th July 2014

Page 1 of 7

Present:			
Ray O'Donoghue	President		Chair
Bill Forsbey	Secretary/Pensions		
Tony Rogers	Treasurer		
Bruce Carpenter	Committee Member		
John King	Committee Member		
Howie Campbell	WELFO		
Apologies:			
Terry Delahunty	Vice President		
Bobby McFerran	RAAFLO		
Jim Stewart	Committee Member		
Alex Culvenor	Victorian Representative		
ITEM 1 – Meeting Open and Introduction			
The Chair opened the meeting at 11:00 am. The meeting was advised that a recording device was being utilised.			
ITEM 2 – Minutes of the Previous Meeting			
The Minutes of the previous meeting held at Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton, on 9 th May 2014 were tabled.			
Motion:	That the minutes be accepted.		
Moved:	Tony Rogers	Seconded:	Howie Campbell
Action:		By:	Carried
ITEM 3 – Business Arising from Minutes			
<p>a. Non-Liability Health Cover. The secretary advised that the information provided at the last meeting regarding non-liability health cover for mental disorders was incorrect. The cover has only been extended to cover certain peace time service from 1994 and not ALL ex-servicemen and women.</p>			
ITEM 4 - Correspondence			
The Secretary presented the Correspondence report for the preceding quarter.			
The following matters were noted:			
<p>a. RAAFA NSW AGM. There were various emails regarding the RAAFA NSW AGM.</p> <p>b. New Member. Advice of a new member David Clayton. Former member of the Air Transportable Telecommunications Unit.</p>			



RAAF Association (NSW Division) - RADAR BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE RADAR BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton, on 10th July 2014

- c. Unfinancial Members List.** Received an unfinancial members list from RAAFA NSW. The secretary has followed up with emails to these members.
- d. TIP Training.** The president was requested to approve TIP pensions training for the secretary. Howie Campbell is also nominating for a Welfare Training course.
- e. Stuchbury Awards.** The president presented the Stuchbury Awards at RAAF Base Amberley.
- f. Pensions & Welfare Seminar.** Received advice of the 2014 Seminar at Bulahdelah.
- g. New Banner Grant.** Advice was received that the new banner grant was approved. Also a remittance advice for the deposit of \$660.00.
- h. Long service Certificates.** RAAFA NSW to forward Long Service certificates to each member by mail.
- i. Death of Member.** Received advice of the passing of Mr Kevin Thomas.
- j. 75th Anniversary Rathmines.** Received advice of the 75th Anniversary of Rathmines.
- k. Request for Information.** Received a request for information regarding a Mr Harry Branson who worked on Radar for AWA during WW2.

Action:		By:	
----------------	--	------------	--

ITEM 5 – President’s Report

The President presented his written report (Copy attached).

Action:		By:	
----------------	--	------------	--

ITEM 6 – Vice President’s Report

NIL

ITEM 7 – Treasurer Report

Total funds available at 30th June 2014 were \$5,975.94 being \$1,885.58 in the cheque account and \$4,090.36 in the Cash Reserve Account.

Motion:	That the Treasurer’s report be accepted.
----------------	--

Moved:	Tony Rogers	Seconded:	Howie Campbell	Carried
---------------	-------------	------------------	----------------	---------

ITEM 8 – Welfare Officer’s Report

Howie Campbell presented a written report (Copy attached).

ITEM 9 – General Business

- a. RAAFA AGM.** The RAAFA AGM has been discussed by the president in his report. The secretary stated that the RAAFA NSW Division needed to look at a managed investment portfolio to ensure that the real value of the RAAFA NSW assets (\$1.3 Million) is maintained. This is not going to happen by using term deposits. The executive of RAAFA NSW also need to have more acceptance of technology and what it can provide. There was some discussion as to how Wings magazine would be distributed. This will be sorted out at a



RAAF Association (NSW Division) - RADAR BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE RADAR BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton, on 10th July 2014

Page 3 of 7

National level. There was further discussion regarding the accommodation aspect of the AGM. RAAFA NSW paid for half of the accommodation cost. The cost was \$200.00 of which RAAFA paid \$100.00. The secretary was happy to pay his own costs. The president moved that the Radar Branch pay for the secretary's portion of the accommodation costs being \$125.00.

Moved: Ray O'Donoghue **2nd:** Tony Rogers **CARRIED** (The secretary voted against this motion).

- b. Capitation Funding.** It was agreed that membership fees would be payable by Cheque or Direct Debit using the membership number as the reference.
- c. Christmas Function.** The president proposed that the Christmas luncheon at the City Tattersall's Club still be held but that a function also be held in the Newcastle area. The City Tattersall's function would still be held late November but the function in the Newcastle area might held on a weekend. The meeting was requested to come with some options. The secretary will establish the location of Radar Branch members with a view to selecting a central location. There was also a suggestion of a lunch after each Committee meeting. It was also suggested that the bi-monthly meetings be called General Meeting of the radar Branch instead of Committee meeting to try and attract attendance by members. It was also suggested that the meetings be moved to a weekend to enable working members to attend. The president talked about the possibility of Branch members attending the 3CRU Christmas function.
- d. New Banner Grant Acquittal.** The treasurer requested advice regarding the Grant acquittal form. The president will provide further details in this regard.

Item 10 –Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held as follows:
Venue: Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton
Date: 4th September 2014
Time: 11:00 am

Item 11 - Meeting Closure. The President closed the meeting at:

12:32 pm

Ray O'Donoghue
President

William Forsbey
Secretary



**RAAF Association (NSW Division) - RADAR BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE RADAR BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton, on 10th July 2014**

Page 4 of 7

10 JULY 2014

President's Report

Stutchbury Award

On 28 May I travelled to RAAF Base Amberley to present the G. Stutchbury Award to FLTLT VICTORIA SINCLAIR. I was hosted by the FLTCDR, SQNLDR Dan Cassilles, and WGCDR Ruth Elesly from 44WG. The event was very pleasant and successful.

RAAFA NSW FORUM AND AGM

I attended the forum and AGM with Bill Forsbey on 19 & 20 June. I subsequently submitted a report by email to the Committee, which is attached to this report for inclusion in the minutes.

The key outcome for us, in the short term, is to determine how we will transition to managing membership renewals from the Branch. The key issues I see are:

- a. Setting fees.
- b. Despatch of renewal notices, and
- c. Record-keeping.

I propose that a sub-committee of the President, Secretary and Treasurer be formed to consider the issues and report back to the next meeting with a plan of action, with a view to completing our transition by the end of this year.

Anzac Day 2015 and beyond

Late last month, I had a telephone conversation with Bronwyn ?, at the Newcastle Diggers Club, with a view to opening discussions regarding joining the Newcastle ANZAC Day Commemorations. She advised that I write to the Chief Marshall, Ken Sayle, to arrange a meeting. I have written to Ken but, due to personal circumstances, did not get around to it until this week. I hope to meet with Ken soon and work out what would be involved. As far as the discussions go, I will take the position of it being a fact-finding exercise for us, so that I can report back to the next meeting for further discussion.

Report on the RAAFA NSW Division Assembly and AGM

The Secretary and I attended the 2014 RAAFA NSW Division Assembly and AGM, held in Sydney on 19 and 20 June. A number of routine issues were addressed, as usual, and the minutes will be available in due course for your perusal. However, I wish to bring to your immediate attention some very important resolutions that will fundamentally affect the way the NSW Division of RAAF A, and its constituent Branches, will work in future.

At the 2013 Assembly, the delegates discussed a range of issues concerning the future direction



RAAF Association (NSW Division) - RADAR BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE RADAR BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton, on 10th July 2014

Page 5 of 7

and growth of RAAFA NSW. As a result, the Assembly concluded that a review of the capitation system was required. A motion was duly passed and subsequently adopted by the AGM the following day. The approved motion resolved that:

"The current capitation system in the State Division and Branches be reviewed by the State Council to include the value of the work done at the Branch level to determine an equitable split of membership funding between the Branch, National and State Division."

A Working Group (WG) of six Councillors was formed to conduct the review and report to the 2014 Assembly and AGM, with recommendations. Over a period of many months, the WG reviewed work practices, conducted forums and briefed many of the Branches on its progress and likely conclusions. Your Branch participated in the Sydney Forum and was briefed by the WG at the May meeting, ahead of the Assembly.

At the Assembly, the WG presented its paper and recommendations, which you will find attached to this email. In brief, the WG found that the State Division was living beyond its means and that Significant changes had to be made to address the losses. There was considerable lively debate around the proposals but, in the end, all were passed. The minutes of the AGM will be made available in due course, but in a nutshell the outcomes are as follows:

1. From 1 [an 2015, Branches that are able to manage their own membership administration will assume such responsibility, including the collection of dues directly from members; forwarding of State and National capitation to State Division; maintenance of membership records; and reporting of membership records to State Division.
2. This State to Branch transition is to be completed by 28 Feb 2016 unless, in exceptional circumstances, a Branch is unable to assume responsibility by that date. Branches that fall into this category will continue to be managed as at present.
3. Each Branch will be free to set its own membership fees, up to an aggregate of \$30 (as at present).
4. In return for the Branches assuming Administration responsibility, capitation to State will be significantly reduced, allowing Branches to retain greater funds for direct use by the membership, reduce membership fees, or some combination of both, at the discretion of the Branch.
5. State Division will work with National Council towards implementing a National Information System that will facilitate a continuum of membership management at all levels. So what does this mean for RAAF Radar Branch?

Your Committee has fully supported the changes and already has in place a system that will allow it to readily transition to the new management model. It does, of course, mean a bit more work for the Committee - in particular the Treasurer and Secretary - but that has been



**RAAF Association (NSW Division) - RADAR BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE RADAR BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton, on 10th July 2014**

Page 6 of 7

understood and accepted by the Committee.

For the members, it will mean that renewal notices will be sent from the Branch and not NSW Division, and that payment will be made directly to the Branch. It MAY also mean a change in the amount due, but that will first be subject to review, consultation and ratification by the members. Members who receive the Wings magazine will continue to be billed for, and receive, it, although the process of delivery may change. This was the subject of a separate discussion and motion that directed State Council to enter into discussions with National Council, which is the publisher of Wings.

The changes that have been brought in this year will, without doubt, bring challenges but should also present opportunities to expand the reach and activities of the Branch. Your questions will be very welcome and we will do our best to answer them - even better, feel free to attend our next meeting, which will be held at the Gallipoli Legion Club, Beaumont Street, Hamilton, on 10 July at 11:00 am.

Ray Q'Donoghue

President RAAF Radar Branch



**RAAF Association (NSW Division) - RADAR BRANCH
MINUTES OF THE RADAR BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETING
Held at Gallipoli Legion Club, Hamilton, on 10th July 2014**

Page 7 of 7

WELFARE OFFICER REPORT. RADAR BRANCH 10th July 2014.

- 9th May Attended PAWON meeting at Ourimbah RSL Club.
5th June Delivered 80 WW2 Radar books to RAAF Museum at Point Cook.
18th June Attended PAWON Meeting at Ourimbah RSL Club.
29th June Interview with Ian Macnamara at ABC Radio 702 in Sydney re the 75th
Anniversary of the Formation of RAAF Rathmines. (2hours.)
1st July Sent application form to ex Radar member to obtain his Returned From
 Active Service Badge,
9th July Received phone call from ex Radar member from Beresfield. Referred
 him to a Pension Officer at Maitland RSL Sub Branch.

I have been very busy with the Friends of Rathmines Inc Group, and I have arranged for the RAAF Band, the Military Dog Unit from RAAF Williamtown, and 41Wing to be present at the 75th Anniversary of the formation of RAAF Rathmines celebrations at Rathmines Park in September.

I have been assisting a Woy Woy Vietnam Vets Welfare Officer to organize a Welfare Officer Level 1 TIP Course to be held on the Central Coast.

I have been promoting the Military Expo to be held at the Singleton Army Base in October, which I will attend.

Considerable time has been spent, organizing guest speakers for the monthly meetings of the Central Coast Pension & Welfare Officer Network Meetings held at Ourimbah RSL Club.

I have made & received many phone calls from ex Radar personnel re their health and well being.

Howard Campbell
Welfare Officer, Radar Branch RAAF Association NSW Division
Chairman Central Coast Pension & Welfare Officer Network.