

National AGM held in the Sebel Playford Hotel Adelaide on 10 June 2007

The President opened the meeting 0910 and made welcome the 97 members in attendance and then asked the members to stand for a minute's silence for those members who have "crossed the bar".

Apologies for absence was called they being; VADM Ian Mac Dougall, Peter Vidler, Peter Chegwidde, Col Lewis, Peter Hall, Stephen Gillis, Noel Robson, Reg Bichel, G. Fowler, Peter Watt, Garth Schmidt, Terry Wyatt, Ken Brazier, Werner Pelka, Graham Atkinson, Rob Thurston, Don Carroll and Rod Peters.

The President David Sandquest introduced himself and then asked the National Committee to introduce themselves starting from his right. Roger Hardwicke WA, Barry McKeown QLD, Mike Bennett VIC, Col Ware NSW, Peter Smith Secretary, Max Hardy Vice President, Mal Bridge North QLD, Andy Galley ACT, Fed Butcher SA and Kim Pitt TAS.

Minutes: Proposed Lloyd Blake, seconded Greg Pennicuik that the minutes of the 2006 AGM be taken as read, carried unanimously.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

1 Mike Bennett spoke on the Otama Project in Hastings, Victoria and stated that the Association is not involved in the project, he went on to state that the whole project is in a mess both politically and in the press and also that Boral Limited wanted to buy the site back. He then suggested that all they could do was stand back and keep a watching brief. On reply to the question "what was the state of the boat?" Greg Pennicuik replied that the boat is basically OK but the mooring ropes are a problem he also stated the Minister Mr Bruce Bilson stated that if they do not get their act together the government will cut off the money and lose the boat altogether.

2 Kim Pitt spoke on the work he had undertake over the past two years to get the new Constitution and Rules (C&Rs) together. He stated that the brief given him was to tweak the then current 2001 C&Rs and his brief did not include Incorporation and change of logo. Kim stated that the new draught met the expectations of the majority of Branches. Kim then asked which of the two documents the members wish to vote on, the membership chose the new C&Rs Kim then proposed, seconded David Bryant and carried by a majority vote with 4 against.

2a Kevin Hayton then called for debate and several changes to the new C&Rs.

2b Proxy vote, Delete 6.3.3. Proxy voting in its entirety. Proposed Kevin Hayton seconded Michael Bennett, motion carried

2c Annex A1.3 c (i.) Change to "the mover of the motion shall be permitted to speak for 4 minutes and any subsequent speaker, including seconder and mover of any amendment for 3 minutes provided that the meeting may consent to a specified extension of time for the speaker." Proposed Kevin Hayton seconded David Williams, carried.

2d The membership debated postal and absentee voting with several proposals put forward then withdrawn. The president then suggested that a working committee be set up after further debate Ian Sinclair proposed that an absentee voting be investigated by a sub-committee and report back to the AGM next year, seconded Keith Hatfield carried with a majority vote, one against.

3 Queensland President informed the members of the state of the changes to the upgrade of the ASM to the AASM for those members who had undertaken "Special Operations" he stated that at this time we are awaiting a decision which rests with the Chief of Defence.

Welfare Foundation Report: David reported that there was no call on the fund (report appended to the minutes) Roger Hardwicke informed the David that the Western Australia Branch had sent a cheque to the fund via mail. David was asked where does the money come from in the Fund? On which he replied was from donations and interest drawn from the fund. The Secretary stated that a cheque of LS 30 had been sent by the Coxswains' Association as a donation to Gordon Selby's family which was also sent to the Welfare Foundation. Greg Pennicuik spoke of the amount of money available in the RSL's Central Patriotic Fund and that the Association should try to access it. The President proposed that his report be accepted seconded Roger Faramus carried unanimously. Fed Butcher proposed that the executive approach AVADSC to find out what our access rights are to these funds. Seconded Greg Pennicuik carried unanimously.

Welfare Officer's Report: (Which is appended to the minutes) the report accepted with acclamation, moved Kevin Hayton, seconded Greg Pennicuik carried unanimously. Greg spoke to motion and stated that doing TIP work was rewarding and commended Kevin for the work he has undertaken as the National Welfare Officer. Accepted with acclamation. Roger Hardwicke also stated his thanks to Kevin which was accepted with acclamation.

Web Master's Report: (Which is appended to the minutes) report accepted with acclamation. Proposed Norm Williams seconded Greg Pennicuik carried.

Treasurer's Report: Acting Treasurer John Rana informed the membership that he was unable to give a full report as there was no official hand over due to the death of the incumbent Treasurer Bob Marsland and as there was no official report there was no audited report either. He did state that there are two term deposits accounts totalling \$13,301-57 in one and \$9,061-74 in the other, also we have a cheque account with the balance up to 6 June 2007 of \$17,809. He also stated over this period we have 25 new members. He then informed the members of the break down of the expenditure for the past year. The Acting Treasurer then moved that his financial report be accepted, seconded Roger Faramus. The President then informed the members that at the Committee Meeting it was recommended that the new Treasurer will have 90 days to get the accounts audited and report back to the membership. The President then moved that the motion be put, carried with acclamation.

President's Report: (Which is appended to the minutes) on completion of his report the President then moved that it be accepted, seconded Max Hardy carried.

Election of Office Bearers: Kim Pitt was invited to conduct the election of National Executives and Roger Hardwick and David Williams agreed to count the show of hands.

There were two members put forward for election as President, David Sandquest and John Head on a show of hands 63 voted for David Sandquest, 21 for John Head. David Sandquest was re-elected President for 2007/2008. Carried with acclamation.

There were three members put forward for Vice President Max Hardy, Lloyd Blake and John O'Brien. On the show of hands, 51 voted for Max Hardy, 24 for Lloyd Blake and 12 for John O'Brien it was declared that Max Hardy was elected Vice President for 2007/2008. Carried with acclamation.

There were two members put forward for Secretary Peter Smith and Noel Robson on the show of hands 65 voted for Peter Smith and 13 for Noel Robson, Peter Smith was declared Secretary for 2007/2008. Carried with acclamation.

Two names were submitted for the position of Treasurer John Rana and Robert Wilson on the show of hands 61 voted for John Rana and 24 for Robert Wilson. John Rana was declared Treasurer for 2007/2008. Carried with acclamation.

Election of National Welfare Officer: As the incumbent Welfare Officer had volunteered to step down the position was declared vacant and replacement needed to be found. Kevin Hayton recommended that the Vice President Max Hardy in position of working for the RSL NSW Branch Welfare and Benevolent Institute was well suited for the position as well as Greg Pennicuik and Tony Critchley or any other Welfare/Pensioner Officer. Roger Hardwicke spoke in favour of Kevin's recommendation and then proposed that Max Hardy be elected. Max then stated that he was happy to accept the position with the proviso that each Branch provide an individual person irresponsible for Welfare in their State to assist and he will be happy to coordinate it all. The president reiterated the proviso that all State Branches provide a representative to assist the Max. Accepted with acclamation.

The President called for a break (pit stop) at 1045 the meeting resumed at 1050.

Auditor: As the position of Treasurer is held by a Western Australian member there was no audit of the accounts undertaken, after debate where the Committee recommendation of 90 days to get the accounts and audit was reiterated it was decided that an auditor of the accounts will be found in Western Australia, proposed Stuart Campbell, seconded Keith Hatfield that the committee recommend an auditor to carry out an audit on it, carried.

Venue for SUBCON 08: Andy Galley informed the members that the ACT Branch will be hosting SUBCON 08 and promised that it will be cold. He stated that the Meet and Greet will be held in the ANZAC Hall of the Australian War Memorial Museum, also Rydges Lake Side Hotel, Canberra will be the venue for the most of the weekend activities. Sunday after the AGM, lunch and a bush dance will be held in the Gundaroo Pub. Accepted with acclamation.

Motions from the National Committee Meeting:

- 1. Life Membership:** Fred Butcher the President of the South Australia Branch spoke to his Branch's nomination of Life Membership to William (Bill) Hollas on completion the President presented the Life Membership Badge to Bill, this was accepted with acclamation.
- Barry McKeown spoke to the to the 8 motions submitted by the Queensland Branch, as the new Constitution and Rules had been accepted by the membership he withdrew the motions to be taken back and reworded and resubmitted next year. Kim Pitt then spoke to the commitment of the Queensland Branch in assisting with the rewriting the C&Rs.
- The President then spoke of next motion that the name Submarines Association Australia and its acronym SAA be registered. Moved Kevin Hayton, seconded Greg Pennicuik. Roger Hardwick spoke for the motion and cited

- the problem in Western Australia of having the Royal Navy “Submariners’ Association of Western Australia” which creates confusion. After further debate the President put the motion to the members carried unanimously.
4. Col Ware informed the members that the old submarine base HMAS Platypus is to celebrate its 40th Anniversary of Commissioning date on 18 August. He also stated that the Sydney Foreshore Authority have taken over the site and we have representation on the committee being Ken Williams the Secretary of the NSW Branch and Captain Chris Skinner RAN (Rtd) a former boss of RANTME. He then proposed that the National Executive have representation on that committee and try to organise something to celebrate the occasion. David Bryant spoke to the proposal and nominated Peter Smith to be representative. Jim Dennis and David Williams were also nominated. Proposal was carried unanimously.
 5. Col Ware stated a second proposal from the NSW Branch was that a submariner from the Submarine Squadron be nominated as a liaison with the Association as it appears we are losing touch with the Squadron, citing the fact that no one knows when the submarines are visiting the various ports, seconded Norm Williams who spoke to the motion. Lloyd Blake also spoke to the motion citing the change to the Junior Sailors, one point being, that they were not utilising the Junior Sailors Mess that the Mess was changed into the Chapel. Roger Hardwick stated that there were two up coming dates to take note of, in Western Australia on October 20, wear your bib and tucker and medals for we are having a sit down meal with the Governor General. Also every year from now on a Squadron Dinner Ball at the Burswood Casino this year on the 26 October. Fred Butcher raised the fact that the Submariner of the Year Award had not been presented for the past three years and had raised the fact with Commodore Shalders and it was noted that even with the submarines refitting in SA there was very little contact with the serving submariners and the Association. Carried unanimously.
 6. **General Business:** Peter Donovan informed the members that HMAS Rankin will be in Brisbane on the 4 July 2007
 - 6a Mike Bennett raised the issue of unauthorised people of wearing the submarine dolphins, he also stated that after making official enquiries there is no law to stop people wearing them as they are not recognised as an official military insignia like the other countries do. Mike stated that he has started up a lobby group and work with the Government to set up a statue and we all need to talk with our local MPs to get this up. David Bryant added that the penalties and fines and gaol time have increased noting the fine is around \$3,500 however it’s getting the Federal Police to act is the problem. Mike also stated that the dolphin insignia is not listed under the Awards and Medals of the military list. On further debate it became clear that getting recognition of the dolphins as an official insignia be undertaken by the Association.
 - 6b Roger Faramus raised the proposal to adopt a memorial of those members who passed away over the previous 12 months. After debate it was pointed out that there are obituaries in “In Depth” and on the Norm’s web site. As there was a motion put forward Roger was asked which part of it he wanted, in reply he stated a memorial of those member be available at the AGM seconded Greg Pennicuik, carried.
 - 6c Noel Lowry informed the members that 2011 is the 100 Anniversary of the RAN and that the Association do a better attempt at it than the 75th.
 - 6d Barry McKeown moved that the Secretary get the new signed and emended C&Rs be posted on the website and that a signed and emended hard copy be sent to all Branch Secretaries. Seconded David Williams carried unanimously.
 - 6e Pat Heffernan said that the Hotel management should be congratulated for calling the heads, toilets and not gentlemen.
 - 6f David Williams said that all Branches should try harder to improve our communications because when he goes walkabout he wants to where all the free beds are. Greeted with mirth and acclamation.
 - 6g Col Deller prompted his President Mal Bridge to speak on the proposal for North Queensland hosting SUBCON 2011 in Townsville On debate of how important that year was going to be the President suggested that it be taken to the next Committee meeting for consideration.
 - 7 Andy Galley thanked the SA Branch and Fred Butcher and his Committee for the marvellous job of the weekend.
 - 8 Fred Butcher then presented the SUBCON White Ensign to the ACT President Andy Galley along with “the weight” of various Oberon class hand wheels attached to a wheel spanner. With the proviso that he name all the colours before it was handed over this was greeted with mirth and acclamation.
 - 9 The President declared the meeting shut at 1154.