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Patron:
David McLachlan AO,
MAJGEN (RL)

RAASC VIETNAM SUPPLY PLATOONS ASSOCIATION (VSPA)
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 30 OCT 2014 AT WOLLONGONG

Present: as per listing

Apologies: Bruce Manning, Irene Chaplin, Tony and Liz Galea, Brian Stephenson,

Denis and Lenore Cowling, Bob Metcalf, Marty and Jessica Ansen

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - held at Albion Park RSL Sub-Branch

Purpose

1. Confirm the business of previous meeting at Cowes in 21 Mar 2013,
2. Update the members on any general business being undertaken in the name of the association including our Executive reports
3. To elect a committee and other sub committees as required to maintain and strengthen the association.

Bob Denner introduced the AGM, reminding us of some of those key members; the two retired Generals, and President Bruce and Membership Secretary Christina who were unable to make the meeting.

1. Previous meeting at Cowes in 21 Mar 2013 - three main issues:

Firstly, we agreed we would lay an Association Plaque at Dorrigo, Vietnam Veterans Day in Aug 2013. We have previously agreed to lay a plaque at each reunion as a cost to Association funds.

Secondly, we offered three-year memberships which includes spouses/partners, in addition to the single year memberships. The aim is to save Christina administrative time and money, and involve our ladies who support us and treat them as equal members with equal voting rights.

Thirdly, we discussed the location and frequency of our reunions, and appointment of teams to plan and run each event. At Cowes we agreed to the Wollongong reunion.

Fourthly, we held our regular elections. Bruce indicated that if anyone was prepared to set up a new Executive, we would give every assistance for that to happen.

Proposed - Russ Seconded - Don Noy

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2. Business arising from the previous meeting

Laying of VSPA Plaques at our Reunions

We have laid plaques at Canberra, Albury, Coolangatta, Dorrigo and Cowes. We are keen to leave a presence for future generations to see and read about. Our plaque does this. We agreed we would fund ongoing plaques if an appropriate location were to be found.

Three Year Memberships - the Executive is very happy with the take up rate amongst the members of the three year option. Bob reminded us, then asked the ladies to join us so they felt included as equal members and able to contribute their ideas to the running of these events which were as much needed for them as their partners.

Membership-Welfare Report and Treasurers Report later under General Business

3. General Business

Membership Fees We offer three year memberships. We know of at least 15 members and wives/partners who have taken advantage of this offer.

It works well, and makes membership secretary Christina's life a lot easier. What is disheartening is the fact that our members are not renewing as much as we'd hoped.

We also issue our newsletters free to:

- three honorary guest members - two MAJ GEN and one BRIG,
- widows and RAASC Vietnam Association.

RAASC Association provides us with their newsletter reciprocally.

Next Reunion 2015-2016 - Graeme Sherriff indicated he would be happy to run the next reunion in Perth.

Taking into account 15-18 month lead time, he anticipates likely date to be post ANZAC Day 2016 which would give members time to save, and the weather is more amenable.

Getting there: various options include cheap Virgin Happy Hour airfares booked early, TPI and Senior concessions on the train or driving from interstate for those keen to drive.

Accommodation would be sourced to enable good deals for the members.

Graeme presented a rough concept which included:

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Arrive Perth Saturday, accommodation in Perth close to ANZAC House,
 Sunday - vineyard tour,
 Monday - lunch at ANZAC House,
 Tuesday - Mandurah river cruise,
 Wednesday - Fremantle and Maritime Museum guided tour,
 Thursday - AGM, plaque laying and Corps Dinner,
 Friday - free time and lunch at ANZAC House, and
 Saturday free time departure.

To make the event cost effective, at least 20 folk are required for the bus tours. A show of hands from the floor indicated a keenness to participate. We are keen to align ourselves with an RSL as they will have the resources to assist us in the commemorative aspects. Inglewood RSL was mentioned.

REPORTS

President's Report

Bob reported in Bruce's absence. David McLachlan our Patron is always keen to see us keeping in touch, and offers his apologies. David and Sara Ferguson also send their apologies.

We are fortunate to have Geoff and Leonie Christopherson with us again at our reunion.

President Bruce in particular sends his best wishes but is unavailable due to an urgent family commitment which is going to take all of this week. He did want to be with us. He also indicated he would be happy if someone else nominated for the President's job.

Bruce is keen for us to discuss the running of the Association, and in particular periodic Reunions. His concern was it may be too difficult to get together, too often and recommended a 15-18 month gap between each reunion. That being the case, it would mean DECEMBER 2015-APRIL 2016.

We place on record our thanks to Barry Carroll for taking a stand to run this one. Graeme Sherriff offered to run the next Reunion in Western Australia for the Association.

2. Secretary's Report

I wear two hats: that of SECRETARY and the Newsletter Editor.

Our main OPERATIONAL REASON for the newsletter is to advise members about our reunions. If you want something included in the newsletter, especially if it is not TIME CRITICAL, let me know. We do three newsletters a year, supplemented by email

notifications to report time critical issues.

Secondly, our aim is to report anything affecting our members and the wider Veteran community.

Out of interest 32 paid up members receive an email version of our newsletter. Another 49 Vets, some RAASC, some not, also receive newsletters and other material from me.

Your Exec have the odd meeting, but mostly we do business by phone, email, or face to face where needed. It is a delight that Bruce, Christina, Ray and David are on the team. We have been working closely together since 2006.

And we are especially fortunate to have Christina dealing at the front counter as it were with you all. Well done Christina. Despite all your personal difficulties, you keep us all going! Keith would be proud of your efforts if he were here today.

I reflect Bruce's thoughts on the issue - we are happy to let someone else have a go, and would offer every help to get you up to speed easily and quickly. We have good people, but we wear out after a while.

More interestingly is the spread of our Veterans and their wives-partner, members or not, around the country:

QLD	40
NSW	30
VIC	30
WA	10
TAS	10
SAUST	10
ACT	10

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>140</u>
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We are subsidising the Reunion to \$400 which includes the Corps Dinner \$5/pp and have contributed some \$200 from Association members to Christina to buy prizes over and above those provided by the members.

Correspondence Summary (not in order of importance)

Hopefully you are all getting three copies a year of the DVA VETAFFAIRS newspaper.

The Association receives a significant amount of other email from various individuals and Government, and Veterans organisations across the country. We try to get this news out straight away via email, and in the newsletter when we have sufficient material to print a newsletter.

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DFRDB indexation and government promises and the recent unreasonable pay offer for our defence personnel heads the top of the list. And they come from DFWA, DVA, and various state, VVF, VVA, RSL, on wide range of Veterans issues. Some other examples of correspondence we receive include:

Military Historian Graham Wilson-a book on rationing in the Australian Army-on hold, Vietnam and Gallipoli Tour advices,
 Dieldren and Agent Orange articles,
 New PTSD ruling-acceptance of perception of threat,
 Military history, and new Military equipment across the globe,
 Photos wanted-Nui Dat chapel,
 Missing and deceased veterans, from all Corps

We feel one of our important roles is to network and share information that is relevant to our members.

Moved: Russ Morison, Seconded: Denny Van Maanenberg All agreed.

4. MEMBERSHIP AND WELFARE REPORT 2013 14

Well folks another reunion is upon us. Boy, where did the last 18mths go. I do hope you all have a wonderful week. I am sorry I am unable to attend I hope to catch up at the next reunion.

The membership currently stands at 51. Thank you to all members who have taken up the 3 yrs membership as it makes my job a lot easier

We are still having a concern with the way the bank records your transactions, which means we have trouble identifying who you are.

When you renew your membership, it would help us match payments to transactions, if you can please indicate on your membership form:

- the date,
- the amount and
- whether it is for membership, reunion or donation,

It makes it easier to trace individual members on the statements. A couple of guys already do this and it works very well.

We now have three of our widows that are sent a regular newsletter. It is so nice to see Sue Hazel, and Sue Hartas attending the reunion.

We have three honorary RAASC guest members-two MAJ GEN and one BRIG Geoff with us today, and several RAASC-RACT Associations reciprocate newsletters with us.

On the welfare side we have a couple of our guys on the sick list:

- Dennis Cowling and
- Tony Galea.

Regrettably, Bob Cooper passed away last August. We sent Flowers to Kay and the family on behalf of the members. Robert Evans of Det 52 Sup PI also passed away earlier this year, attended by some of our own members.

I would like to pass on my thanks to the committee Bruce, Ray, Russ, David for their help throughout out the year.

If you would still like me to continue as membership & welfare officer I am happy to stand again

Regards Christina Luff

Moved: Russ Morison, Seconded: Don Noy All agreed.

TREASURERS REPORT

David presented two reports for ratification:

2012-2013 - the audited return which showed we had a profit of \$1143.17 but total receipts of \$6279.97 (which included reunion deposits), and

2013-2014 – not yet audited with revenue of \$2165.93 (the figure required by Office of Regulatory Service to ascertain registration fees) and a profit of \$877.83 (ie. balance of revenue over expenses)

Matching Deposits - David then spoke about some of the difficulties we have in matching member deposits when using the NAB. He asked members to identify their NAME, what the deposit is for and the date when making deposits into our account as this makes identification of depositor easier to reconcile.

Annual Financial Return - The Office of Regulatory Services (ORS) has introduced a rule about how they determine fees for registration of organisations – essentially revenue up to \$5000 is fee free. Last year we had to pay a fee to lodge our return because the ORS based their fee on our total receipts (which exceeded \$5000) rather than our net receipts (profit).

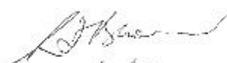
For the latest financial return and in preparation for our Annual Report, we will show reunion deposits separate to our ACTUAL revenue (which is membership receipts, donations, raffles and interest) which will ensure we are within the \$5000 limit for fee free registration.

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In addition, the cost of reunions will be calculated and shown as a separate report for future AGMs.

Cost Savings Measure - We have purchased a colour laser printer which we believe will save us a heap on printing costs. We understand it should pay for itself after three editions. It is held at David's place and used when required.

RAASC Vietnam Supply Platoons Association			
2012-13 Treasurer's Report			
Balance of National Access Account at 1 July 2012		1109.86	
Balance of Term Deposit at 1 July 2012		4000.00	
Total Balance of Accounts at 1 July 2012			5109.86
Receipts			
Membership fees 2012-13	1080.00		
Membership fees 2013-14	20.00		
Membership fees 3 years	420.00		
Mementabilia - badges	10.00		
Phillip Island Reunion 2013	4166.80		
Donations	100.00		
Reunion raffle	341.15		
Interest 2012-13	0.32		
Interest 2012-13 Term Deposit	141.70		
Total Receipts		6279.97	
Expenses			
Web Site Hosting	195.00		
Postage	100.00		
RAASC Victoria Membership	15.00		
Plaque for Phillip Island	359.70		
Reunion 2013 Phillip Island	4417.10		
Donation to NVVM	50.00		
Total Expenses		5136.80	
Balance of Receipts to Expenses 2012-13			1143.17
Balance of National Access Account at 30 June 2013		2111.33	
Balance of Term Deposit at 30 June 2013		4141.70	
Total Balance of Accounts at 30 June 2013		6253.03	6253.03
I, David William Evans, Treasurer (RAASC - VSPA)			
certify that this is a true and correct copy of the			
Receipts and Expenses of the RAASC Vietnam Supply			
Platoons Association for the year 2012-13.			
<u>signed</u> 			
5 December 2013			
<i>I, Ray Jovanovic, Chairman have audited the Accounts of the Association and have found them to be satisfactory</i>			
			
6/12/13			

**RAASC Vietnam Supply Platoons Association
2013-14 Treasurer's Report**

Balance of National Access Account at 1 July 2013	2111.33	
Balance of Term Deposit at 1 July 2013	4141.70	
Total Balance of Accounts at 1 July 2013		6253.03

Revenue

Membership fees 2013-14	180.00
Membership fees 2014-15	0.00
Membership fees 3 years	1720.00
Donations	110.00
Interest 2013-14	0.19
Interest 2013-14 Term Deposit	155.74

Total Revenue 2165.93

Expenses

Web Site Hosting	195.00
Postage	47.20
RAASC Victoria Membership	15.00

Plaques for Dorrigo & Wollongong	739.81
Office Reg Services - fee	37.00
PO Box	102.80
Envelopes Stationery Ink	32.05
Colour Laser Printer	100.49
Bank fee - Cheque book	18.75

Total Expenses 1288.10

Balance of Revenue to Expenses 2013-14 877.83

Deposits for Wollongong Reunion 2014 1504.00

Deposits Wollongong Reunion	1504.00
Payments from Deposits	0.00

Balance of Revenue + Deposits for 2013/14 2381.83

Balance of National Access Account at 30 June 2014	4337.42	--
Balance of Term Deposit at 30 June 2014	4297.44	

Total Balance of Accounts at 30 June 2014 8634.86 8634.86

I, David William Evans, Treasurer (RAASC - VSPA)
certify that this is a true and correct copy of the
Receipts and Expenses of the RAASC Vietnam Supply
Platoons Association for the year 2013-14.

signed

Moved: David Evans Seconded: Don Noy All agreed.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2014-2016

Bob reminded us that the Association needs new blood with new ideas, and to ensure vitality we need to think of succession planning. He declared all positions vacant.

Executive Two nominations were received for the Executive:

President - Ken Taylor, and
Vice-President - Denny Van Maanenber.

David, Russ, Ray and Christina indicated they would continue if wanted. The Executive now comprises the following members who will be included in our Annual Report to the Office of Regulatory Services:

President	Ken Taylor
Vice President	Denny Van Maanenber
Secretary	Russ Morison
Treasurer	David Evans

Other Executive members include:

Membership/Welfare Manager	Christina Luff
Newsletter Editor	Denny Van Maanenber
2016 Reunion Organiser	Graeme and Maria Sherriff
Committee Member	Ray Brown
*RAASC Logistics Advisor	Bruce Manning
Ex Officio Public Officer	vacant

Regional Executive members

North Queensland	Tony Simon (in absentia)
Brisbane and Environs	Don Noy
Gold Coast	Don Noy
NSW Country	Bob Denner
Sydney Metro	Barry Carroll
South Australia	Noel Schluter (in absentia)
Victoria	Tony Galea (in absentia)
Tasmania	Glen Breden
Western Australia/2016 Reunion Organiser	Graeme and Maria Sherriff

As no other nominations were forthcoming, the above members were elected unopposed, on a show of hands.

*Post Reunion note-in recognition of his Inaugural Presidency, and because of his passion for the history of our Corps and members, he will take up the above position.

GENERAL BUSINESS

VSPA Collared T Shirts Denny initiated an offer to source T shirts to encourage esprit de corps and a sense of belonging. Some of our members have examples of what we might want which could include:

- Collars,
- Breast pockets,
- Colour options including corps colours, and
- Sizes to suit both sexes.

He has contacts from other activities outside VSPA, particularly Asian-Pakistan and Indian producers who produce very good quality T shirts, likely to a maximum cost of \$15 each including delivery, provided there is sufficient interest.

Feedback from the floor indicated a strong interest, and as such, he would provide several designs for us to choose from which would be marketed through our newsletter.

OTHER MATTERS

Name Tags Bob was concerned by the manner in which name tags were produced with the words "wife of". The ladies are full members in their own right and need not even have their SURNAME mentioned in future. It does make it easier to remember names by having name tags, if done properly. The Executive will take this on board.

Appreciation Letters We will write to Bruce to thank him for his guidance and leadership as our first past President. The Association is in good hands as reinforced by Geoff Christopherson also.

We will provide a copy of the membership listing to our State Representatives so they can make contact and encourage others to come along to our reunions.

We will write to our Guest Speakers, Geoff and Leonie Christopherson, RSL Albion Park and Shellharbour Salvation Army for their assistance and help given during our Reunion and Plaque laying.

Moved: Paul Griffiths, Seconded: Alan Windle that our General Business be accepted

Meeting closed at 1430

Ken Taylor
President

Russ Morison
Secretary

Date.....

REUNION PARTICIPANTS

Members

Alan and Vicki Windle
Bob and Gwynneth Denner
Warwick and Kim Atkinson
Glen and Loraine Breaden
Barry Mining
Paul and Cathy Griffiths
Sue Hartas (late partner Mick)
Stewart and Deb McKay
Ian Brown (Brownie)
Russ and Janice Morison
Barry and Bridgett Carroll
Phil and Kay Holder
Denny and Jenny VanMaanenberg
Graeme and Ann Beulah
Sue Hazel
Helen and Tony Stenthorp (Sue Sister and Brother in law)
Graeme and Maria Sherriff
Ken and Marilyn Taylor
Peter and Ann Kennedy
John and Margaret Greenhalgh
Geoffrey and Leonie Christopherson
Dave and Robyn Evans

Invited Guests

Homefront(DVA) -
Ceri and Jodi

Albion Park RSL-
President Brian McGrath and
Secretary Deborah Hamilton

Shellharbour Salvation Army
Captain Shirley Spooner