



Minutes of the ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY WRITERS ASSOCIATION
Annual General Meeting 2009
Held at the Tuggeranong Community Centre 12th November 2009

In attendance:

Lew Horsfield, Geoffrey Hardwick, Leonard White, Roy Sly, Graeme Campbell, John Grantins, Terry McHarry

Apologies:

Ken Sanders, Alan Hooley, Marcus Bowra, Brian Tucker, Arthur Skene, David Robertson, Greg Morrison, Frank Carville, Andy Brittain, Morrie Johnston, Kerry Fenton, Kev Cummins, Lindsay Wilson, Brett Saunders, Banjo Patterson, Marg Durie, Mal Ritchie, Carol Mills, Danny Estcourt, Brian Gorringe, Les Dwyer, Laurie Mitchell, Paddy O'Brien, Les Roberts, Graham Bartlett, Denis Benfield, Marty Grogan.

Opening:

The meeting was opened at 1730 and all present were welcomed by the President. The Secretary informed the meeting that there was a quorum for the annual general meeting.

Minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting were presented by the Secretary and seconded by Graham Campbell. Business arising: Awards to the Intermediate and Advanced Courses. The President advised that no agreement had been forthcoming from Cerberus to introduce these awards. He advised that he and the secretary would be visiting the Supply School on the 20th November 2009 for the Initial Writer passing our parade and a meeting was scheduled after this to resolve the issue..

President's Report

Members of the Royal Australian Navy Writers Association, it is with pleasure that I present to you the members, my annual report for the year ending 30th June 2009. I am pleased to see more members in attendance then last years AGM.

The year has once again been a busy time for the members of the National Executive Committee. All core functions of the association have been attended to for the benefit of the members. Administrative wise it is estimated the secretary and I handle over 100 items of correspondence per month, so the work is ongoing.

We were pleased to be able, for the first time, to March under our own banner at this year's Anzac Day Service in Canberra. The March was attended by some 30 plus Scribes, which included Retired and Serving members.

- The Scribes of Brisbane, are moving forward and the Sub Committee under the guidance of Rod Pope have had several get togethers, which were well attended.

- The Annual Sydney Luncheon, for 2008, was once again a success, although light on in numbers.
- The Scribes in Darwin have been busy with several social get togethers under the leadership of Jeannie Roberts.
- The Adelaide Scribes mustered for their quarterly “Pie Floater” Lunches.
- The Canberra Scribes had to cancel their Christmas Lunch which was a disappointment for the Committee
- The Committee conducted three electronic meetings.
- The Executive Committee held three electronic meetings
- Arrangements for the 2011 Reunion, to be held in Hobart are well in hand.
- Trophies have been purchased, and are in place for the 2 new residential courses of the Writer Branch. The Secretary and myself will be talking with the OIC Supply Facility this month when we visit Cerberus.

The Committee has been pleased with the increase in membership of the association. We have over 2000 known Writers on our data base, and another 500 odd made up of Missing and deceased. The increase in actual membership is due in some way, to the fact that we have had to restrict the print copy of the newsletter to members only. The only drop in membership appears to be because of Members Crossing the Bar, which is sad to hear about. The association requires the ongoing support of all Writers, both serving and retired to contribute to our growth and stability. The set up of Sub Committees in various states and areas, where sufficient numbers exist, is proceeding well. They are assisting the Executive Committee keep track of people and in the long run, you, the members of the association.

The Secretary Geoffrey Hardwick and Treasurer Leonard White continue to fulfilled their duties in a truly professional manner. Our Vice President, Marty Grogan is maintaining strong contact with the Writer Training School in HMAS CERBERUS, and is a source of history for the branch since he has taken over the Museum. The new committee Member for South Australia Alan Axford has kept the interest alive in that state, enabling us to expand our areas for the association. On behalf of all of you I extend our warmest thanks to them.

The Editor of the Scribbler and Web Master, Geoffrey Hardwick has continued to excel in his duties. The Newsletter continues to receive high praise for its content. Through this medium we disseminate information to all members in a timely manner. I also would like to encourage all members to help this continue through the submission of articles for the Newsletter.

We have lost a lot of good friends throughout the year, some were expected, some were very sudden, and quite un-expected. Some members who were listed as ‘missing’ have been confirmed as Crossing the Bar. LEST WE FORGET.

As you see from the Treasurer’s report the Association is in a sound financial position. We are now in a position to return some of these funds to our members through various ways. This strong financial position is due to the excellent management skills of the treasurer. We are always open to offers from any Member who is in business, and thinks they can obtain a business gain from advertising in our Newsletter. The Web Master can give interested parties a breakdown of the number of “hits” on the web site.

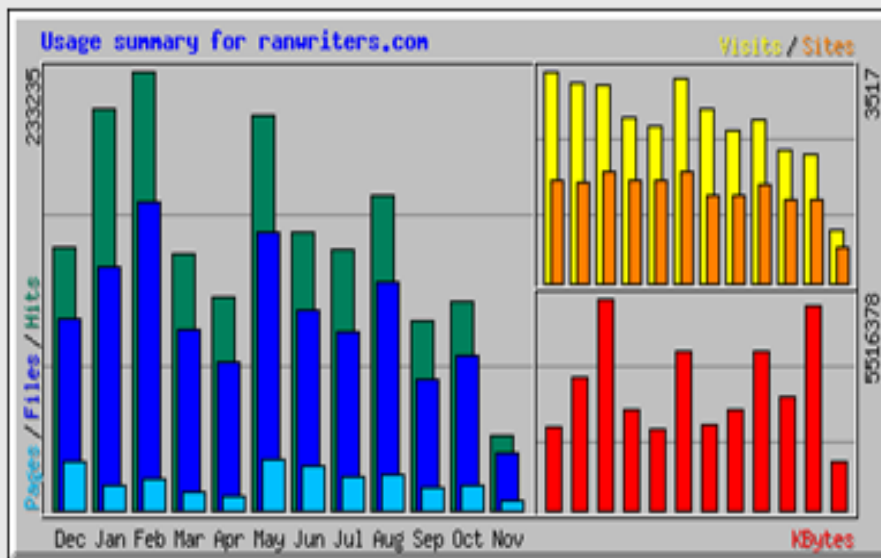
We look forward to a bigger and better year for the Association in the 2009/2010 reporting year.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Leonard White, presented the audited Financial Report - a copy of which is attached. This report was seconded by Terry McHarry

Web Site

The secretary of drew attention of members to the attached statistics regarding the website.



Summary by Month										
Month	Daily Avg				Monthly Totals					
	Hits	Files	Pages	Visits	Sites	KBytes	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
Nov 2009	3326	2508	413	73	593	1264251	884	4956	30104	39913
Oct 2009	3588	2636	439	69	1394	5304630	2150	13609	81722	111258
Sep 2009	3355	2309	391	73	1397	2938459	2209	11751	69280	100653
Aug 2009	5399	3891	597	87	1619	4134318	2727	18507	120649	167384
Jul 2009	4455	3042	568	81	1457	2624292	2525	17618	94331	138109
Jun 2009	4928	3525	777	96	1462	2237327	2892	23311	105774	147853
May 2009	6750	4744	858	108	1857	4155980	3377	26619	147069	209279
Apr 2009	3772	2614	247	87	1700	2136712	2610	7414	78425	113160
Mar 2009	4392	3081	299	88	1699	2612075	2735	9273	95521	136180
Feb 2009	8329	5840	611	117	1861	5516378	3280	17110	163525	233235
Jan 2009	6893	4156	419	107	1672	3477054	3335	13001	128843	213689
Dec 2008	4518	3280	831	113	1694	2173737	3517	25776	101706	140086
Totals						38575213	32241	188945	1216949	1750799

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS 2009/2010

It is a requirement of the rules that all nominations for election to the Committee "shall be lodged with the Secretary at least fourteen days before the AGM".

The following nominations were received on or before 28 October 2008:

- 1 For President: Lew Horsfield
- 2 For Vice President: Martin Grogan
- 3 For Secretary: Geoffrey Hardwick
- 4 For Treasurer: Leonard White
- 5 For three Committee Member positions:
Denis Benfield,
Frank Carville,
Alan Axford

As these were the only nominations, each person was duly elected.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1825pm.

Geoffrey Hardwick
Secretary
Royal Australian Navy Writers Association
23rd November 2009.

Draft minutes to be confirmed at the next AGM 2010.