



1ST ARMoured
REGIMENT
ASSOCIATION INC.

1st Armoured Regiment Association Incorporated

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Minutes for Management Committee Meeting Held Using Zoom Technology on 17 May 2024

The meeting was opened by the President, Mel Meloncelli, at 1902 hrs. He thanked all those in attendance for giving their time on Friday evening.

1. **Attendees:** The following members were in attendance:
Mel Meloncelli, Dean Martin, Russ James, Graeme Walker, Pat Deeker, Mark Reid, Iain Reynolds, Brian Hatfield, Richard Stanios, Chris Fenton, Charlie Dearling and Chris Hodgson.
2. **Apologies – (Secretary)** – apologies Andrew Walker, Werner Golla and Graeme Unmack (technical issues).
3. **Distribution of Information:** Copies of all documents tabled and/or discussed at the Management Committee meeting were electronically distributed to all Management Committee members prior to the meeting.
4. **Item 11/24 - Minutes from Previous Meeting** (19 February 2024) the Secretary advised:
 - a. **Adelaide Reunion Update** – to be discussed later.
 - b. **Sitrep – 1st Armoured Regiment – (Secretary)** – lobbying by former senior officers continues at the highest levels. There seems to be some support for an alternative solution to that one that was proposed by CA. Association asked to keep our powder dry for a little while longer.
5. **Minute 6 of 2023/24** - it was moved Iain Reynolds, seconded Graeme Walker that the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. **CARRIED**
6. **Item 12/24 -2024 AGM (Secretary)** – advised that the AGM would probably be held in the last two weeks of September or first weekend of October at the Broadford RSL. It was suggested that the AGM be held in Adelaide in conjunction with the Reunion in November. The Secretary advised that the cost would be prohibitive as the Hilton would charge around \$3,000 to \$4,000 for the setup and hire of a room. The Secretary also advised that there would also be considerable effort required in moving the necessary material to Adelaide.
7. **Item 13 – Minute No 7 of 2023/24 - Membership Decisions Made via email (Secretary)** – it was moved Russ James, seconded Brian Hatfield that the membership decisions made via email be ratified for Aaron Smith on 18 March 24, Jason Belgrave 23 March 24, Geoffrey Rickards 28 March 24 and Oliver Coovre on 25 April 24. It was further moved that the application for membership for Trevor Grantham (processed on 17 May 24) be accepted. **CARRIED**
8. **Item 14 - Correspondence In (Secretary)** – Letter from the CO concerning the Standard at the Reunion, emails relating to membership renewals, advice of deaths and illnesses, Q store orders, invoices, the Adelaide Reunion, etc.
9. **Item 15 - Correspondence Out (Secretary)** – Contracts with the Hilton Hotel, letter to the Regiment requesting Standard at the Reunion Dinner, renewal emails and letters, invoices, condolence cards, membership cards and membership badges, etc. No other significant outwards correspondence.

Minute No 8 of 2023/24 - moved Russ James, seconded Pat Deeker that the Correspondence Report be accepted. **CARRIED**

10. Item No 16 - Membership Report (Secretary):

- a. Current Membership = 520 (17 May 24) increase of 148 since July 2018. There are currently nine (9) members who have not yet renewed their membership which was due on 1 February 24 despite a number of emails and attempted phone calls. Next step is snail mail letter to home address.
- b. Membership renewals 1 Feb 2024 – 84 renewal notices sent by email and snail mail. As at 9 May 24, 74 members have renewed (88%) for periods from 1 to 5 years (average = 2.5 years). There are a further 10 members due to renew before the end of this year.
- c. Membership – Chasing lapsed members – Secretary and the Recruitment Manager – continue to ring and email lapsed members. One recent renewal from a 2022 lapsed member and a further renewal from 2015.
- d. There is an increase in Membership queries, as well as requests for access to Association related face book pages, due to interest in the Reunion planned for Adelaide in November.
- e. Iain Reynolds advised that he had been in contact with one member who is currently in Thailand and was confident that member would renew shortly.

Minute No 9 of 2023/24 - moved Russ James, seconded Chris Fenton that the Membership Report be accepted. **CARRIED**

11. Item 17 - Treasurer's Report (President) –advised that the Treasurer was not available and asked for any questions on the financial report (Profit and Loss) as previously distributed. Copy at Annex A.

Minute 10 of 2023/24 moved Pat Deeker, seconded Dick Stanios that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. **CARRIED**

2. General Business

- a. **Item 18 – Exit Survey for Non-Renewing Association Members (Recruitment Manager)** – Dick Stanios proposed that Exit Surveys be sent to those members of the Association who did not renew their membership of the Association. A copy of the proposed questions is attached as Annex B.

There was considerable discussion on the proposal including:

- I. It had been tried before and did not work,
- II. Many members lived away from capital cities and perhaps the Association did not do enough for these members,
- III. That the \$10 rebate per member for Association gatherings only worked for those members who made the effort and attended functions,
- IV. That members, particularly those living away from capital cities, could not be forced to attend functions,
- V. The organisation of functions, particularly for those members who are not on the Management Committee, was difficult due to issues with the Privacy Act and the sharing of personal information (contact details, etc) of Association members,
- VI. That any Association member who wanted to organise a local function should contact the Secretary who would then advertise the function (newsletter, face book, etc) with the contact details of the organiser,
- VII. That a recent gathering of black hats at the Breakfast Creek Hotel (Brisbane) had been well attended. Believed to have been organised by a non-Association member,

- VIII. That the Association can only provide the opportunity for social gatherings; it is up to the willingness of members to attend.

The Secretary advised that apart from some time and effort, there would be a cost of around \$2 to send the Exit Survey to the postal address of those members who had not renewed. It was finally agreed that an Exit Survey of Non-Renewing members should be conducted.

- b. **Item 19 - Non-Agenda Item – Succession Planning.** During the discussion on the Exit Survey, the issue of ‘Management Committee Succession Planning’ was raised. It was agreed that younger members needed to be recruited into the Association and then coopted for the Management Committee.
- c. **Item 20 – Non-Agenda Item – Recruiting of Younger Serving Members from the Regiment.** There was some general discussion concerning efforts that had been made, and that should continue to be made to recruit currently serving members. Secretary advised that attempts over the last three (3) years with Chief Clerks to include the Membership Application form as part of the Exit procedure of the Regiment had not provided one new member. It was also felt that the Regiment was considerably preoccupied at present. It was suggested that the Association attempt to achieve greater exposure through the 1st Armoured Regiment face book page. Wol Walker advised he would contact the Adjutant or Media Manager to determine how this may be achieved under the current Defence guidelines for Defence face book sites.
- d. **Item 21 – Non-Agenda Item – Survey of Current Members** – it was suggested that a survey, similar to the proposed Exit Survey, be conducted to determine the needs and/or wishes of the current Association Membership. The Secretary asked how this was to be conducted, how the responses were to be collated and analysed and who was willing to undertake this work.
- e. **Item 22 – Adelaide Reunion, 21 to 24 November 2024** – Mark Reid provided a quick update on plans and activities of the Reunion Sub-Committee including a proposed visit to the Hilton in the next couple of weeks. The Secretary provided a Status Report (Annex C) detailing registrations, numbers attending each of the activities, financial information and projections of anticipated attendance based on current trends.
- f. **Item 23 – Secretary on Leave** – Russ advised that he would be on leave from 13 June to 14 July and would be overseas, and not necessarily have guaranteed electronic access during this period. He distributed and outlined, in some detail, those functions that would be undertaken by other members of the Management Committee during his absence.

There being no further business, the President thanked those in attendance for their input, and closed the meeting at 2013 hours.

Russ James
Secretary
1st Armoured Regiment Association

Profit and Loss

1st Armoured Regiment Association Inc
For the period 1 July 2023 to 16 May 2024

1 July 2023-16 May 2024

Trading Income	
Interest Income	2,208.82
Membership Income	10,157.98
Merchandise Sales	4,213.15
Total Trading Income	16,580.05
Cost of Sales	
Cost of Merchandise Sold	2,584.72
Purchases	696.71
Total Cost of Sales	3,281.43
Gross Profit	13,298.62
Other Income	
CAMBBO23	40.00
CAMBus23	140.00
Donations Received	708.80
Total Other Income	888.80
Operating Expenses	
Bank Fees	8.40
Communications	624.40
Consulting & Accounting	698.29
Donations Paid by the Association	4,599.30
Event Outlays	2,408.20
Flowers/Wreaths/Donations in Lieu	300.00
Legal expenses	1,000.70
Maintenace of ARN169005	(300.00)
Office Expenses	185.41
Postage	894.93
Presentations/Prizes 1st Armoured Regiment	445.58
Printing & Stationery	1,040.21
Public Relations	23.50
RAAC Corp Fees	469.46
Repairs and Maintenance - Centurion	135.15
Scholarship Sporting	500.00
Stock Write Off	39.34
Stripe Fees	128.80
Total Operating Expenses	13,201.67
Net Profit	985.75

**Proposal for Exit Survey for Non-Renewing Members
From Dick Stanios**

1. Why did you decide not to renew your 1AR Association membership?
2. When did you decide not to renew your membership with us?
3. What do you think could have made your membership more beneficial?
4. What did you gain from your 1AR Association membership?
5. Did you feel comfortable approaching your State Representative or the Executive Committee? Why or why not?
6. How would you describe the overall culture of the 1AR association?
7. Would you recommend us to other veterans or other like minded people interested in joining the 1AR Association ?
8. Finally, what would encourage you to re-join?

2024 Adelaide Cambrai Reunion Status Report as at 14 May 2024

Overall Reunion Figures

Expression of Interest and Eventbrite Registrations = (Members and Veterans)	182
No of Cancellations =	5
Eventbrite Registrations (members and veterans) =	116
Eventbrite Registrations (members, veterans, spouses & family) =	198

Outstanding Registrations (Expressions of Interest less Registered) = 66

Invoicing

Invoiced (prepared and sent) =	116
Invoices – fully paid =	58
Invoices – partly paid	2
Invoices – not paid =	56

Invoicing by Individual Events (Activity)

Registration Fee (\$5 per person) – 192 people	\$960
Meet and Greet – (\$85 per person) – 174 people	\$14,430
Transport to/from the Regiment (\$10) – 104 people	\$1,040
BBQ after Regimental Parade – (\$10 per person) 187 people	\$1,870
Cambrai Reunion Dinner (\$125 per person) 181 people)	\$22,625
Winery (\$85 per person) 26 people	\$2,080
Boat Cruise (\$ varies - 25 x \$39, 32 x \$34, 2 x \$22) – total of 59	\$1,796
Donations Received	\$953

Subsidies to be paid by Association – (\$5 for M&G, \$5 for Dinner)
(effectively a transfer from the Association to the Reunion) \$985

Hilton Minimum Spend Requirements

Meet and Greet	\$15,600	We have reached 92.5% of minimum spend
Reunion Dinner	\$35,000	We have reached 64.6% of minimum spend

Projections

All projections are based on assuming a 100% success rate of all outstanding Registrations with no additional registrations. Attendance at the Reunion Dinner does not include members of the 1st Armoured Regiment.

Meet and Greet – 182 registrations multiplied by 174 divided by 116 = 273 plus guests

Reunion Dinner – 182 registrations multiplied by 181 divided by 116 = 284 plus guests

Transport to Regiment – 182 registrations multiplied by 104 divided by 116 = 163!

BBQ at Regiment – 182 registrations multiplied by 187 divided by 116 = 293

Torrens River Cruise– 182 registrations multiplied by 59 divided by 116 = 93

Winery Trip to Yaldara – 182 registrations multiplied by 27 divided by 116 = 42