

AUSTRALIAN WORLD WAR ONE DESCENDANTS
MINUTES of AGM
Held Wednesday 24th July 2019 at Dooley's Catholic Club, Lidcombe

Meeting opened 8.00pm.

Apologies: Sarah Dawson, Julie De Launay, Cleo Lynch, Rhea DeLascy-Wells, Colin Littlefield, Lyndall Eeg, Jessica Smith, Lynette & Nigel Tantarko, Ann Asciak, Richie Newnham. Greg sent our best wishes to Julie De Launay for her recovery after her serious accident. Apologies were accepted by Royce, seconded by Arline.

Minutes of the last AGM: were read and accepted by Royce, seconded by Bruce.

Matters arising from previous Minutes: None to report apart from the date of the meeting being omitted from the document itself.

President's Report: Greg welcomed everyone to the AGM 2019. He spoke of the passing of one of our Founding Members (Karen's father), Alan Dawson, and a minute's silence was held. Fromelles Day last week was attended by Karen, Arline, and Royce, with Arline laying a wreath on behalf of AWWOD. Around 100 Members joined us this year and were mostly well dressed and marched well. We receive compliments from the Marshals and the RSL each year. It has been decided that we make mention of forming up in rows of six in the Notification Letter to Members prior to Anzac Day each year.

Vice President's Report: Royce advised he attended the Anzac Day March Participants meeting at Anzac House the week before Anzac Day and, like last year, the RSL have not had a post Anzac Day meeting. Due to other commitments, Royce has not attended all the services that AWWOD have been invited to, but he has kept the AWWOD Executive and Committee up to date on any and all changes that are made within the RSL. He concluded by thanking his fellow members of the Executive and Committee for their assistance throughout the year.

Secretary's Report: Arline advised that yearly subscriptions seem to have finished coming in. Some members are unfinancial and will receive a reminder notice when the Anzac Day Notice goes out next March. 28 members have not renewed which includes two, due to ill health. Both are long standing members, so shall not remove them from the Data Base. Another fifteen that had not renewed since 2017 have been removed. We have 10 Family Memberships totalling 41 people. 2 Life Members. 1 Guest Member, who lives in England and 1 grey nomad with no fixed address but still likes to receive the emails. In all we have 382 on the Data Base. Arline is still waiting for three people who paid membership and marched last Anzac Day but have still not received their completed paperwork. One gent has not returned his Stat Dec even though she has emailed him twice. Anzac Day was a success again this year, a lovely sunny day. Unfortunately we were \$20 short from Anzac Day, probably wrong change given or a note dropped in the melee that occurs as people are trying to have their names marked off, pay for merchandise, join and everything else that goes on in that frantic time before we are moved on. Fromelles Day was also a success. Anzac Day notices went out on time this year, the RSL did get information to us a decent amount of time before the March this year, not like last year. AGM Notices also went out on time. Due to increasing post charges, a decision has been made to not post out tie and scarf orders any more. Members can still pay prior to Anzac Day and pick up from Karen on the Day as we always have ample amounts of both ties and scarves with us.

Treasurer's Report: Sue advised we have a total of \$4484.26 in our account as at 30th June 2019. We have had outgoings totalling \$482.68 which is made up of stationery and floral tributes that Committee members have laid on behalf of AWWOD at various Commemorative services throughout the year. Sue advised that AWWOD continues to be in a stable financial position.

Ties & scarves inventory:

79 SCARVES @ \$18.70 Cost = \$1477.30 / @ \$20.00 Sell = \$1580.00 (sold 5 this year)

67 TIES @ \$16.68 Cost = \$1117.56 / @ \$25.00 Sell = \$1675.00 (sold 4 this year)

TOTAL @ COST = \$2594.86 / TOTAL @ SELL = \$3255.00

Publicity Report: Karen advised the overall dress code this year was excellent, and 4 ties and 5 scarves were sold this year overall. We had 9 Kings' Boys carrying our banner this year - certificates and tins of Anzac biscuits were presented to the boys on Monday 20th May, and Karen thanked Sue and Bruce for their purchase. Hotel Harry was good again this year, and we had around 40 join us. It is still a very suitable venue after the march. Karen has emailed their events manager to thank them for their continued hospitality, and was particularly grateful for their generosity in pricing wine for us at \$32 instead of \$47! Television coverage was good overall and we looked very professional. The ABC commentary was disappointing as usual, and did not keep up with the footage. Royce advised the iview has been extended to mid-July. Karen has videoed the iview segment on her computer from her phone and sent it through to Mark for inclusion on our website. Karen thanked our Paparazzi Bruce for his great coverage this year, and also advised that we have abolished the inclusion of the Publicity Form in our pre-Anzac day mail out although it remains on our website should it be needed in the future.

Webmaster's Report: Mark advised that he has not been able to make updates to the website as his computer is down but will update with photos etc as soon as fixed.

All reports were accepted by Royce and Seconded by Kel.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Greg thanked the outgoing Committee for their work this year, and declared all positions opened. He handed the meeting over to Martine Ronsisvalle and invited her to be our Returning Officer. It was unanimously agreed that the following members form our new Committee.

President: Greg Cowle, Nominated by Royce, Seconded by Denise
Vice President: Royce Lockhart, Nominated by Nigel, Seconded by Kel
Treasurer: Sue McFadden, Nominated by Denise, Seconded by Karen
Secretary & Public Officer: Arline Ronsisvalle, Nominated by Royce, Seconded by Bruce Clark
Publicity Officer & Asst Sec: Karen Dawson, Nominated by Arline, Seconded by Nigel

General Committee: Sarah Dawson, Nominated by Royce, Seconded by Karen
Bruce Connell, Nominated by Royce, Seconded by Sue
Kel Sykes, Nominated by Nigel, Seconded by Greg
Denise Hendy, Nominated by Nigel, Seconded by Mark
Nigel Hendy, Nominated by Kel, Seconded by Denise

We thanked Martine for her assistance this evening, and also for her JP duties on Anzac Day.

General Business: Karen advised that we are a Non-Profit Organisation and therefore need to look at potential recipients of donations from time to time. A suggestion had been put forward of a donation to the Banjo Paterson Bronze Statue in Yeoval as this request from their organisers had been also been directed to RSL Sub-branches. It was unanimously agreed to by a show of hands, and Royce moved that we donate \$1000 to this project. Sue seconded this motion. Karen and Arline also discussed the Fromelles Association DNA Project which entails the exhumation and identification of unknown soldiers in Fromelles with a view to a full burial with a head-stone. It was also unanimously agreed to and Royce moved that we donate \$500 to this project. Greg seconded this motion. The possibility of an annual donation to the Fromelles project was also discussed, and it was decided we will add this to the AGM Agenda each year for ongoing discussion depending on our financial viability. Karen will advise Sue of the details required for the cheques to both recipients, and email her cover letters on behalf of AWWOD to send with the cheques.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm.