



1st Armoured Regiment Association Incorporated
(Registration Number AO044180K)

Minutes for
The Annual General Meeting
Held using Zoom Technology over the Internet at
1000 hours (AEDT) 16 January 2021



It should be noted that an extension of time to conduct the 2020 AGM was approved by Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) due to restrictions on public gatherings imposed as a result of the Corona virus.

The meeting was opened by the President, Keith Meloncelli, at 1000 Hrs.

The President welcomed all present to the first AGM to be held in the electronic environment. He advised that if the AGM was being held in a physical environment proxies would now be closed, but proxies has effectively closed, by either email or Australia Post, at 1000 hours the previous day (15 January 2021).

1. The President (Keith Meloncelli) introduced Gary McCabe and asked him to read the list of former members of the Regiment who had died since the last AGM and to recite the ODE.
2. **Ode** – Gary McCabe read out the list of former members of 1st Armoured Regiment who had passed into the green fields beyond since the last AGM. Gary followed with the reading of the ODE. The list of persons who are known to have passed since the last AGM (16 October 2019) is at Annex A.
3. **Attendees:** 28 persons attended; of these 27 members were eligible to vote. All persons in attendance are listed at Annex B.
4. **Zoom Rules:** The Secretary (Russ James) explained some basic rules concerning the use of Zoom particularly positioning of the camera, background noise, interference and implications of limited bandwidth.
5. **Voting and Ballot Rules.** The Secretary explained that in a physical AGM
 - a. The Scrutineers and Returning Officers would now be validating all proxies and Certificates of Voting Rights for Proxy holders,
 - b. Voting for office holders would be done via a secret ballot if there was more than one nomination for a vacancy, and
 - c. Voting on significant issues would also be undertaken via a secret ballot if it was clear that a vote on 'raised hands' was inconclusive.

However, the conduct of the AGM in the electronic environment prevented secret ballots and if there were more than one nomination for any vacant position or there were any close physical votes, then it would be necessary to adjourn the meeting to allow for the adjourned meeting to be resumed in a physical environment at some time in the future.

The Secretary also explained that all submitted proxies could be used at any future time in an adjourned AGM as this was stated on the Proxy Form.

6. **Apologies** were received from: All those on the proxies list as well as Angus McNeilage, Peter Still and Peter Lukeis.

7. **Proxy Votes:** Prior to the commencement of the meeting, proxy votes were compiled by the Secretary.
8. **Proxy Votes:** The Secretary advised that Proxy Voting Certificates could not be issued as these could not be validated by the Scrutineers and Returning Officers (Peter Coutts and Dave Key had volunteered).
9. A detailed list of those members who submitted proxies – both valid and invalid - are shown at Annex C.
10. **ITEM 01/20 – Minute 01 of 20/21 - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.** Minutes of the AGM conducted on 12 October 2019 had been distributed via email on the day before the AGM by the Secretary. The Secretary noted the pertinent points and matters arising from the last AGM.

PERTINENT POINTS AND MATTERS ARISING:

- a. Details from the Financial Statement for FY 2018/2019 had been submitted to Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) in October 2019. CAV did not provide any feedback which implies acceptance.
- b. A further issue with the Inventory (of the Q Store) was identified which resulted in a decrease in the reported loss of \$480. CAV was advised and the Association amended the return submitted to CAV without an additional lodgement fee.
- c. Bylaws – the Secretary had commenced compiling the new Bylaws but had to put these to one side due to health issues. Writing should commence in late February or early March after the processing of around 210 membership renewals.

The Secretary asked if there were any questions and if not, moved that the Minutes from the previous AGM be seconded and accepted. Seconded Iain Reynolds.

CARRIED

11. ITEM 02/20 – CORRESPONDENCE, INWARDS AND OUTWARDS FROM 19 SEPTEMBER 2019 TO 11 OCTOBER 2019

Due to the volume of correspondence, received and sent since 12 October 2019, the Secretary provided a synopsis of the types of inwards correspondence including:

- a. Emails and postal mail from members concerning membership fees and changes of contact details,
- b. Emails from a former member of the Association concerning the Honour Roll as well as other matters that the Management Committee should either correct or address,
- c. Membership applications and renewals,
- d. Statements of Service from Defence Records for deceased former members of the Regiment,
- e. Letters and invitations from the Regiment concerning various matters
- f. Emails from NOK expressing thanks to the Association,
- g. Emails and letters from CAV relating to reporting requirements as well as COVID issues,
- h. Emails from legal advisers relating to incorporated association matters in general,
- i. Emails from an accountant and a bookkeeper re Association accounts, and

- j. Apologies and proxies for the AGM.

Due to the volume of correspondence, received and sent since 12 October 2019, the Secretary provided a synopsis of the types of outwards correspondence including:

- a. Emails to members concerning renewal of membership and acknowledgement of change of contact details
- b. Letters and forms to CAV re reporting requirements as well as a request for an extension of time for the conduct of the AGM,
- c. Christmas cards to senior officers and the Regiment,
- d. Condolence cards to NOK of deceased former members of the Regiment, and
- e. Request to Defence Records for Statements of Service for deceased former members of the Regiment.

12. **Minute 02 of 2020/21 – Acceptance of Correspondence**

It was moved Russ James, seconded Mick Payne that the synopsis of the Inwards and Outwards Correspondence be accepted.

CARRIED

ITEM 03/20 – Minute 03 of 2020/21 - PRESIDENT’S REPORT – The President provided a verbal report, a copy of which is provided at Annex D. It was moved Russ James, seconded Trevor Watts that the President’s Report be accepted.

CARRIED

13. **ITEM 04/20 – ANNUAL REPORT** – The Secretary had distributed a copy of the Annual Report, including Financial Statements, by email and postal mail to all Association Members on 22 December 2020. An email was sent to all emailable Association Members on 15 January 2021 advising that any questions should be submitted to either the Secretary or the Treasurer prior to the AGM. No questions were received.

The Treasurer (Werner Golla) presented a verbal report (see Annex E) at the AGM. There were no questions, comments or concerns.

14. **Minute 04 of 20/21 – Acceptance of the Annual Report**

15. It was moved Keith Meloncelli, seconded Mick Payne that the Annual Report be accepted.

CARRIED

16. **ITEM 05/20 – MEMBERSHIP REPORT** – The Secretary presented the Membership Report as follows:

| | |
|--|-----|
| a. Active Members at the last AGM (12 October 2019) | 474 |
| b. Active Members as at 15 Jan 2021 | 498 |
| c. Lapsed members from 2017/19 returned to Active Status | 6 |
| d. New Members since 12 October 2019 | 28 |
| e. Loss of members (failed to renew on 1 February 2020) | 7 |
| f. Loss of Members due to death | 3 |

Approximately 210 members are due to renew their membership as at 1 February 2021. Notices have been sent via post to 35 members and the remaining renewal notices (175) are to be sent by email in the week following the AGM.

Minute 05 of 20/21 – Acceptance of the Membership Report. It was moved Keith Meloncelli, seconded Iain Reynolds that the Membership Report be accepted.

CARRIED

17. **ITEM 06/20 – STATE REPRESENTATIVES’ REPORTS**

The President indicated that a number of State Representatives’ Report had been received and would be included in the Minutes of the AGM. The President noted that State activities had been severely limited by the pandemic. The submitted reports are included at Annex F.

GENERAL BUSINESS

18. **ITEM 07/20 – THANKS TO OUTGOING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS.** The President publicly thanked John Brooker (the immediate past Vice-President, as well as a previous President) for his considerable efforts over the last 20 plus years and particularly for the assistance that he provided to the current Management Committee during the transition from the previous Management Committee. The President also thanked Dick Stanios for his work as the Secretary and Acting Treasurer for the previous Management Committee as well as his work over the last two years as the Q Store Manager.

Minute 06 of 20/21 - It was moved Keith Meloncelli, seconded Russ James that the Association’s appreciation of the work and commitment of John Brooker and Dick Stanios be officially recorded in the Minutes. **CARRIED**

19. **ITEM 08/20 – THANKS TO THE PORT MACQUARIE RE-UNION SUB-COMMITTEE.** The President expressed the Association’s thanks to Mick and Judy Payne and the PM21 Reunion Sub-Committee for their efforts over the last 18 months in putting together the planned reunion. It was regrettable that the reunion had to be postponed but was sure that the work undertaken would not be wasted.

Minute 07 of 20/21 - It was moved Keith Meloncelli, seconded Russ James that the Association’s appreciation of the work and commitment of Mick and Judy Payne and the PM21 Reunion Sub-Committee be officially recorded in the Minutes. **CARRIED**

ELECTIONS

20. The President declared the positions of Secretary, Special Projects One and Special Projects Two vacant and indicated that the position of Vice-President remained to be filled.

21. **ITEM 09/20 – VICE-PRESIDENT:** The President advised that there was only one nomination for the position of Vice-President, being Dean Martin. As there were no other nominations, there was no need for a ballot and in accordance with the Constitution (Rule 67 [2] [b]), Dean Martin would be the Vice-President for the next two (2) years unless he resigned in the meantime.

22. **ITEM 10/20 - SECRETARY:** The President advised that there was only one nomination for Secretary, being Russ James. In accordance with the Constitution (Rule 67 [2] [b]) Russ would be the Secretary for the next two (2) years unless he resigned in the meantime.

23. **ITEM 11/20 – SPECIAL PROJECTS TWO:** The President advised that there was only one nomination for Special Projects Two, Graeme Unmack. In accordance with the Constitution (Rule 67 [2] [b]) Graeme would be Special Projects Two for the next two (2) years unless he resigned in the meantime.

24. **ITEM 12/20 – MINUTE 08 of 2020/21 - SIZE OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

25. The President explained that over the last 12 or so months the Management Committee consisted of 16 members including seven (7) State and Territory Representatives and the RAAC Corporation Delegate. The other eight (8) members included the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications Manager, Recruitment Manager (currently

vacant), Special Projects One and Special Projects Two. The President indicated that the Management Committee did not believe that the Association needed to change the size or composition of the Management Committee.

In the absence of any questions, suggestions or discussion, the President moved that the size of the Management Committee remain unchanged until the next AGM. This was seconded by Russ James. **CARRIED**

The President further explained that even though the Association had not received nominations for the position of the ACT Representative or the Recruitment Manager, it was possible that volunteers could be appointed under Rule 70 of the Constitution which relates to the filling of casual vacancies.

26. **ELECTION OF STATE REPRESENTATIVES:** The President advised that all State Representatives had indicated their preference to remain, and as there had not been any nominations to replace them, the following State Representatives are to remain on the Management Committee:

- a. **WA Representative:** Pat Deeker
- b. **SA Representative:** Mark Reid
- c. **Tas Representative:** Jim Semmens
- d. **Vic Representative:** Iain Reynolds
- e. **NSW Representative:** Mick Payne
- f. **Qld Representative:** Brian Hatfield
- g. **NT Representative:** Peter Still

GENERAL BUSINESS

27. **ITEM 13/20 – Minute 09 of 2020/21 - MEMBERSHIP AND JOINING FEES UNTIL THE NEXT AGM.** The Secretary explained that each AGM must consider the matter of Membership and Joining Fees for the period up to the next AGM. The Secretary further advised that the Management Committee had decided at the Management Committee meeting held on 19 November 2020 that the Membership Fees as determined at the 2019 AGM should remain in place for ordinary members. However, at the same Management Committee meeting there had been some discussion concerning the restrictions on voting and other rights for both Associate and Affiliate members. It was agreed that due to the restrictions on voting and other rights, that the Membership Fees be reduced to 50% of that for ordinary members. In the absence of any questions, suggestions or discussion, the Secretary moved that the Membership Fees for ordinary members remain unchanged, but the fees for Associate and Affiliate members be reduced to 50% of the fees of ordinary members. This was seconded by Graeme Unmack. **CARRIED**
28. **ITEM 14/20 – Minute 10 of 2020/21 – JOINING FEES.** The President advised that even though the last AGM had recommended that the requirement to consider a Joining Fee at each AGM be removed from the Constitution, the Constitution was unlikely to be amended before the next AGM. Therefore, the President moved that a Joining Fee is not imposed for the period prior to the next AGM. The motion was seconded by Peter Duncombe. **CARRIED**
29. **ITEM 15/20 – Minute 11 of 2020/21 – RATIFICATION OF DECISION MADE BY EMAIL -** The Secretary requested ratification of previous decisions made by email. It was moved Russ

James, seconded Peter Coutts that the membership application approved over the internet (via email) be ratified for Ian Power who served with B Sqn during the late 1970s and 1980s.

CARRIED

30. **ITEM 16/20 – LIFE MEMBERSHIP CONSIDERATION FOR RONALD HARRY BELL** – The Secretary advised that a nomination for Life Membership of the Association had been received and processed according to the Policy and Procedures for Life Membership that had been distributed over 12 months ago. The Nomination had been reviewed by the Life Membership Sub-Committee and the Management Committee. The Secretary read an extract from the Report of the Life Membership Committee (copy included at Annex G).
31. **Minute 12 of 2020/21** - The Secretary moved a motion that Life Membership for Ronald Harry BELL be approved by the AGM.
The President asked if anyone present would like to speak either for or against the motion. John Brooker spoke in favour of the motion by briefly outlining the extensive work that had been undertaken by Ron Bell over a period greater than 10 years, as well as his commitment to the Regiment, the Association and to all members of the Association.
The motion for Life Membership for Ron Bell was seconded by Mark Reid. The President asked for a count of all members present at the AGM as well as the count from the Secretary of all those who had voted 'For' or 'Against' on the Proxy forms.
32. All 27 eligible members present (in the Zoom environment) voted for the motion and the Secretary advised that 56 Proxies had voted 'For', two (2) had abstained and 10 failed to vote either 'For' or 'Against'. Therefore, the vote was carried. **CARRIED**
33. The President stated that Life Membership was at the pinnacle of recognising the work performed by members of the Association and Ron fully deserved to be recognised for his efforts over an extended period of time.
34. **ITEM 17/20 – LIFE MEMBERSHIP CONSIDERATION FOR PETER ROSEMOND** - The Secretary advised that a nomination for Life Membership of the Association had been received and processed according to the Policy and Procedures for Life Membership that had been distributed over 12 months ago. The Nomination had been reviewed by the Life Membership Sub-Committee and the Management Committee. The Secretary read an extract from the Report of the Life Membership Committee (copy included at Annex H).
35. **Minute 13 of 2020/21** - The Secretary moved a motion that Life Membership for Peter Rosemond be approved by the AGM.
The President asked if anyone present would like to speak either for or against the motion. Noel McLaughlin, after seeking leave to address the AGM, spoke in favour of the motion by outlining the considerable work and effort that had been undertaken by Peter Rosemond over a significant period of time, his strength of character and that Peter had always been motivated in his support of the members, both past and present, of the 1st Armoured Regiment.
36. The motion for Life Membership for Peter Rosemond was seconded by Brian Hatfield. The President asked for a count of all members present at the AGM as well as the count from the Secretary of all those who had voted either 'For' or 'Against' on the Proxy Forms.
37. All 27 eligible members present voted for the motion and the Secretary advised that 53 Proxies had voted 'For', four (4) had votes 'Against' and 10 failed to vote either 'For' or 'Against'. Therefore, the vote was carried. **CARRIED**
38. **ITEM 18/20 - Minute 14 of 2020/21 – FREE MEMBERSHIP FOR 12 MONTHS.** The Secretary advised that the Management Committee meeting on 19 November 2020 had agreed that the AGM should consider that 'free membership' be offered to all members on their march-

out of the Regiment either on discharge or reposting. The Secretary explained the rationale behind the proposal as well as indicating that the fine detail had yet to be determined as discussions with the Regiment had not yet occurred. John Brooker advised that a similar approach had been tried some years ago when all members of the Regiment, at that time, had been issued with Membership Cards. Perhaps a slightly different approach may work. The Secretary moved that free membership, for a period not to exceed 12 months, be offered to all members of the Regiment on reposting or discharge. Seconded by Dick Stanios.

39. 26 of the 27 eligible members present voted for the motion, one (1) member abstained, and the Secretary advised that 53 Proxies had voted 'For', four (4) had voted 'Against' and 10 failed to vote either 'For' or 'Against'. Therefore, the vote was carried. **CARRIED**
40. **ITEM 19/20 – Minute 15 of 2020/21 – EDUCATION AND SPORTING SCHOLARSHIPS.** The Secretary advised that the Management Committee meeting on 9 January 2021 had agreed that the concept of Education and Sporting Scholarships be presented to the AGM.
41. Basically two (2) scholarships of \$500 each be offered each year. The Scholarships are to be named as 'The 1st Armd Regt Association Education/Sporting Scholarship'. Eligibility is restricted to children of 'active members' of the Association and a child must be either in or entering secondary schooling or be selected for a representative sporting team. It is expected that the Applications would have to be supported with appropriate documentation from the school principal or head of the Representative Area. A Scholarship Sub-Committee would review all submissions. It is also feasible that a Scholarship Fund could be established, and Association members could donate to the fund if they wished. After a number of questions relating to eligibility and whether the proposal was for two (2) scholarships per Australian State or two (2) in total, the Secretary moved that a 1st Armoured Regiment Association Education/Sporting Scholarship be established according to the outline provided. The motion was seconded by John Atkinson.
42. All 27 eligible members present voted for the motion, and the Secretary advised that 51 Proxies had voted 'For', five (5) had voted 'Against' and 11 failed to vote either 'For' or 'Against'. Therefore, the vote was carried. **CARRIED**
43. **ITEM 20/20 – Minute 16 of 2020/21 – ASSOCIATION HONOUR ROLL.** The President opened the discussion by stating that for some time, the Association had been pressured to add one additional person to the Honour Roll as well as correcting, what are perceived by one person, several errors. This pressure or ongoing criticism has been in process for around 12 months. The President handed over to the Secretary for a more detailed explanation of the current situation.
44. The Secretary stated that around 12 months ago the Association received an email indicating that the existing Honour Rolls (published on the Association Website and in the quarterly Newsletter) were incorrect. Both the President and the Secretary emailed the Australian War Memorial (AWM) and the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) for information on their policies concerning Honour Rolls and rules relating to Killed in Action (KIA) and Died of Wounds (DOW). At the same time, Research was undertaken on the individuals named on the Honour Roll, the circumstances of their passing and how the Honour Roll was determined. It quickly became apparent that there were deficiencies in the Association records, and it was not possible to definitively ascertain when and why some members were added to the Honour Roll or how the classification of DOW had been applied. It would appear, however, that over a period of 20 or so years, previous Management Committees may have been either misled or provided with incorrect information.

Currently the Honour Roll includes:

1. KIA – two, Tpr James Kerr and WO2 JA (Chesty) Bond,
2. Not classified as KIA or DOW – WO2 N Lowes,
3. DOW – six, Tpr Mick Hannaford, WO2 TD (Tom) Phillips, WO2 John Stone, WO1 Len Swarbrick, Tpr Phil Barwick and Tpr Rod Bellott, and
4. Killed Accidentally – seven who were killed whilst on military activity including Cfn Silver, Tpr Jordan, Sgt Morrison, Lt Massey, Tpr Patterson and Sgt Murray.

Issues with the Honour Roll include:

1. WO2 Chesty Bond was posted to the AATTV when KIA,
2. WO2 Tom Phillips and WO2 John Stone both DOW whilst posted to the AATTV, and
3. WO1 Len Swarbrick, Tpr Phil Barwick and Tpr Rod Bellott have not been officially recorded as Died of Wounds as their deaths occurred well beyond the two-year period as provided by the AWM and DVA.

It should be noted that Swarbrick, Barwick and Bellott may have been officially recognised by the DVA as entitled to Official Commemoration as the deaths may be attributed to (DVA) accepted conditions. However, the DVA have recognised over 300,000 members as entitled to Official Commemoration whilst only 101,000 plus members are included on the AWM Roll of Honour. The major point is that 'Official Commemoration' does not mean that the person should be classed as DOW. Some would argue that applying the classification of DOW to those who did not actually DOW within the two-year accepted period, actually diminishes those who did die of their wounds within the prescribed period. It is also difficult to rationalise that a person who died 10, 20 or even 50 years after being wounded could be classed as DOW.

Probable solutions include:

1. Option 1 – only include those who were either KIA, DOW or Killed Accidentally whilst serving with the Regiment, or
2. Option 2 – include all of Option 1 but also include as a separate category those former members of the Regiment who were either KIA or DOW whilst serving with other units, or
3. Option 3 – all of the above, that is Option 1 and Option 2 plus a separate category for those who have been recognised by DVA as entitled to Official Commemoration.

The major issue with Option 2 is that the list could continue to grow as the Association becomes aware or is advised of former members who were either KIA or DOW whilst serving in any other unit in any other conflict since the Regiment was formed in 1949.

The major issue with Option 3 is the same as Option 2 but further compounded by those members who may not have been wounded physically during a conflict but have since died of cancers and other conditions that have been attributed to their war service. I know of many who have died of various cancers as well as from conditions resulting from PTSD who would not want to be classed as DOW.

(Note: It was about this time that the Secretary lost all communications [both video and audio] with the meeting. The following information has been provided by a number of AGM attendees).

45. On completion of the explanation by the Secretary, the President stated that this was a profoundly serious matter, and the AGM should make a decision so that there is some clarity regarding our Honour Roll. He further stated that it was his view, and the view of the

Management Committee, that the Association should adopt a policy that is consistent with the policies of the AWM and DVA.

46. There was considerable discussion as well as significant input from two (2) members relating to the policies and procedures of the AWM and DVA. It was also expressed that the wording for those 'Killed Accidentally' should be modified to ensure that it was clear that the accidents did not occur in operational areas but rather in training environments within Australia.
47. On completion of the discussion, the President asked all those present to indicate their preference for Options 1, 2 or 3. The following table provides the results of preferences and 'For' and 'Against' votes on the submitted Proxy forms.

| | In Favour – present at the AGM | In Favour – based on Proxy Forms | Total |
|----------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| Option1 | 21 | 37 | 58 |
| Option 2 | 2 | 11 | 13 |
| Option3 | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Totals | 26 (Note 1) | 54 | 80 |

Note 1: At the time this count was taken at the AGM one (1) member was offline due to communication issues.

48. Based on the outcome of the preferences of members at the AGM and the number of members in favour of Option 1 on the submitted Proxies, the President moved that Option 1 be implemented as the official position of the Association in the formulation of Honour Rolls to be used by the Association in the quarterly Newsletter and on the Website. The motion was seconded by Trevor Watts. **CARRIED**

There were also strong feelings that alternative wording must be developed for those killed accidentally and the Management Committee should determine the need for a 'Lest We Forget Roll' that could be included in the newsletter and website.

49. **ITEM 21/20 – Minute 17 of 2020/21 – AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION CONCERNING MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY.** The Secretary advised that a request had been received that another category be added to those 'eligible for membership – ordinary and life members' as defined in Rule 14 of the Constitution. The Secretary advised that this request particularly relates to Vietnam but may also relate to other conflicts since that time. The current Rule uses the terminology, 'served as a posted or attached member of the Regiment'. This does not cover those military members who worked not only side-by-side with our troops, but as an integral part of operations and/or actions, in a variety of situations.

50. There was considerable discussion, and the general feeling was that ordinary membership of the Association should be restricted to those military members who had been posted to, or formally attached, to the Regiment. Examples of civilians working with the Regiment during various vehicle transitions, as well as members of various Corps during activities were cited as reasons why the Constitution should not be changed.

51. At the completion of the discussion, the Secretary moved that an amendment to the Constitution be prepared for presentation as a 'special resolution' at the next AGM which would require acceptance by greater than 75% of those present, either physically or by proxy. The motion was seconded by Peter Rosemond. The vote for the proposal was 13, the vote against was 10 with one (1) abstention. (Note: at this time a number of members had left the meeting due to prior commitments as well as communication issues.) **CARRIED**

52. Whilst the motion was carried at this AGM, it was generally believed that such an amendment would probably fail due to the 75% requirement for a 'special resolution'.
53. **ITEM 22/20 – Minute 18 of 2020/21 - NOTE OF APPRECIATION.** It was moved Russ James, seconded Trevor Watts that the Association express its gratitude and thanks to Peter Lukeis for the incredible work he has done on the Newsletter, and website, under very difficult circumstances over the last 12 months. **CARRIED**
54. **ITEM 23/20 – Minute 19 of 2020/21 - UPDATE ON CENTURION 005.** Peter Branagan, Chair of the 169005 Board of Management provided a report on the tank including activities over the last 12 or so months. A copy of the report is included at Annex I. The President moved that the Report be accepted. Seconded Graeme Unmack. **CARRIED**
55. **ITEM 24/20 – Minute 20 of 2020/21 - REUNION PORT MACQUARIE 2021.** The Chair of the PM21 Reunion Sub-Committee (Mick Payne) advised the meeting that preliminary discussions had been held with Rydges and that the prices quoted for the reunion planned for 2021 would be honoured for a reunion in a similar time frame in 2022. Mick Payne proposed that the Reunion for Port Macquarie be approved for 21 to 24 July 2022. Seconded by Pat Deeker. **CARRIED**
56. **ITEM 25/20 – PROJECT ENCOMPASS** – The Secretary advised that no additional work had been undertaken on the Nominal Roll of the Regiment, partly due to the pandemic but also due to time constraints.
57. **ITEM 26/20 – REPORT ON FUNERAL OF MARK (PADDY) DEVINE** – Peter Branagan sought leave to address the AGM. Peter indicated that the funeral had been a celebration of Paddy's life. It was a very sad occasion for family and friends and Peter had been honoured to deliver the Military Eulogy. Paddy was a gentleman and a fine Armoured Corps Officer.
58. **ITEM 27/20 – OPERATION OVERLORD/BATTLE OF LONG KHANH** – Peter Rosemond sought leave to address the AGM. Peter indicated that the Commemoration was a ticketed event and those members wishing to attend must provide Peter, as the Association's main point of contact, with names and address due to COVID-19 restrictions. This was a requirement of both the AWM and DVA.
59. **ITEM 28/20 – BREIFING ON COMMEMORATIONS IN CANBERRA for 2021 and 2023** – Noel McLaughlin sought leave to address the AGM on three (3) matters.
- a. Informal arrangements for the Meet and Greet (a la carte dinner) for 6 June 2021 (the evening before the Commemorative Service for Overlord/Long Khanh) at the Ainslie Football Club. An O group is also to be held at the same location after the Commemorative Service on 7 June 2021. An open invitation is extended to all members of C Squadron 1st Armoured who may wish to attend an informal gathering on both dates, with 3rd Cavalry Regiment and elements of D&E Platoon. Charlie Dearling is the Dining Member and point of contact.
 - b. A Commemorative Service is to be held in September 2021 for Operation Ivanhoe (Battle of Nui Le). Likely to be little or no involvement of 1st Armoured Regiment as the tank Squadron had departed Vietnam prior to this operation. Peter Rosemond is the main point of contact for all Armoured Regiment elements.
 - c. DVA are planning a major event for 2023 to commemorate the end of Australia's involvement in Vietnam. Details to be provided as the plan is developed.
60. **MEETING CLOSED** – There being no further general business, the President declared the meeting closed at 1242 hours 16 January 2021.
61. **NEXT MEETING** – To be advised

R. F. James

Secretary

1st Armoured Regiment Association Incorporated, Registration Number AO044180K

Annexes:

Annex A – List of Members who have Passed since the last AGM

Annex B – Persons in Attendance at the AGM

Annex C - Proxies Received for the AGM

Annex D – President’s Report

Annex E – Treasurer’s Report

Annex F – State Representative Reports

Annex G – Extract from the Life Membership Sub-Committee Report for Ron Bell

Annex H – Extract from the Life Membership Sub-Committee Report for Peter Rosemond

Annex I – Report on ARN 169 005

**Members of the Regiment
Who have Passed since the last AGM**

Kenneth Alfred TOCOCK

Keith Barry BONNEFIN

Dudley John TUDMAN

Kenneth Graham WILSON

Raymond William EACOTT

Alfred James LEE

Louis Roy HAYWARD

Bruce Anthony HOLT

John Leonard WILLIAMS

Mark 'Paddy' DEVINE

Geoffrey Vincent COOPER

Leon Francis KELLY

John HAYNES

Peter Joseph MOORE

Norman Leslie GREEN

Robin James IMLACH

Warren James PROUD

Kenneth Eaton SHORT

Neville Stanley JONES

**1st Armoured Regiment Association
Persons in Attendance at the Annual General Meeting – 16 January 2021**

Members Eligible to Vote

| | | |
|-----|-------------------|------------|
| 1. | Atkinson | John |
| 2. | Bell | Ron |
| 3. | Blackwell | John |
| 4. | Branagan, OAM | Peter |
| 5. | Brooker, OAM | John |
| 6. | Burn | Craig |
| 7. | Catt | Geoff |
| 8. | Coutts, CSM | Peter |
| 9. | Deeker | Pat |
| 10. | Duncombe | Peter |
| 11. | Golla | Werner |
| 12. | Hatfield | Brian |
| 13. | James | Russ |
| 14. | Key | David |
| 15. | Martin | Dean |
| 16. | McLeod | Chris |
| 17. | Meloncelli | Keith |
| 18. | Payne | Mick |
| 19. | Reid | Mark |
| 20. | Reynolds | Iain |
| 21. | Rosemond, CSC OAM | Peter |
| 22. | Smith | Ian (Icky) |
| 23. | Stanios | Richard |
| 24. | Todd | Anthony |
| 25. | Unmack | Graeme |
| 26. | Watts | Trevor |
| 27. | Wood | Ray |

Persons Ineligible to Vote

| | | | |
|----|------------|------|------------------|
| 1. | McLaughlin | Noel | Affiliate Member |
|----|------------|------|------------------|

**1st Armoured Regiment Association
Proxies Received for the Annual General Meeting – 16 January 2021**

| Serial | Surname | Given Name | Valid/Invalid for Physical AGM | Valid/Invalid for Electronic AGM | Comments | Resolutions/Nominations |
|--------|-----------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Atkinson | John | Valid | Not Applicable (1) | Attended Electronic AGM | |
| 2. | Baker | Geoff | Valid | Valid | | |
| 3. | Bancroft | Lindsay | Valid | Valid | | None Selected |
| 4. | Barnett | Geoffry | Valid | Valid | | |
| 5. | Beatty | Ken | Valid | Valid | | |
| 6. | Blackney | Doug | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | None Selected |
| 7. | Bongiorno | Francis | Valid | Valid | | |
| 8. | Brooks | Dave | Valid | Valid | | |
| 9. | Brown | Darren | Valid | Valid | | |
| 10. | Bull | Brian | Valid | Valid | | |
| 11. | Burgess | Rod | Valid | Valid | | |
| 12. | Burnett | Kevin | Valid | Valid | | |
| 13. | Bush | Gary | Valid | Valid | | |
| 14. | Catt | Geoffrey | Valid | Not Applicable (1) | Attended Electronic AGM | |
| 15. | Chambers | Barry | Invalid (2) | Invalid (2) | | |
| 16. | Chipman | John (Jack) | Invalid (3) | | | |
| 17. | Coward | Brian | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | |
| 18. | Cummings | Ian | Valid | Valid | | |
| 19. | Dearling | Charles | Valid | Valid | | |
| 20. | Duff | John | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | |

| Serial | Surname | Given Name | Valid/Invalid for Physical AGM | Valid/Invalid for Electronic AGM | Comments | Resolutions/Nominations |
|--------|----------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 21. | Duncan | Matthew | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | None Selected |
| 22. | Dunn | Michael | Valid | Valid | | |
| 23. | Fenton, OAM | Chris | Valid | Valid | | |
| 24. | Ferrari, OAM | Robert | Valid | Valid | | |
| 25. | Foote | Roger | Valid | Valid | | None Selected |
| 26. | Germaine | Gerry | Valid | Valid | | |
| 27. | Golding | Brad | Valid | Valid | | |
| 28. | Harberts | Herman | Valid | Valid | | |
| 29. | Hatfield | Brian | Valid | Not Applicable (1) | Attended Electronic AGM | |
| 30. | Hauke | Gerhard | Valid | Valid | | |
| 31. | Hawton | John | Valid | Valid | | |
| 32. | Heyward | Kevin | Valid | Valid | | |
| 33. | Hoseason-Smith | Phil | Valid | Valid | | |
| 34. | Hutton | Peter | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | None Selected |
| 35. | Hyson | Maxwell | Valid | Valid | | |
| 36. | Ilett | Eric | Valid | Valid | | |
| 37. | James | Richard | Valid | Valid | | |
| 38. | Kuilboer | Michael | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | |
| 39. | Lane | John | Valid | Valid | | |
| 40. | Lowe | Trevor | Valid | Valid | | |
| 41. | Mahoney | Philip | Valid | Valid | | |
| 42. | Mason | Simon | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | |
| 43. | McCormack | Gerry | Valid | Valid | | |
| 44. | McLeod | Christopher | Valid | Not Applicable | Attended Electronic AGM | Abstained on Scholarships |
| 45. | Meecham | Maurie | Valid | Valid | | None Selected |
| 46. | Milner | Brian | Valid | Valid | | |
| 47. | Morris | Keith | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | None Selected |
| 48. | Murphy | Anthony | Valid | Valid | | Honour Roll not Selected |
| 49. | Nicholas | Gregory | Valid | Valid | | |
| 50. | O'Brien | Michael | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | None Selected |

| Serial | Surname | Given Name | Valid/Invalid for Physical AGM | Valid/Invalid for Electronic AGM | Comments | Resolutions/Nominations |
|--------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 51. | O’Gorman | Peter | Valid | Valid | | |
| 52. | Painter | David | Valid | Valid | | |
| 53. | Payne | Michael | Valid | Not Applicable | Attended Electronic AGM | |
| 54. | Powell | Roger | Valid | Valid | | |
| 55. | Rainey, MM | Michael | Valid | Valid | | |
| 56. | Reid | Mark | Valid | Not Applicable | Attended Electronic AGM | |
| 57. | Richards | Bernard | Valid | Valid | | |
| 58. | Robertson | Keith | Valid | Valid | | |
| 59. | Rossiter | Phil | Valid | Valid | | |
| 60. | Semmens | Jim | Valid | Valid | | |
| 61. | Sheppard | Bob | Valid | Valid | | Abstained on Life Membership for Ron Bell |
| 62. | Snape | Robert | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | |
| 63. | Stanfield | William | Valid | Valid | | |
| 64. | Stephens | Chris | Valid | Valid | | |
| 65. | Thomas | Brian | Valid | Valid | | None Selected |
| 66. | Thorp | David | Valid | Valid | | |
| 67. | Van Rooyen | Pat | Valid | Valid | | None Selected |
| 68. | Vicino | Phillip | Valid | Valid | | |
| 69. | Walker, OAM | Lou | Valid | Valid | | |
| 70. | Warren | Ronald | Valid | Valid | | |
| 71. | Waterman | Giles | Invalid (1) | Invalid (1) | | |
| 72. | Williams | Simon | Valid | Valid | | |
| 73. | Wilson | John Arthur | Valid | Valid | | |

Notes:

1. Invalid (1) means that the member did not select (tick) ‘all matters’ which meant the Proxy could not vote on all matters
2. Invalid (2) means that a Proxy was not nominated
3. Invalid (3) means that the proxy was received after the closing time (1000 hours 15 January 2021)

4. Not Applicable indicates that the member attended the AGM in the electronic environment and therefore would not be able to vote in that environment. However, the Proxy would still be valid if the AGM had been adjourned and later held in a physical environment.
5. There was a total of 73 Proxy forms submitted by email and postal mail to the Secretary. Of these:
 - a. 12 Proxy forms were incorrectly completed in that the box adjacent to 'all matters except, etc' had not been selected. This meant that the appointed proxy could not vote on behalf of the member. However, six (6) of these invalid proxies had made either 'For' or 'Against' selections for one or more of the five (5) resolutions/nominations,
 - b. Six (6) Proxies were not applicable (could not be applied) as the member appointing the proxy attended the electronic AGM, and
 - c. One (1) proxy form was received after the closing time (1000 hours 15 January 2021) and therefore could not be applied.
6. Of the 73 proxies submitted (both valid and invalid), 10 failed to complete either the 'For' or 'Against' boxes for the five (5) resolutions/nominations (below the line) and a further six (6) who had submitted a proxy attended the electronic AGM. This means that the maximum number of votes for Resolutions/Nominations provided in the submitted proxy forms by members not present at the AGM was 56. In addition, some members who completed the section below the line did not select (tick) every choice. Therefore, the number of votes for those not present at the AGM is always 56.
7. It is clear that the Proxy Form that was used for the 2020 AGM confused many members and serious consideration should be given to such an arrangement in the future.

1st Armoured Regiment Association President's Verbal Report

Well members what a year it has been, and it continues to impact on us now as we sit here conducting our AGM by ZOOM video conferencing. Beyond all the impact that has been created by the current situation, what has occurred since the last AGM?

A significant amount of background work has been conducted by committee members throughout 2020 to ensure the Association is well prepared for changes to committee members and to ease handover of appointments.

This has included a significant review and adjustment to the financial accounts which has been long overdue. This has accounted for stock holding pricing, membership fees, assets and continued association expenditures. Please understand there has been no financial mismanagement in any terms no matter what some people outside the association may say. What has occurred principally managed by the Secretary with assistance by the Treasure the accounts have been made for want of a better word idiot proof, thus enabling any new appointee or member to fully understand how and why funds are being accounted.

As part of this background work, Association stock holdings and pricings of stock have been totally reviewed and adjusted. You may have seen a sale of items a while back which was part of these adjustments. A thank you to those appointed for the work they completed.

Links have been strengthening with 1st Armoured Regiment through appointment of a dedicated liaison officer within the association and reestablishment of annual awards donated by the association for soldiers of the regiment. We have created a good communication link with the Regiment and only the current health issues have impacted on association members being able to visit and attend activities with the regiment.

For those that may not be aware we also provide awards to School of Armour for subject courses specific to the tank trade.

Planning and preparation had occurred for the next Reunion which was to be held at Port Macquarie. As you may now be aware, this has been delayed/postponed till 2022. The decision to do this was not taken lightly. However, the health and welfare of members was our highest consideration and with the current daily changing restrictions the decision was made. I would like to thank the reunion sub-committee for their work in preparing the activity and apologise to them for the postponement and the additional work this has placed on them. I also apologise to members who had been planning to attend, my wife and myself being two of them. We believe the current uncertainties would continue and we wish to provide members a strong assurance of being able to attend and then return to your state of residence.

Even though we have been limited in our ability to conduct face to face activities for members, the committee has quietly worked to improve the procedures and accountability of the association for the benefit of members.

For 2020 I wish to say thank you to John Brooker who resigned as Vice President during the year, too all committee members thank you for your work and advice during an awkward year, and to members thank you for your continued membership and patronage of the association.

What of 2021? Well as we have seen with the start of the year, things are still impacting on all of us with the ability to gather and enjoy each other's company through get togethers or just having a meeting such as today.

For 2021 things are still fluid. Today is an example! We had intended for a physical AGM in Bradford, but the constantly changing environment impacted on our plans. The committee will continue to seek ways for members to get together and enjoy each other's company. When and how that will occur is a question I cannot answer at this time.

What can I say for the remainder of 2021? Let's see!

On a personal note, I do wish to address the continued attacks being made against the 1st Armoured Regiment Association and specifically some committee members. For all members, I as the President am disheartened and disgusted that people will continue to deride and accuse the committee of improprieties whilst knowing there is no ability to respond or challenge the allegation. The committee will continue to serve the members best interests, but will not react to bullying and inuendo.

Please let us all have a safe and renew 2021.

**TREASURERS REPORT FOR THE FY ENDING 30 JUN 20
FOR THE 1ST ARMoured REGIMENT ASSOCIATION (INC)**

Background

There was a changeover of Treasurers in October 2019 between David Paterson (outgoing) and Werner Golla (in coming). A handover/takeover was unable to be achieved with the outgoing Treasurer.

After a number of months of learning the Accounting Software Package (Xero) under the mentorship of the Secretary, disruption was minimized and any irregularities encountered along the way were scrutinized again with a great deal of assistance from the Secretary. There was one particular area which provided a challenge being the Inventory of the Q Store that required significant time and attention to fix, which it now is.

It is important to realize our Association is a “not for profit” entity and as such our main focus is to provide for our membership in our entire decision making. It is also important to maintain and grow the membership.

Profit and Loss Report

Income:

Looking at the Profit and Loss Report, it becomes clear where our major income comes from and what our major expenses are, such as income from Membership payments often for more than one year, up to five years. This income is tracked under the heading of “current liabilities,” sale of merchandise and a donation from the membership and other organizations also provides a steady income, but by far the largest income source is membership fees.

Expense:

On the expenses side, the day-to-day costs associated with postage, monthly fees to run the accounting software, printing and stationery, donations and event outlays and such form the major expense items.

Port Macquarie Reunion:

Considerable financial accountings surround the Reunion being planned for Port Macquarie, now postponed to 2022 due to the pandemic. Members have made a commitment to attend in significant numbers and some have already paid for all the events, Registration, Meet and Greet, the Reunion Dinner and the Recovery Breakfast.

Some members have not made any payments as yet, some partial payments, but accurate records are being kept and that information is shown under the heading “noncurrent liabilities” in the Balance Sheet.

Due to the postponement of the Reunion, the Association will reimburse those members who wish to be, and that matter is being attended to now. It is expected the majority will leave their payments with the Association.

Balance Sheet:

Looking at the Balance Sheet, there are three accounts set up, Debit Card, Cheque and the major account being the Operational account. This is used for the majority of expenditure and deposits. All three accounts are held with the Bendigo Bank. As is usual these days, interest paid on deposits is minimal. The debit card account is used for payments for the accounting software Xero, and the cheque account for the Centurion tank maintenance.

Assets:

The largest asset held is the Centurion tank the value of which was upgraded to \$65,000 two years ago. Another area of some significance in monetary terms is the Association Banners and Flags.

General Summary:

Our Income for 12 months is generally around the \$12,000 mark whilst our day-to-day expenses are around \$9,500 excluding donations made by the Association and other extraordinary items that were incurred in the previous financial year. This means that we are living within our means and should have a surplus around \$2,000 provided that we maintain the membership level at around 500 members.

The management of the Association finances is finely overseen, with a Report presented to each Management Meeting for all to scrutinize and concur with.

1st Armoured Regiment Association Queensland Representative Annual Report – 2020

As the Queensland Representative I have very little to report for the year 2020. There were no major activities conducted by me during this period due mainly to the COVID Pandemic.

I was able to meet with a couple of association members who lived in my vicinity at various times over coffee or lunch.

ANZAC Day 2021. The ANZAC DAY PARADE BRISBANE (ADPB) COMMITTEE is currently planning for a limited ANZAC DAY activity to be conducted at the Brisbane Show Grounds on ANZAC DAY. The concept of the day is that all Associations within the ADPB will have their Banner paraded and two guests from each association will be invited to view parade. More to follow.

To all members of the Association we wish you all a very constructive 2021.

Regards,

BJ



State Rep QLD
Brian Hatfield
0417 099 262
qldrep@paratus.org.au

NSW Rep Annual Activity Report

Apart from a 6 week trip to Tasmania, a stint in hospital with pneumonia and a stint in the nuthouse to get my brain rewired, I was on deck for most of the year

Although the year started off well COVID put paid to all plans real quick

Throughout the year I attended all the Committee Zoom meetings even when in Tasmania courtesy of Jim Semmens.

The majority of the year was spent organising the 2021 Reunion here in Port Macquarie which unfortunately was postponed to 2022 at the last minute. The work during the year was not wasted as all the businesses we worked with are happy to move all the planning to 2022 with minimum upset and it appears that most of the costing will remain as for 2021.

As The Reunion Rep I would like to thank my fellow reunion members for their hard work during 2020

John Atkinson the brilliant wordsmith, Brad Golding and John Brooker for their great graphic design work, Judi for keeping me and everyone else on track, and last but not least our amazing Association Secretary....Russ James for all of his wisdom and helpful input.

Although there were no state based functions held due to COVID lockdowns all over the country, with the chance that we may get on top of COVID and the restrictions being loosened I hope to have a get together somewhere in the state for Cambrai Day.

All in all, a quiet year, just keeping up with changes to the membership database as required.

I look forward to 2021 being a better year

Mick Payne

NSW State Rep



2019/20 Victorian 1AR Association Annual Report

The Grand Final Camping trip to Tolmie this year went well with 21 people that attended. We had great weather with only a few showers Friday night. Many thanks to David Pye & his son Jamie who made the spit & supplied the lighting for the site again this year. I don't think that the weekend could be as much a success without their hard work with making things work. We held the dining in/out night on the Saturday night, with roast beef & pork cooked on the spit and vegies cooked in the camp ovens, for dessert we had chocolate brownies & cream. Bruce Tarran prepared the meat & supervised the cooking on the spit. Many thanks to Peter Keane for bringing up the tables & also with specialized training doing a great on the pepper gravy. The wine for the night was supplied by Max Hammond from Fowles Wines. It is much appreciated to all that contributed by either by turning a sausage, getting some firewood or dixie bashing to make the weekend a success. Overall, it was a great weekend for all that attended. For those members that have not come along in the past & could have attended missed a great weekend.

Cambrai Long Lunch was held on the 15th November at the Emerald Hotel South Melbourne. We had 14 members + 1 wife an attendance. We also had Mick Dunn make the trip across from South Australia. We took the opportunity to welcome & present our latest new member, Ken Thompson with his membership card & badge. A good lunch was had by all, & we thanked Jane & her staff of the Emerald by presenting her with an Association plaque which will be proudly displayed in the hotel.

From early March 2020 we were locked down and it was not possible to have a Long Lunch for either ANZAC Day, the Regimental Birthday or any other get together. Hopefully things will improve for 2021.



2019/20 Western Australian Report

Due to the pandemic, ANZAC Day was cancelled as a march but we commemorated in our driveways. Get togethers were also abolished only allowing extremely small gatherings. As Western Australia showed the rest of the country how to deal with quarantine and border control our beloved premier has relaxed some of the restrictions. Hopefully 2021 will turn out much better.

Pat Deeker

WA Representative



2019/20 South Australian Report

The year has passed quickly and as with other states COVID19 has reduced contact. Our Anzac Day Service was cancelled and most members did a driveway memorial as did other states. Mark Reid attended Cambrai Day at the 1st Armoured Regiment which was modified to meet the requirements set. Awards were presented to the JNCO and Soldier of the Year. At this stage events should be able to occur with the Quorn trip to be confirmed with Lou Walker. Mark Reid
SA Representative
First Armoured Regiment Association
(08) 8289 5605
0419 842 225

2019/20 Tasmanian Report

Hi from the State down under. Well like everyone else 2020 turned into the proverbial #####@@@. As a group nothing was undertaken due to our COVID friend.

2021 will likely be very similar although I do plan to try and organise the odd get together probably after March.

So hope to catch up with a few people on the “big island” later in the year if COVID allows.

Congratulations from down here to the Committee, you guys have done a great job keeping things going through these “different “times.

Cheers and safe travels

tasrep@paratus.

An Extract from the Report of the Life Membership Sub-Committee on Ron Bell

It was clear from the Life Membership nomination that Ronald Harry Bell clearly met all mandatory and highly desirable requirements, and it was evident that Ron had demonstrated loyalty to the Association, its members and to the Regiment for a period greater than 10 years whilst he was a member of the Committee.

Ron had been an excellent member of the RAAC during his service and this continued during his time with the Association and as a member of the Committee.

It was apparent, based on the written nomination and personal knowledge of Ron over many years, that the criteria for life membership had been obviously met.

Ron had been a first-class performer in all activities, including work, community and sport, and this continued whilst a member of the Committee.

The process for Life Membership of the Association provides a rigorous set of guidelines not only for the nomination but also for the evaluation process. The Life Membership Sub-Committee found that Ron clearly met all mandatory requirements, and this was endorsed by the Executive and Management Committees of the Association.

Personal Note by the Secretary

As an addendum, could I just add that behind every good man is an exceptional woman and in Dinga's case, this is Mary. If there was ever a case for sharing 'Life Membership', this would be it. Mary was extensively involved in the organisation and running of at least three (3) major reunions as well as providing significant support, including administrative, moral and technical, to Ron on a daily basis.

An Extract from the Report of the Life Membership Sub-Committee on Peter Rosemond

The life membership nomination for Peter Rosemond was not as clear cut as that for Ron Bell as Life Membership submission did not specifically address the criteria specified in the Life Membership Policy and Procedures.

However, after careful deliberation all members of the Life Membership Sub-Committee felt that Peter Rosemond satisfied the mandatory and highly desirable criteria with clarity regarding the Committee's views about paragraph 2b of the Policy and Procedures. Whilst Peter had not served in a specified appointment of the Committee or Executive of the Association, he has been continually empowered by the Committee to act on their behalf in a number of dedicated and difficult roles.

The following general comments were made concerning the nomination and the subject of the nomination, Peter Rosemond.

- a. Peter had been an outstanding member of the Australian Army, of the RAAC. His unrelenting commitment to the Corps and to current and former members of the Corps have continued for many years after his retirement.
- b. Peter's leadership and advocacy has been sought, on numerous occasions, by the Executive of the Association to undertake delicate and difficult matters relating to the formal recognition of Coral-Balmoral, Binh Ba and Hammersley Veterans. Peter has also had an ongoing role on behalf of the 1 Armd Regt Association Executive in representing its interests and helping to mature the fledgling RAAC Corporation in a wide-ranging number of sensitive issues, particularly those related to culture and values of membership matters.
- c. Peter has, over many years, acted in a guiding and mentoring role for both former and current members (including Presidents) of the Executive and Management Committees.
- d. As a member of the RAAC Corporation Advisory Board, Peter has formally represented the views of the Executive and Management Committees of the Association, as well as current and former members of the Regiment, seeking their counsel where appropriate.
- e. All Sub-Committee members felt that Peter has provided an untiring commitment to the Association, to the Regiment and to all former members of the Regiment in his endeavours working with the RAAC Corporation and Head of Corps to present cases to Defence Honours and Awards and to the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal.
- f. The Sub-Committee all agreed that Peter has acted as a representative for the Association, as an agent of the Executive; and as the Association's point of contact for a number of significant matters and activities over many years since his retirement as RSM of the Army. Peter has also worked sensitively in the background with dedication, providing frank and fearless advice to the RAAC Head of Corps, the Representative Honorary Colonel RAAC, and the 1 Armd Regt Association's Patron and Honorary Colonel. His value in this role, acting in the Association's best interests, has been exceptional.

- g. All members of the Sub-Committee agreed that Peter Rosemond's continuous commitment and dedicated work, as an agent and advocate of the Association's Executive, met and indeed exceeded the requirements of paragraph 2b of the Policy and Procedures.

In summing up, the President indicated that, in his opinion, Peter Rosemond had far surpassed the criteria for acceptance as a life member of the Association. Members of the Sub-Committee agreed. As with the Nomination for Ron Bell, Peter's nomination was examined by the Executive and Management Committees and endorsed for presentation at this AGM.

Report from the Board of Management of Centurion MBT ARN 169 005

No one expected a year like 2020. It started off OK and the usual work that is normally carried out on 005 proceeded as normal. That was until the lock downs started and in early April the volunteers were stood down by Australian Army Historical Unit (AAHU)

We thought it would only be temporary and we would be back on deck in a number of weeks, not six months.

We were lucky to have Tony Crook able to access the museum being on staff and with an instruction sheet we supplied he and CPL Dave Mahar were able to periodically able to start 005, the museum also provided fuel.

When we finally were able to get back on site for a briefing on the state of play we attempted to start 005.

However, we found that even though the batteries were on charge they were not holding any charge, and they were no longer serviceable. Not a bad effort considering the batteries were eight years old. We have four new batteries ready to be fitted once we are able to get back to work at the museum around late January they will be fitted.

The new museum decision location and design will be decided shortly and no doubt a decision on what role 005 will adopt in the new location.

I wish to congratulate the four main men who keep ARN169005 serviced and running. They are: John Blackwell, Peter Coutts, Ian Smith and Tubby Brooker.

Peter Branagan, OAM
Chairman
169005 Board of Management
30 September 2019