

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING PENSHURST SUB BRANCH 10th April 2016

PRESENT: 49 members present **Apologies:** K Thompson, K Riley, F and P Kornie, T Gardner, E Gersbach, A Corbett, L Wilson, M Madden and P Birchall.

ODE: Kevin Kelly **Vale:** Nil

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Minutes of the February meeting were tabled.

BUSINESS ARISING:

BA Item 1: Keith Pratt asked if we had an answer to his Remembrance Day question. John Hoban said SMDC President Barry Glover and Albert our SMDC rep he should get an answer in SMDC report.

GB Item 7: It was asked about the email uptake, at present we have up to 50 addresses and if anybody else has not yet notified the secretary they should do so.

Move the minutes be received. All in favour.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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| 1. Circu. 5/16: Questions to Hon. Treasurer before Congress. | In folder |
| 2. Circu. 6/16: Korea 2016 Commemorative Mission. | Brian Baker |
| 3. Circu. 7/16: Defence Surplus Equipment. | In folder |
| 4. City of Albury RSL Club bid to hold Congress. | Tabled |
| 5. March Info from Andrew Constance. | Tabled |
| 6. Expiry of Firearms Permit | Secretary to action |
| 7. Guild Digest newsletter. | In office |
| 8. 2016 Anzac day Education Resource pack. | In office |
| 9. Woronora River RSL ANZAC Service 23 rd April. | For Info |
| 10. Mortdale RSL Sunday service 17 th April at 10am. | For info |

Moved correspondence be received. All in favour.

FINANCE REPORT:

Ross gave the profit and loss reports for the month of February and March, it is a bit distorted as in the top is summery GST receipts of \$500000 and in the bottom capital investment of \$526000, the reason is we took a term deposit out of the CBA and invested it in St George adding a further \$15000 we took out of the working account, some of that was the returned deposit from Hurstville Council when we build the memorial. We had \$994.67 in a cash management account which we have now put into the working account. During the period there were a couple of large expenditures we paid State Branch and SMDC subs. Meeting and AGM costs were \$1041. We also paid our insurances so everybody is covered.

We had a net loss over the 2 months of \$11783, if we had not transferred money into the term deposits we would have had a surplus of around \$3000 over the 2 months. This leaves our bank balance at \$36562.43.

Moved that the Treasurer's report be received. All in favour.

NEW MEMBERS:

We had one new member Christopher Anthony Stephen, sponsor Peter Francis, who came before the membership and after a secret ballot was admitted as an affiliate member.

SMDC:

Albert said that the Women's delegate for the Illawara area had been cancelled as she no longer resided in the area.

The RSL will be given the freedom of the city of Sydney on Sunday prior to the start of Congress.

Bundeena has received 3 and half million dollars from insurers which will allow them to start rebuilding their club. It is hoped to be completed by November this year.

In answer to Keith Pratt, Albert said SMDC have to ask the sub branches who will hold it and at this time we do not know. It was thought we would have an answer by June.

SMDC President Barry Glover was invited to address the group he said his understanding of question of RAG's he thought that had been dismissed as sub branches were not happy and the district presidents had strongly put their point of view to State branch. He said there was talk of trying to bring "top" businessmen on to the board. The State Secretary was coming to talk to SMDC. He then gave a detailed comment on the dismissal of Dorothy Jennings as she no longer live in the area as required by their constitution. He was of the opinion that it had not been handled well.

Keith Pratt, in reply said that his question had not really been answered, his concerned was that we could wait, this side of the river, for 3 years for a Remembrance Day ceremony and lose all the momentum from the 100 years of Anzac. He further said that the RAG's were a recommendation out of State Council, we haven't heard any official information that RAG's are no longer being considered.

WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT:

No report given.

SICK VISITOR'S REPORT:

Secretary gave report in lieu of Kim Thompson who gave his apologies. Kim said he had visited Alf Seymour (Room Banksia 33) and Ronnie Hall (Room Grevillia 206) both in Ferndale Nursing Home, Kim said both members would be grateful for visitors.

Secretary said Pat Kornie had left a message giving their apologies for today and said that Frank was in hospital for a few days.

PENSION OFFICER'S REPORT:

Since the last report in February, there has been one decision handed down by Department of Veteran Affairs.

A veteran from another sub branch who had applied for an increase in his disability pension had been granted an increase from 90% to 100% and has had other disabilities accepted by DVA.

Pension Officer Alan Davis and myself have applied to attend a Refresher Training Information Training Course and are awaiting a time and venue to be advised.

No further advice has been received from the Repatriation Medical Authority re any changes or new Statements of Principles issued since the last report. An increase to veteran's pensions has been approved and will take effect from 14th April 2016. Contact DVA133 254 or ring freecall 1800555254 for enquiries.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. There was a voluntary donation by a member of a medallion from the Perth Mint showing ARL Centenary for display in our memorabilia cabinet.
2. John H talked about changes to the Club Board and members who were elected. John then gave a brief outline on the roles now of the club and the sub-branch. Wally Chin later in the meeting stated how the club was sold and how the finances were arranged.
3. John then outlined the arrangement for next Sunday's march and service.
4. John said he and committee members went to the Panania Diggers Club for a meeting of the new Minister of Veterans Affairs Dan Tehan who they found to be a pleasant refreshing fellow and spoke well. Discussed was a proposal put forward from 2 commando regiment (Chris Korfias) to help with a "Back Deck" which they want to recreate at Holsworthy.
5. John said this year we are holding the Anzac Day Dawn service at our memorial.
6. Secretary asked if any members would volunteer to act as marshals on Anzac morning when members of the public return to the club and help direct these people.
7. Secretary said that our Pensions officer Bob Leedow had been presented with a certificate as a Volunteer of the Year in the St George area by Julie Bishop and David Coleman at a ceremony meeting at Club Rivers.
8. At the last meeting there was a letter from Canberra selling Lone Pine seedlings and we said we would obtain some however there was a miss reading in the cost. We had looked at the postage cost the real cost of the plants was much higher.
9. Barry Stephenson gave a detailed talk on his and his son's visit to the Gallipoli peninsular on Anzac Day last year.

Graham Grant
Hon. Secretary

John Hoban
President