

# Australian Naval Institute



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN NAVAL INSTITUTE, HELD AT RUSSELL OFFICES THEATRETTE, CANBERRA, 31 MARCH 2014.

### 1. Present:

|                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| RADM Simon Cullen               | SBLT Matthew Bell       |
| RADM James Goldrick             | MIDN Madeleine Damiris  |
| CDRE Jaimie Hatcher             | MIDN Jedd Goggin        |
| CDRE Paul Scott                 | MIDN Mitch Riley-Meijer |
| CAPT Tim Brown (Vice President) | MIDN Luke Searle        |
| CAPT Matt Buckley               | MIDN Robert Stickels    |
| CAPT Justin Jones               | WO Dale Young           |
| CAPT Simon Woolrych             | Mr Mick Brice           |
| CMDR Iain Jarvie                | Dr Gregory Gilbert      |
| CMDR Ben Macdonald (Secretary)  | Ms Sue Hart             |
| CMDR Larry Menon                | Mr Brian Mansell        |
| CMDR Bob Moyse                  | Mr John McFarlane       |
| CMDR Doug Stevens               | Mr Kit Morgan           |
| CMDR Nick Tate                  | Mr Ian Noble            |
| LCDR Sophie Hill                | Mr Bruce Parr           |

### 2. Apologies

|                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| RADM David Campbell          | CMDR Mike Wright       |
| RADM Raydon Gates            | LCDR Andrew Boatman    |
| RADM Greg Sammut (President) | LCDR B.H. Harrington   |
| RADM Rothesay Swan           | LCDR Paul Pelczar      |
| CDRE Bruce Kafer             | LCDR Dennis Rose       |
| CDRE David York              | LCDR Desmond Woods     |
| CAPT Cliff Beazley           | LEUT Andrew Foulkes    |
| CAPT R.T. Derbridge          | LEUT Stephanie Foulkes |
| CAPT Tim Duchesne            | CPO Bert Newell        |
| CAPT J.P.D. Hodgman          | Mr Orm Cooper          |
| CAPT Richard McMillan        | Mr Peter Charlesworth  |
| CAPT Brian Read              | Dr Kriton Glenn        |
| CDR Dennis Fairfax           | Mr Tony Hunt           |
| CMDR Peter Horobin           | Mr Richard Jones       |
| CMDR Andrew Schroder         | Mr Ian Reynolds        |
| CMDR David Swanson           | Mr Leonard Spanton     |

### 3. Opening Remarks

CAPT Brown opened the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at 1730 and noted that a quorum of AGM members was present.

He tabled an apology from RADM Sammut, who was unable to preside at the AGM due

to duty travel commitments.

#### **4. Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 14 Mar 13 were accepted with minor amendments to section 5 (questions attributed to Kit Morgan were in fact asked by Ian Noble).

#### **5. President's Address**

CAPT Brown gave the 2014 President's Address on behalf of RADM Sammut (enclosure 1).

#### **6. Treasurer's Report**

CMDR Tate presented the 2014 Treasurer's Report and tabled the FY13 Audit Report (enclosure 2).

CMDR Tate moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. The motion was seconded by SBLT Bell and accepted by the AGM

CMDR Tate further moved that Bonsella Business Solutions be appointed as auditors of the ANI in FY13. The motion was seconded by CAPT Jones and accepted by the AGM.

Mr Noble asked questions regarding the source of 'other expenses' and how much savings bring *Headmark* publication back to Australia from China had generated. CMDR Tate responded that other expenses covered miscellaneous items such as insurance and auditors fees, and that repatriating *Headmark* had generated savings of approximately \$5000.

Mr Parr asked for an explanation of the core reasons behind the drop in ANI income since 2009. CMDR Tate assessed that the primary cause was sponsorship pressure. RADM Goldrick suggested that the cessation of the Maritime Australia Awards and corresponding sponsorship may also have been a factor.

#### **7. ANI Communications Strategy.**

CMDR Jarvie initiated a discussion on the ANI's proposed Communications Strategy, which is focused on moving away from *Headmark* as a primary means of communication and more towards a web-based strategy. He noted that an update was required in any case due to the aged backbone of the current website, but reiterated that it is the view of Council that this provides an opportunity for the ANI to modernise, reach out to a global audience and broaden the sponsorship/advertising base.

RADM Goldrick asked who will coordinate the website and how much it will cost. CAPT Brown responded that Crispin Hull will manage the website on behalf of the

Business Manager. His fee has not yet been finalised, but is expected to be offset by reduced *Headmark* publishing costs and increased advertising revenue. RADM Goldrick went on to pose the possibility that there are risks associated with increasing access to ANI content, using the example of a piece written by a Navy member opposing Government direction 'going viral,' and asked if this had been considered by Council. CAPT Brown acknowledged this risk and that there may need to be additional measures put in place in future to assert the independence of the ANI from Navy (e.g. removing the requirement for a serving flag-rank officer to be President).

Mr Parr put forward a view that the website will make *Headmark* obsolete in the short term and that this is a desirable outcome in term of making the ANI's content more enduring. He noted that he views *Headmark* as the best of a number of publications that he receives, but that ultimately each edition is thrown out with the rest of his journals. CAPT Brown responded that the short term plan is for the number of editions of *Headmark* to be reduced from 4 to 2 per year, but that this will be under continual review by Council.

Mr Noble asked when the new website will go live. CAPT Brown responded that this was still under review. It is ready to go live now, but it will be the President's call (in consultation with the Patron) as to when this might be (likely before 30 Apr).

CAPT Buckley remarked that he fully supported the transition to web-based communication. He expressed a view that the website will be particularly appealing to post-graduate students, who may well go on to form the membership backbone in the future.

CMDR Stephens asked how the requirement to periodically refresh and upgrade the website will be managed. CMDR Jarvie advised that this will be within the remit of Council through the Business Manager to Crispin Hull.

## **8. Proposed Constitutional Amendment**

CMDR Macdonald opened discussion on a proposed constitutional amendment to change the majority required to pass alterations to the ANI Constitution from two-thirds to three-quarters.

This is a requirement of the ACT Office of Regulatory Services. As such, there were no opposing views and the amendment was accepted unanimously by the AGM.

## **9. Election of Councillors**

CMDR Macdonald moved that the following candidates be appointed to the ANI Council for 2014:

President – RADM Greg Sammut  
Vice President – CAPT Timothy Brown  
Secretary – CMDR Ben Macdonald  
Treasurer – LEUT Lee Robinson  
Councillor – CAPT Justin Jones

Councillor – CAPT Lee Goddard  
Councillor – CAPT Chris Skinner (Rtd)  
Councillor – CMDR Iain Jarvie  
Councillor – CMDR Bob Moyse  
Councillor – LCDR Desmond Woods  
Councillor – SBLT Matthew Bell  
Councillor – MIDN Madeleine Damiris  
Councillor – MIDN Jedd Goggin  
Councillor – MIDN Mitchell Riley-Meijer  
Councillor – MIDN Luke Searle  
Councillor – Dr Gregory Gilbert  
Journal Editor – Dr Tom Lewis  
Public Officer – LCDR Sophia Hill

The motion was seconded by WO Young and accepted by the AGM.

CAPT Brown thanked outgoing Councillors for their service to the ANI.

#### **10. New Business**

No items were raised.

#### **11. Meeting Close**

There being no further business, CAPT Brown closed the AGM at 1840.

**T.A. Brown**  
CAPT, RAN  
Vice President

Apr 14

**B.L. Macdonald**  
CMDR, RAN  
Secretary

Apr 14

#### **Enclosures:**

1. President's Report
2. Audit Report