

**Minutes
of the
Army Health Services Historical Research Group Meeting**

**Held at 6pm on 9th October
at the
Naval, Military and Air Force Club of South Australia**

Attendees:

COL B Perks (chair), COL A Summers (secretary) LTCOL S Kuusk (treasurer) COL D Beard, COL J Aiello.

Apologies:

COL M Jelly, COL S Cameron, COL R Beal, COL P Byrne, COL B Mollison

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

Were read and accepted as a true record; proposed S Kuusk seconded D Beard

2. Business and actions arising from Minutes

2.1 Army Museum of South Australia Foundation (AMOSAF) affiliation

2.1.1 COL Burzacott contacted COL Perks and asked him if would consider a position on the Board of the Army Museum of South Australia Foundation. COL Perks was sorry he had to decline whilst he was still working full time. The position on the Board of AMOSAF is to be aligned to the RAAMC Honorary Colonel's role. COL Summers will represent COL Perks and this committee as she is a member of the Board of AMOSAF.

2.1.2 The History Groups affiliation agreement is still to be formulated by AMOSAF. We have been assured that we have complied with all their requirements.

2.2 Website

2.2.1 COL Perks reported that he has received many phone calls about the material that our group placed on the website. Callers expressed their interest and congratulations on our efforts. COL Perks formally thanked COL Summers for putting the material together and submitting it to the website administrator, Major J. Straskye.

2.2.2 Discussion took place about the next steps for placing material on the website. It was agreed that we would now forward all minutes to date and future minutes to be posted on the website. COL Summers will action.

LTCOL Kuusk will put together a vignette from his research of the History of the Dental Corps during the period 1915 to 1953 (when Dental was officially part of the Medical Corps. COL

Aiello will also write a piece on the Bangka Strait Memorial its history and ongoing remembrance.

Recognising that they are a vital part of our history, the Committee agreed that the next major project to fund was the professional photography of South Australian Health related Honour Boards held in this State for placement on the website. These will include;

- The Staff Honour Boards at the Margaret Graham Building Royal Adelaide Hospital
- The Nursing Honour Boards in building 34A Keswick
- The 8Fd Amb Honour Board at Torrens Training Depot
- DMS Office Keswick Honour Board
- The collection of photographs held at 3HSB of previous CO's and Matrons of 3Fd Amb, 3Gen Hosp and 3HSB and
- Any other Honour Boards that come to light.

2.3 Contacts with retired RAAMC members

2.3.1 COL Perks is still to speak with COL B Burston.

2.3.2 COL Jelly is still following up the Hanson family.

2.3.3 LTCOL Kuusk has been in contact with Mary Magarey who wishes to donate her Father's officer's suitcase which has the original list of contents inside the lid. He also has an appointment to meet with Susan Magarey who informed him that her Father's personal diaries were donated to the Mortlock Library but she has photocopies of them and will make a photocopy for this group.

2.3.4 A letter was tabled from COL Byrne who has made contact with John Davis who is currently in a retirement home. COL Byrne informed us that John Davis' son is in possession of approximately 200 photos of 2/8 FD Amb and a diary of COL Hanson. COL Byrne would like someone to visit John Davis and ask if we could borrow the photos so that they can be professionally copied and encourage the family to donate the originals to the museum. The committee agreed that this would be a worthwhile expenditure from our funds. COL Summers and COL Perks to liaise with the Davis family as soon as possible.

2.3.5 COL Beard is still sourcing the Lemnos Association and he has contacted the War Memorial in Canberra to see if he can have a copy of the interview that they undertook with him.

2.3.6 COL Summers has heard nothing further from COL Tom Beare and will contact him again.

2.4 Major JD Rice thesis

COL Perks has finished reading the thesis and will pass on to COL Jelly to read.

2.5 Request for tour of special collection at Barr Smith Library

COL Aiello reported that unfortunately Cheryl Hoskin was unable to attend this meeting due to ill health, but that she would be delighted to arrange a tour of the Special Collection at the Barr Smith library for this group. After discussion it was decided that COL Aiello would liaise Ms Hoskin to organise a suitable 2 hours in either an evening or weekend in late November or early December.

3. Treasurer's Report

It was decided that a Treasurer's report would be included in our routine agenda in future. The goal is to provide transparency, validity accountability and an appropriate audit trail for our activities. LTCOL Kuusk reported that as our sub account was now operational.

Balance as of 30th Sept 2007 \$1100. 00

COL Perks reminded committee members that all donations to the fund would be welcome and tax deductible. General discussion took place on the types of expenses that the treasurer could incur payable by the fund.

4. New Business

- 4.1 COL Perks congratulated LTCOL Kuusk on being made an Honorary Life Member of AMOSAF. LTCOL Kuusk has just retired as curator of the museum a position he held for 8 years.
- 4.2 COL Summers suggested that we support the efforts of the group who are aiming to have a statue of Simpson and his Donkey erected in Adelaide. This initiative by Brigadier R Atkinson is well underway and COL Summers who is a member of the group will contact its chair COL V Andersons to encourage that group to put information about the project on the new RAAMC website.
- 4.3 COL Perks showed the committee his recently rediscovered copy of the scroll of the Freedom of the City of Marion dated May 1980. On the obverse was a copy of the acceptance speech made by the Parade Commander. After discussion it was agreed to have professional copies made and a digital copy prepared to send to Major Straskye. LTCOL Kuusk offered to organise through his museum contacts.
- 4.4 Calendar of Events for CY 2008 prepare for verification at the next meeting similar to CY 2007 with 2 alternative dates (e.g. Wednesday) for parading officer interested in RAAMC history to attend.

5. Meeting Closed at 1915

Next meeting Tuesday November 13th at the Naval Military and Airforce Club. Three members of the committee enjoyed a convivial dinner at the club after the meeting.

Signature of Chairman
B Perks

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