

November 2016

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RAAV Ravings



Meeting with the Hon, Jill Hennessy MP, Minister for Health, Minister for Ambulance Services

Wednesday 26th October gave Vice President, Ian Donaldson and Secretary, Ian Cameron the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Health at Parliament House for morning tea.

The Minister and her senior Staff member gave us a fantastic hearing and has offered to assist in provision of funding for more services through Grants or other Government Funds.

It is hoped this will give you, our members, better Peer Support and Psych Services along with providing support for the Committee and

Co-ordinators to become more efficient and be funded for travel and out of pocket expenses.

Minister Hennessy is fully supportive of our endeavours and wishes to be kept informed in our developments and has asked to meet with us on a regular basis.



The suggestion was made that we could use a local Member of Parliaments Office for printing and further assistance, if required.

Within three hours of that meeting Secretary Ian was contacted by his local members' staff and arrangements are being put into place for the use of their facilities on an ongoing basis.

We are honoured to have been given this opportunity and look forward to the positive results thus far and the continued advancement of our Association with renewed vigour and support.

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Report on discussions with CEO Tony Walker

Wednesday 12th October found the Executive and the CEO of AV, Tony Walker, meet for our regular round table discussions.

The major ongoing item is the establishment of an effective and viable Peer Support and Psych Services program which will be supplemented by the training of our own Peers in line with the accepted AV structure. Psych Services will be, in part, funded via a different method either

direct funding or through the Medicare system. Final details are still being structured.

The funding for the provision of our shirts was welcomed and our thanks to Tony for this arrangement Included in the funding is the need to have our Executive with the ability to use the laptops and the provision for servicing and upgrades as and when required.

The assistance of the AEA and AV was very welcome in contacting

Forrestes to attempt to re-establish the Death & Disability Fund. (More on this as details are released).

The introduction of the Transition to Retirement Program was discussed and as and when these courses take place we will have a member of the Association in attendance to provided details about our services and programs.

Tony also offered us encouragement on our scheduled meeting with Minister, Jill Hennessey.

Presidents Report

The end of the year has come very quickly with our Christmas meeting only a month away and then a new year and new challenges for your Executive. I hope to see as many as possible at the Melbourne Christmas meeting.

The past twelve months have been very exciting for your Committee with many accomplishments, be it that not all have been finalised at this time.

We set out to forge better relationships with AV and subsequently have had a number of meetings with AV CEO Tony Walker and also Mick Cameron.

These meetings have resulted in a budget for your Committee being agreed to by AV, in the future our shirts

will be distributed by the AV Uniform Dept, we will be represented in the AV Transition to Retirement program, Association members will receive ID cards and we are still working with Tony and Mick to plan an agreement for assistance in the areas of Peer Support and Psych Services. The meetings with AV have also allowed the Association to improve its Web Site with help from the AV Technical Dept.

The matter of the Death Benefits for Members is still being pursued and we are awaiting further contact from the Foresters Friendly Society Ltd in relation to what can be offered to Association members going forward. Steve McGhie General Secretary of the AEA is assisting us in our endeavours.

Vice President, Ian Donaldson, and Secretary, Ian Cameron, met with the Minister for Health and Ambulance, Jill Hennessy, on the 26th October and she made a commitment to assist the Association in what ever way she could. Matters discussed were Peer Support and Psych Services, operations and administration of the Association, funding and the relationship between us and AV. A full report is written in this edition of the Newsletter.

Merry Christmas to all Association members and their families and, once again, I hope to see many of you at the Melbourne Christmas meeting.

Ray Loughheed.
President.

Festive Greetings

The President, Executive and Committee wish each of our Members, their Spouse/Partner and families the very best for the Festive Season and a Happy New Year.

We look forward to being able to continue the progress throughout 2017 and hope you all will be a part of our progress in the advancement of services and companionship for the year ahead.

May the joys of this Festive Season stay with you all year.



Quick Quiz:

Q 1: Which Queen album had the hit Bohemian Rhapsody?

Q 2: What is the average life span of a Clydesdale?

Q 3: In what year was the AFL Final 8 introduced?

Q 4: Does sound travel faster in air or water?

Q 5: Off which country did the battle of Trafalgar take place?

Q 6: The magpie is the member of which family?

Birthday Greetings

We trust the following Members manage to have an enjoyable day with Family and Friends.

November:

John Haines - 6th
Nigel Longman - 10th
Brian Shott - 11th
John Fahey - 13th
Barry Schurmann - 14th

Robert Spencer - 15th
Greg Wood - 15th
Alan White - 17th
Kevin Cannon - 18th
Steve Mulligan - 19th
Phillip Cavanagh - 22nd
Greame Williams - 22nd
Fred Kann - 22nd
Gillian Evans - 26th
Gerald Thomas - 26th
Terry Baulch - 27th

Darrell Douglas - 30th
December:

George Smith - 3rd
Colin Street - 6th
Frank Mc Neill - 13th
Bob Bowman - 14th
Allan Vivian - 15th
Brian Kinsella - 16th
Phillip Wade - 18th
Charles James - 19th
Laurence Timpson - 19th
Bert Martin - 20th

Garry Hodson - 21st
Joy Mayhew - 21st
Patricia Wells - 22nd
Roger Hardwick - 24th
Colin Saunders - 24th
Laurie Henry - 26th
Andrew Wilson - 26th
Ray Hubbard - 27th
Les Wood - 27th
Noel Mirtschin - 27th
Morrie Browne - 29th
Martin Moran - 31st
Lionel Schneider - 31st

District Reports

Ballarat & Central West

A small but enthusiastic number of members gathered at the Golf House Hotel in North Ballarat on Wednesday 7th September to enjoy lunch and ponder the ongoing advancements within our Association. We look forward to our Festive Meeting on Wednesday 7th December also at the Golf House Hotel, commencing at 12noon.

South West Victoria

Another successful meeting was held at Alexandra House in Hamilton on the 26th September with the attendance of 13 Members, including Les John plus his wife Marjorie. It was a very special day for Les and Marjorie as they were celebrating their 65th Wedding Anniversary. All members wished them all the best as they blew out the candle on a small cake purchased for the occasion.

The meeting commenced at 1200hrs and all present enjoyed the good food,

the camaraderie and a few drinks before heading off to Campe's Motor Museum, the visit having being organised by Ian Johnson.

If anyone travels through Hamilton make sure you drop in to see the Museum on the Casterton Road as it is very worthwhile.

The next meeting in the SW will be our Christmas meeting at the Flying Horse Inn on Monday 12th December at 1200hrs.

Ray Lougheed.
Convenor.



Birthday Greetings for January

As there will not be another Newsletter until February we would like to wish our January Members an enjoyable day with Family and Friends.

January

Victor Henshaw	2nd
Peter Skinner	6th
Don Carpenter	8th
Ken Clarkson	8th
Ken Curtis	8th
Peter McMurtrie	11th

Ronald Mc Clean	12th
Brad Pike	12th
Dennis Meek	14th
Brian Mellor	14th
Dennis Wood	19th
Dave Tyson	20th
Pat McKenzie	21st
David Perkins	21st
Ron Batten	24th
William Long	29th
Ian Johnson	30th
Geoff Quennell	30th
John De Boer	31st
Trevor Forfar	31st



Taxation and Us

Following an attempt to gain a Not for Profit Status through the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission we withdrew our application and are now negotiating with the Australian Taxation Office for a Tax Exempt status.

Further details as and when we can successfully conclude these negotiations.

Caps & Badges

We currently have a full range of shirts in sizes from small to 5XL.

Our caps are one size fits all.

Please support us by making a purchase of a shirt or cap or both. We will send them through the normal postage system or you may order them to be brought to a meeting in which ever area you reside.

Caps \$15.00 each

Car Badges are \$2.00 each and are either inside looking out or outside looking out.

Lapel Badges \$5.00 each

Bumper Stickers \$2.00 each

All orders are to be placed through Dennis Meek either via

Mobile : 0409 071 192 or

Email: dennis.meek@bigpond.com

Alternatively orders can be given to any Committee Member or District Coordinator and the order will be processed as soon as possible.

Correction to the Article Relating to MICA - September Edition

Peninsula Ambulance Service

Establishment of the Mobile Intensive Care Ambulance - MICA

In April 1973 the general public had been stunned and saddened by the sudden death at Dromana of the great champion footballer and coach, John Coleman.

It was about this time that the Health Minister, Alan Scanlan. MP, had already scheduled a visit to the Mornington Peninsula to observe health services in the area.

Peninsula Ambulance had been very much aware of the new specialist Ambulance (MICA) which had been operating in the City of Melbourne since 9th September 1971.

Along with the interest that Peninsula Ambulance had of this new specialist ambulance concept and the very much publicised outcry from the peoples of the Peninsula to have a similar service operating in the area as a matter of urgency.

Minister Scanlon heard the strong message from the people and the interest and willingness of the Ambulance Service and saw the need to establish such a service on the Peninsula. Shortly after his visit he announced that funds would be made available and to proceed

immediately to establish MICA on the Peninsula.

The establishment of MICA moved very quickly with five experienced Officers attending the first of three courses to be run to enable the Unit to commence duties.

Firstly attending an introduction orientation course at the Ambulance Officers Training College (AOTC) in preparation for the four week coronary care course, commencing in July 1973 at the Royal Melbourne Hospital which was established by Dr. Graeme Sloman, Senior Cardiologist who strongly supported the MICA concept.

Upon completion of this course each officer completed 3 months practical training with the MICA unit based at the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

Peninsula Ambulance was most grateful for the support and training from our fellow Officers in Melbourne.

Within this period another five Officers completed their training at the Alfred Hospital and completed their practical training with Victorian Civic Ambulance

By early December all ten Officers returned to Frankston, the Headquarters Station where the MICA would be based.

The final two Officers returned in mid

December following their training at Royal Melbourne Hospital and returned to Peninsula for their practical training.

Unfortunately there had been high demand for the Ford F100 Ambulance over the period and a vehicle was not readily available.

An interim vehicle commenced operations on 13th December 1973 with the necessary equipment located on the second bed. This measure was not ideal as Officers largely anticipated the new vehicle with a centrally located bed.

It was learnt that the Army were about to take delivery of a new long wheel based Ford F100 ambulance. Superintendent, Reg Cheney, negotiated with the Army and the Ford Motor Company with the outcome being the Army relinquishing the delivery and it being made available to Peninsula Ambulance Service. The vehicle was delivered in Army Green and was outsourced for a white respray.

The enthusiasm of the newly trained Officers was apparent working in conjunction with the workshop staff fitting the interior together. Making the side board to house the various item of equipment, drug cabinet and monitor stand to name a few.

Fleet Car 842, the official MICA, was commissioned on Christmas Eve 1973.

Gradually with education this new MICA concept grew among the hospitals and doctors with increased requests for its services along with the general public. General Ambulance Officers both requested MICA and worked as a team at various scenes. Control Room Officers played a effective role in directing MICA to cases of necessity over the vast area that Peninsula Ambulance Service controlled.

Mica was dispatched routinely as a "backup" to scenes whilst awaiting a situation report from the primary responders on scene. This concept minimised response time for MICA.

MICA personnel had a very cohesive working relationship with the Coronary Care Unit at Frankston whereby the CCU would accept direct admissions to the Unit by MICA. CCU Staff were welcome to accompany MICA on cases. The ongoing support and education by the Director of Cardiology, Dr. Roger Redston, was immeasurable.

Dr. Andrew Bacon, Anesthetist at Dandenong Hospital was a constant support to MICA Officers sharing his professionalism in intravenous therapy and advanced airway management in theatre.

Today the MICA concept pervades throughout the State in conjunction with the advanced skills of all Paramedics.

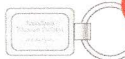
John Clancy
Station Officer MICA
October 2016



Car 842 - PAS MICA

Coffee mugs
(gift boxed)

\$15

Engraved stainless
steel keyrings

\$5

Quality caps,
embroidered

\$18

Also available:
Ambulance Victoria
Museum car stickers
for only \$2 each

\$20

SPECIAL PACKAGE OFFER: Choose
from cap or mug + keyring + car sticker

Contact Chas Martin on 0428 813 385
or visit the museum at
Unit 1, 55 Barry Street, Bayswater
and bring your friends!

Also see our new website at ahsv.org.au

Quick Quiz Answers

A 1: A Night at the Opera

A 2: 20 to 25 years

A 3: 1994

A 4: Water

A 5: Spain

A 6: Crow

Members not in good health

Jim Osmotherly
Brian Shott
Gerry Thomas
Charles MacKinnon
Martin Moran
Joan Mawby (wife of Ted)
Ron Jacobs

We wish all Members a speedy recovery



45 Years of Service

AMBULANCE SERVICE PASSES MILESTONE

Past and present M.I.C.A Paramedics gathered to celebrate the 45th anniversary of Ambulance Victoria's Mobile Intensive Care Ambulance M.I.C.A service. The first MICA shift was on September 9 1971, as part of a three month trial.

The crew responded to 93 cases and

the then - Health Minister officially commissioned MICA to become a permanent 24 hour component of the Ambulance service.

The first MICA ambulance (part replica) has been restored and is displayed with other vintage ambulance vehicles at the Ambulance Museum in Bayswater. The Museum is at 1/55 Barry Street, Bayswater details go to ahsv.org.au



Regional Meetings

Our Regional Meetings commence with the first being:

Geelong & Surf Coast on Wednesday
9th November commencing at 12noon
- Geelong RSL Belmont

North West Victoria - Tuesday 15th November - 12noon Mildura RSL

Gippsland Region - Wednesday 24th November 12noon at Morwell Club

North East Victoria - Saturday 26th November 12noon at Benalla Bowls Club.

Ballarat & Central West - Wednesday 7th December 12noon

South West Victoria - Monday 12th December 12noon at Warrnambool.

Metro (Melbourne) Wednesday 14th December -10.30am at Doncaster AV Headquarters.



We are saddened to report the
Passing of:

Drew Haldane

Retired Ambulance Association of Victoria Inc.



All Correspondence to:
The Secretary
Unit 2 / 20 Brooks Street
Bentleigh East
Victoria 3165
Phone: 03 8503 7945
Mobile: 0435 010 943
Email: raav.secretary@gmail.com

www.retiredambulancevictoria.org.au

Facebook: Retired Ambulance
Association of Victoria Inc.

It's Hell to be Old!

OLD people have problems that you haven't even considered yet!

An 85-year-old man was requested by his Doctor for a sperm count as part of his physical exam.

The doctor gave the man a jar and said, 'Take this jar home and bring back a semen sample tomorrow.'

The next day the 85-year-old man reappeared at the doctor's office and gave him the jar, which was as clean and empty as on the previous day.

The doctor asked what happened and the man explained, 'Well, doc, it's like this—first I tried with my right hand, but nothing. Then I tried with my left hand, but still nothing..'

'Then I asked my wife for help. She tried with her right hand, then with her left, still nothing.'

She tried with her mouth, first with the teeth in, then with her teeth out, still nothing.

'She even called up Arleen, the lady next door and she tried too, first with both hands, then an armpit, and she even tried squeezin' it between her knees, but still nothing.'

The doctor was shocked! 'You asked your neighbour?'

The old man replied, 'Yep, none of us could get the jar open.'

Scottish Wedding

Two Glaswegians, Archie and Jimmy, are sitting in the pub discussing Jimmy's forthcoming wedding .

"Och, it's all goin' pure brilliant," says Jimmy. "Ar've got everythin' organised awready, the fluers, the church, the caurs, the reception, the rings, the minister, even ma stag night".

Archie nods approvingly.

"I've even bought a kilt to be married in!" continues Jimmy.

"A kilt?" exclaims Archie, "That's magic, you'll look pure smart in that." "What's the tartin?...."

"Och," says Jimmy, "A'd imagine she'll be in white."

Committee: of Management

President: Ray Loughheed

Vice President: Ian Donaldson

Secretary: Ian Cameron

Treasurer: Darrell Rintoule

Committee Members:

Bill McKnight

Peter Leek

Dennis Meek

Les Wood