

RAAV SAVINGS

Special points of interest:

- > South West Meeting - 4th February
- > North East Meeting - 16th February
- > Ballarat Meeting - 26th February
- > Changes to Meeting times This year
- > Know a Former Staff Member of the Service



A V Headquarters
Doncaster

A Report from the December Meeting - Doncaster

The final General Meeting of the year was held on Friday 14th December at Doncaster Headquarters of A V. with 62 members and partners in attendance. President Chas Martin opened the meeting and asked that the agenda be suspended as AV CEO Greg Sassella could only present the annual awards early rather than later in the day. Greg gave us the usual Service Update and then Chas gave a brief summary of each member as they were presented with their Life Membership Award.

There followed a special award being granted to former treasurer, Ron Batten, for his outstanding duties over twenty-two years in that position. Then followed a Life

Membership award being conferred on President, Chas Martin, for his 20 plus years as President and vigorous and continuing promotion of our Association throughout this time.

We then reverted back to our normal meeting structure and the various reports and items affecting the Association were received which included the financial statements showing a current balance of \$7093.87. The membership report stated that we have 190 members and this is increasing all the time as new members from the regions join our ranks.

Our web site still has some issues to be solved and some of the web pages are to be finalised as soon as we can.

We were saddened to report that 3 of our members passed away Alan Downie, Noel Edwards and Trevor Walker.

We hear that Ray (Plod) Thomas, Brian Shott, David Appleton and Wally Ross have not been in the best of health and we wish them a speedy recovery and soon be able to return to our ranks.

Our Guest Speaker for the day, Mr. John Wood, gave us an informed and interesting insight into his development from childhood to the acting career that we all know today..

The final act of the day was the enjoyment of lunch and good conversation between our former work mates.

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Happenings in the South West Zone

The November of the South West Group was held at the Botanical Hotel on Monday the 26th. The attendance record shows 7 members in attendance with a number of apologies due to the Christmas rush.

We were fortunate to have our State Secretary, Ian Cameron, in attendance as well.

Ian gave an interesting and informative talk on all aspects of the Association and the forthcoming developments. Many questions were asked and answered. This was followed by good food and conversation which was enjoyed by all. Another aspect of regional meetings is the brainstorm-

ing in relation to possible new members for the SW. Many names were submitted and these are being followed up at the present time. The next meeting for the South West will be held on Monday 4th February at Macey's Hotel in Warrnambool. Ray Lougheed, Conveyor

Changes to the Constitution and Rules

With the new Act of Parliament having been proclaimed, your Association has commenced the process of review of our constitution and rules.

A draft set of rules have been drawn up and will be reviewed by the committee and any further changes included in the document before the final draft is made available to all members.

It is envisaged that the necessary changes and final document will be completed before the Annual General Meeting in September.

Should this not be possible then a Special Meeting will be called to ensure that the new Rules of Association are enacted before the required mandatory date of November this year.

All members will receive a copy of the new Rules of Association at least 21 days prior to the necessity of a vote being taken. The many changes are a requirement of the new Act and will be enforced by Consumer Affairs Victoria.

Your committee does not envisage that there will be any prob-

lems with the new Legislation and Rules.

Associated with the new Rules of Association we have been working on a Privacy Policy and the additional requirements of voting rights and Proxy voting for all members. These documents will also be circulated to all members in conjunction with our new Rules of Association.



Ted Giddings receiving his life Membership from Greg Sassella



Ron Batten receiving his Special Award for serving 22 years as Treasurer

New Meeting Bases Throughout the State

New Meeting Bases

The start of this year sees the establishment of New Meeting Bases throughout the State with the first of these being located in Benalla on Saturday 16th February at the Benalla Bowls Club with a lunch and a "Getting To Know You" format. Following very closely will be the Ballarat areas' turn with their first meeting at The Brewery Tap Hotel, Warrenheip on Tuesday 26th February, this will follow the same format of

a lunch and "Getting To Know You".

We have been very surprised as to the number of regional members embracing these new initiatives and look forward to seeing more members in these areas being able to attend.

Further expansion of New Meeting Bases is planned during the year for other areas of the State.

Guest Speakers

Have heard an interesting speaker or been told about someone who has an fascinating story?

Know of an organisation with that latest 'must have' product? Perhaps it is just 'I'd like to know about that' type of subject

If so give Ian Cameron a call on 8503 7745 or email i.cameron@y7mail.com with any suggestions.

Signing in at Doncaster

Most of us are aware these days that Health and Safety are major issues pursued by all organizations and business throughout the country. Ambulance Victoria is no different and A V have requested that all members who attend any of our functions at any of their premises must be "signed

in" therefore we have provided a list of all members names and you are requested to locate your name and sign or initial the register. The list at Doncaster Headquarters is located at the Front Office and if we attend any other AV location a separate list will be provided for each function.. The

primary function of this register is if there be an incident at any of these locations A V will be aware of the approximate numbers of person within the premises. Please assist all of us by signing in.

John Bosfelds receiving his Life Membership award from Greg Sassella





Ben Wright receiving his Life Membership Award from Greg Sassella

Meeting Times for 2013

This year the general meetings to be held at AV Doncaster will be reverting back to a Wednesday which will be the second Wednesday of the months in March, June, September and December with the first meeting scheduled for Wednesday 6th February commencing at 10.30 am.

In the South West the meetings are scheduled for Mondays with first being on the 4th February at Warrnambool, 6th May, 5th August and 4th November.

The North East meetings are not full organised as yet but the first meeting will be on Saturday 16th February at Benalla. At this meeting we will finalise the meeting date for the rest of the year.

Much the same process for the Ballarat meetings with the first being held on Tuesday 26th February and further meetings to be organised on that day. All members of the Association are encouraged to attend any of the meetings throughout the state irrespective of location.

New Members

The Association continues to attract new members and we are pleased to welcome aboard the following:

Bob Bowman - Warrnambool
Brian Tenery - Warrnambool
John Parkinson - Warrnambool
Robert Reiley - Bushfield
Gerry Van Hees - Narre Warren
Michael Wilson - Mount Helen
Vaughan Murphy - Euroa
Noel Mirtschin - Wanthaggi
Neil Hall - Morwell
Steve Mulligan - Carlton North
Jock Purves - Healesville
John O'Sullivan - Portland
Doug Haynes - Warrnambool

Looking forward to seeing you at a meeting soon.

Australia Day Honors

It is with pleasure that we advise members that Mr. Peter McMurtrie now living in Queensland has been honored with an Order of Australia in the Australia Day Honors List.

The citation in part reads -

For distinguished service to the community through leadership in the areas of emergency patient care and health service management and contributions to professional organisations.

An AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL has been awarded to serving Officer Mr Jonathan David Byrne.

We congratulate both Peter and John on their achievements and being honoured with these awards

Congratulations

Peter
and
John

Have You Got a Story to Tell?

We would like to include some stories from members about their time within the Ambulance Service or from life in general. Please send any stories to our secretary who will incorporate them into our newsletters. It can be a funny incident or of general interest - yours is the choice. Like the one from one of our interstate members who remembers the time he and running mate of the day when they tried to "Jump the Hurdles" at Flemington with an Ambulance.

Arthur Manning receiving his Life Membership award From Greg Sassella



Life Members Induction

At the Meeting held at AV Headquarters - Doncaster in December we were privileged to welcome 5 members to the status of Life Member. The CEO, Greg Sassella, gracefully accepted the honour of bestowing the awards on our new Life Members. They are: Mr. John Blossfelds, Mr. Ben Wright, Mr. Arthur Manning and Mr. Ted Giddings.

This was followed by a special Life Member award to our President, Mr. Chas Martin, for his outstanding service to the Association over the last 20+ years.

Well done to all our new Life Members.

Subscription Payments

A number of changes have been made to the system of paying subscriptions to bring them into line with the proposed Rules of Association.

It is now possible for all members to pay their subs direct into our bank account using the following details at any Commonwealth Bank
Account Name: Retired Ambulance Association of Victoria
BSB: 063109
Account #: 00921958

Please include your name as a reference and notify our Secretary of the payment details.

Retired Ambulance Association of Victoria Incorporated

Address All Correspondence to:
The Secretary
Unit 2 / 20 Brooks Street
Bentleigh East
Victoria 3165

Phone: 03 8503 7745
Mobile: 0466968509
E-mail: i.cameron@y7mail.com



Check us out at
www.retiredambulancevictoria.org.au



President Chas Martin receiving his Special Life Membership award from Greg Sassella

Your Committee

- President
Chas Martin
- Vice President
Peter Leek
- Secretary
Ian Cameron
- Treasurer
Darrell Rintoule
- Committee
Bill McKnight
Ron Jacobs

Snippets from the Past

The year is 1995 -

The Publicity Department of the then Metropolitan Ambulance Service launched an advertising campaign to encourage more Victorians to take out Ambulance Subscriptions.

Sunbury Ambulance Station was trialing a VW Transporter as an Ambulance.

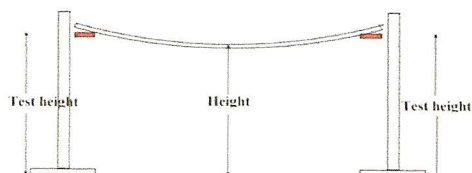
Paramedic Greg Sassella was a crew member of Air 495 when they were involved in a night rescue in the Cathedral Ranges.

Jack Skinner became Secretary of the Retired Ambulance Association.

Ambulance Motorbikes first took to the road as part of the Great Victorian Bike Ride medical support team.

The Back Page

This is incredible!



Are you aware that a new world record has been set for the HIGH JUMP from a KNEELING position?

The record (0.757 meters) - remember this is from a KNEELING position, and was set recently on a beach near Montpellier in Southern France .

The photograph below was taken a split second before the jump, but it gives you an idea as to how it was achieved ...



I've always enjoyed sports trivia.