



# **Australian Military Medicine Association**

## **Annual Report 2002 - 2003**

### **Patron**

Air Vice-Marshal Bruce Short  
Surgeon General Australian Defence Force

### **President**

Russell Schedlich

### **Vice-President**

Nader Abou-Seif

### **Council**

Secretary	Fabian Purcell
Treasurer	Graham Boothby
Public Officer	David Emonson
Journal Editor	Andrew Robertson
Member	Janet Scott
Member	Beverley Wright

### **Secretariat**

Leishman Associates

**On behalf of Council, I am pleased to present the annual report of the Australian Military Medicine Association together with the Balance Sheet and related Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2003.**

Russell Schedlich

## President's Report – 2002/03

Yet another tumultuous year has come to a close, with military health remaining in the forefront.

Following on from the attack on the World Trade Centre in 2001, the “War on Terror” has focussed on reducing the capabilities of terrorist groups mounting attacks and eliminating the risk of them gaining access to weapons of mass destruction. This effort culminated in the Iraqi War, in which Australian Forces were operationally involved, and the final success of which, in relation to ensuring peace and stability, is yet to be validated.

Terror came close to home in October 2002, when a bomb blast in Bali killed 202 people, including 88 Australians. The resulting effort, led by civilian disaster response agencies and supported by the Australian Defence Force, to evacuate and treat the severely injured, first to Darwin, and then onwards to other capitals, was a superb effort in cooperation and coordination, and demonstrated just the kind of response that can be put together in time of crisis. Since then, we have seen some superb individual and group efforts of courageous recovery, exemplified in the football world.

Trouble continued on our doorstep with the decision to send a multilateral stabilising force into the Solomon Islands, an effort that also required significant health support.

Changes occurred in the top echelons of the Defence Health Services, with Commodore Peter Habersberger RAN retiring as Assistant Surgeon-General—Navy, after a long and distinguished career in the Naval Reserve. He was replaced by Commodore Graeme Shirtley RAN.

**Membership.** The Defence Health Symposium in July 2002 provided the Association the opportunity to greatly enhance its membership, and over 50 new members were recruited. This achievement is reflected in the growth in the Association's membership that has occurred this financial year, with a nett increase of 54 members bringing the total membership to 374. The spread of membership across the states remains consistent, and there are 11 Overseas Members.

**Financial Issues.** The Association remains in sound financial health. Total assets are nearly \$57,000. The year's operating surplus was \$8,840.18. Given this position, Council has been able to maintain Membership Fees at their previous levels. As always, I must acknowledge the hard work of our Treasurer, Graham Boothby, who continues to ensure that, not only are the accounts properly kept, but Council receives sound financial advice in relation to the Association's affairs.

**Journal.** *Australian Military Medicine* continues to evolve and improve under the tutelage of our Editor. The number and quality of articles is due entirely to his commitment to producing the Journal at a level that is the equal of any comparable publication. A major improvement in the Journal is the increasing use of peer review of articles, a feature that enhances its attractiveness as a medium for scientific publication.

**Conference.** The Association's Annual Scientific Conference was held in Sydney in July in conjunction with the 2002 Defence Health Symposium. This format of a conjoint conference provided many opportunities for promotion of the Association among the over 600 delegates to attend. Although conjoint, the symposium format still allowed the Association to retain its individual identity. The only down side has been the long break between drinks, as the return to our usual timing of October has introduced a 15-month period between conferences.

**Technology.** Ongoing enhancement of the Association's web site, at [www.amma.asn.au](http://www.amma.asn.au), continues. Of particular note has been the introduction of on-line registration for the 2003 Conference, and further enhancements along similar lines will continue.

**Council and Secretariat.** At the 2002 Conference, Council was re-elected unchanged. Council has continued to preside over the strengthening of the Association. Council has also given consideration to aspects of its corporate governance responsibilities, and has commenced the process of developing a series of policy and procedural documents to support the activities of the Association and Council. Our Secretariat, Leishman Associates, continues to provide us with high quality support and assistance in the day-to-day running of the Association. It has been a privilege and pleasure to work with the team of Council and Secretariat, and I thank them for their continuing support.

In closing, I must record the appreciation of the Council and the Association to our major corporate sponsor, GlaxoSmithKline, who continue to provide a significant financial support with minimal demands.

The Association continues to grow and develop. We remain the peak organisation committed to the scientific progress of military medicine, and as such are looked to by those who have an interest in military medicine for support and information. We continue to proactively provide this in our many activities.

Any Association is only as good as its Members, and I believe we have the best. This augurs well for our future. Once again, I thank you for your support of the Association.

Russ Schedlich  
President

## Treasurer's Report

### NET WORTH REPORT

As of 30 June 2003

#### ASSETS

##### Cash and Bank Accounts

Aust Def Cr Un	\$ 932.45
NAB 797 2301	\$ 30,776.22
Term-I12-ADCU	\$ 25,000.00
<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 56,708.67</b>

**TOTAL ASSETS \$ 56,708.67**

### INCOME / EXPENSE REPORT

As at 30 June 2003

#### INCOME

101 - Annual Conference	\$ 3,902.59
105 - Merch. Sale	\$ 27.50
109 - Int Rec	\$ 568.12
111 - Exhibition	\$ 4,100.00
95 - Memberships	\$ 46,704.40
Copyright	\$ 190.30
Donations	\$ 11,000.00
Journal Subs	\$ 22.00
Refund GST	\$ 1,833.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 68,347.91</b>

#### EXPENSES

309 - Bank Charges	\$ 847.61
320 - Comm Meet	\$ 3,629.85
321 - Annual Conf	\$ 12,663.22
325 - Sec Expense	\$ 12,642.77
330 - Post-Tel-Sta	\$ 4,632.05
335 - Journal	\$ 9,699.20
340 - Misc	\$ 6,414.75
360 - Awards	\$ 3,000.00
365 - Accountant	\$ 638.00
BAS Return	\$ 325.00
GST	\$ 4,325.28
WA Triservice Meeting	\$ 690.00

**TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 59,507.73**

**OVERALL TOTAL \$ 8,840.18**

Above are the Income and Expenses reports for 2002 – 2003 and statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 30 June 2003.

Your association continues in a sound financial state and had the resources to carry out all the necessary activities for the year.

In previous years' as Treasurer I tracked all income and expenditure using Quicken. Our secretariat service, Leishman Associates, tracked all income using their own software. With the introduction of the GST this led to some problems that the auditor identified and it was recommended that all income and expenditure be tracked on the same GST compliant software. At about the same time our secretariat acquired MYOB as their standard software and during the financial year took over full responsibility for tracking income and expenditure. The secretariat also prepares cheques, which are sent to the Treasurer for signing.

The last fee rise occurred in the financial year 2001/02. I propose a small fee rise to cover CPI increases and keep us in a sound financial state. Our current fee is \$90.00 + \$9.00 GST total \$99.00. I propose \$100.00 + \$10.00 GST total \$110.00 from the invoicing period of April 2004, with fees due in by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2004

Graham Boothby  
Treasurer

## Secretariat

Total membership of AMMA as at 30 June 2003 stands at 374.

The Association welcomed Fifty Four new members in the last financial year. Twelve resignations were received from 1/7/02 to 30/6/03.

Membership breakdown is:

NEW SOUTH WALES	116
VICTORIA	76
QUEENSLAND	59
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	38
ACT	42
WESTERN AUSTRALIA	15
TASMANIA	10
NORTHERN TERRITORY	7
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	5
UNITED KINGDOM	4
NEW ZEALAND	1
ITALY	1

## Journal

**Australian Military Medicine**, the official journal of the Association, was published three times during the year:

August 2002	Vol 11 No 2	62 pages
March 2003	Vol 12 No 1	53 pages
June 2003	Vol 12 No 2	54 pages

A total of 19 scientific articles were published, of which 13 were original work. The remainder of the articles represented historical reviews, editorials, abstracts, opinion pieces and a variety of AMMA news and information. As requested at the Annual Meeting, all new articles are being peer-reviewed. 86% of original and review articles so far in 2003 have been peer-reviewed. It is

anticipated that all original articles, including historical articles, will be peer reviewed by the next Journal.

The format of the journal has now stabilised into one that is compact and easy to read. Volume 12 has evolved in its new look cover, which has been well-received by members. The "View from the Front" has become a regular feature, providing an opportunity for members to express their views on current and future issues in military medicine. The journal has maintained its size at between 54-62 pages per issue.

The introduction of the new section "Ten Years On", which looks at articles published 10 years ago in the early issues of **Australian Military Medicine**, has seen the publishing of some interesting articles on Somalia, anthrax and influenza vaccine. There has also been increased interest from the Israeli Defence Force to publish in the Journal, with one article published and three being reviewed.

More contributions from members in the form of articles and small items are, as always, requested. Peer reviewers are also in high demand and any nominations for peer reviewers will be gratefully received. Thanks go to all the peer reviewers who have been responsible for moving **Australian Military Medicine** to a peer-reviewed Journal status.

As for 2004, the intention is to further develop the Journal by consolidating the peer review process, establishing its credentials to a wider international audience and looking at opportunities to widen its appeal and Australian readership.

Andy Robertson, Editor

## Weary Dunlop Award

The 'Weary' Dunlop Award is presented annually for the paper judged the best original work at the AMMA Scientific Conference. The 2002 Award was presented to SQNLDR Greg Mahoney at the Defence Health Symposium.

## Research Grant

Each year, the Association awards one or more Research Grants to a total value of \$1,000 to assist members in undertaking research in the field of military medicine. In 2002, Ms Caroline Rickards was awarded a grant for her work titled "Survey of G-induced Visual and Cognitive Disturbances in Pilots of High Performance Aircraft".

## Library

The Association's Library is available to AMMA members and currently being relocated. Loans are available for periods of up to 12 weeks by contacting the Librarian, David Andrew on 07 4687 7515 or email on [davidandtheresa@bigpond.com](mailto:davidandtheresa@bigpond.com)

## AMMA on the Net

AMMA's Web Page contains information about the Association, its office bearers and activities, and includes links to other military medical organisations and associations. It has been updated this year to include further information on AMMA Prizes, Council Members and Conference Information. The page is located at: <http://www.amma.asn.au>

## Financial Statements

Financial statements and balance sheet were presented to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting on 26 July 2002 at The Wentworth Hotel, Sydney.

## New Members

During 1/7/02 – 30/6/03, AMMA welcomed the following new members:

Ms	Narelle	BERRY	VIC
LCDR	Michael	BRANLEY	NSW
Dr	Andrew	BRYANT	QLD
Mrs	Lyn	BURNETT	ACT
CAPT	Ben	BUTSON	QLD
COL	Anne	CAMPBELL	NZ
Dr	Janis	CARTER	QLD
Dr	Carole	CASTLES	ACT
MAJ	Grant	CHAPMAN	VIC
MAJ	Kerry	CLIFFORD	NSW
Mr	David	COOPER	NSW
Dr	Dorothy	COOTE	ACT
LTCOL	Anthony	DELANEY	NSW
Mrs	Gwenda	DOHERTY	WA
GPCAPT	Norton	DUCKMANTON	NSW
LEUT	Meg	FRUGTNIET	ACT
LT	Clare	GRAHAM	VIC
SQNLDR	Deborah	GREGORY	QLD
WGCDR	John	HATFIELD	NSW
OFFCDT	Hayden	HENRY	ACT
FLTLT	Doune	HEPPNER	NSW
MAJ	Stephanie	HODSON	ACT
MAJ	Jan	HONTER	WA
Dr	Keith	HORSLEY	ACT
Ms	Linda	HUESTON	NSW
Mr	Craig	HUGHES	NSW
MAJ	Jan	HUNTER	WA
CAPT	Pauline	LONGDON	QLD
WOMED	Shane	LOUGHREY	NSW
Ms	Joanne	MARKS	QLD
Dr	Dean	McKENZIE	VIC
CAPT	Jeanette	METCALF	QLD
FLTLT	Tracey	MILTON	QLD
LTCOL	Peter	NASVELD	QLD
LTCOL	Geoff	NEWMAN-MARTIN	ACT
LT	Dorothea	O'CONOR	NSW
LCDR	Sarah Ann	ORME	VIC
MAJ	Stanley	PAPASTAMATIS	SA
LCDR	Krzysztof	PASZKIEWICZ	VIC
Brigadier the Hon	Brian	PEZZUTTI	NSW
CAPT	Natalie	POLYDOROPOULOS	NSW
Ms	Anne-Marie	POPE	ACT
CAPT	Kevin	POWER	QLD
Dr	Samantha	ROSS	VIC
MAJ	Nicole	SADLER	ACT
LTCOL	John	SANDERS	NSW
COL	Peter	SHARWOOD	QLD
CAPT	Adrian	SMITH	SA
Ms	Sue	SMITH	NSW
SQNLDR	Geoffrey	TOOGOOD	VIC
LTCOL	Carmel	VAN DER RIJT	QLD
Dr	Rosemary	VANDENBERG	VIC
LCDR	Richard	VICKERS	NSW
WGCDR	Jules	WHITTY	NSW









