



AUSTRALIAN
MILITARY MEDICINE
ASSOCIATION INC

Australian Military Medicine Association

Annual Report

2005 - 2006

Patron

Rear Admiral Graeme Shirtley, RFD RAN
Surgeon General Australian Defence Force

President

Russell Schedlich

Vice-President

Nader Abou-Seif

Council

Secretary – Janet Scott
Treasurer - Graham Boothby
Public Officer – James Ross
Journal Editor – Scott Kitchener
Awards – Beverley Wright
Grants - Scott Kitchener
Member - Andy Robertson

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 2006

Russell Schedlich

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President's Report

Membership. The Association's membership remains solid at around 381. Unfortunately, over 70 of these members are unfinancial, and while some of these members will have renewed early in the new financial year, I would urge all to renew their membership. Our base fees contribute the majority of the income that supports the activities of the Association and will fundamentally determine what we can achieve in promoting the study of military health.

Financial Issues. The Association remains in sound financial health, and we achieved a small operating surplus of \$7,500 this financial year. Our Treasurer, Graham Boothby, continues to provide Council and the Association with sound financial advice and guidance that continues to support the it in remaining financially viable.

Journal. Some major changes were heralded for the future of the Association's journal. After one year at the helm, Jenny Graham decided to relinquish the role of Editor, and I thank her for her efforts. I know that editing a journal in the very intensive way that we do is a real challenge for anyone in full-time work. Jenny made some great progress in identify systems to streamline the management of material.

At the Association's Annual Conference in October, a meeting was held between AMMA, the Defence Health Services (Tony Austin and Graham Shirtley) and the Centre for Military and Veteran's Health (Nikki Ellis) to discuss the future of scientific and professional military medicine publishing in Australia. The outcome of this meeting was broad agreement that the AMMA journal should continue as the major forum for the publication of scientific, research and other professional papers.

It was agreed that an Editorial Board should be formed, with representatives of each group, as well as representatives from selected other institutions which are significantly involved in military health research. From this agreement, an Editorial Board has been nominated, with membership as follows:

Russ Schedlich, President AMMA, Editor-in-Chief
Scott Kitchener, Grants Officer, AMMA
Peter Leggat, Defence Health Services
Keith Horsley, Department of Veteran Affairs
Graeme Cannell, Defence Health Services
Malcolm Sim, Monash University
Bob Stacy, CSR

The Board will be meeting shortly to map out the strategic directions for the journal so that it can eventually become an internationally recognised forum for quality scientific and professional military health publications.

Because of competing demands, publication of the journal during the first half of 2006 has not occurred, but this will be rectified before the end of the year.

Conference. The Association's Annual Scientific Conference was held in Launceston. With a tour of the Australian Maritime College and a workshop on the concept of Sea-Basing by respected US military surgeon, Captain Art Smith, as the lead in, the conference was, as always, well attended with significant high quality papers. We were honoured by the

presence of the Chief of Defence Force, Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston RAAF, who opened to conference and spoke eloquently on military health matters.

Council and Secretariat. At the 2005 Conference, Jenny Graham relinquished her position on Council, and Greg Mahoney (Centre for Military and Veterans' Health) was elected. As well as for her efforts in editing the journal, I would like to acknowledge Jenny's wise counsel and support during her term.

Our Secretariat, Leishman Associates, continues to provide us with high quality support and assistance in the day-to-day running of the Association.

To members of Council and our Secretariat, I record my appreciation for their hard work and support. It is a privilege and pleasure to work with the team to further the interests of the Association.

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. Once again, I thank you for your support of the Association.

Russ Schedlich
President

Treasurer's Report

The 2005/2006 Audit Report is attached. This includes the Statement of Financial Performance, Balance Sheet and the Independent Audit Report.

The auditor has found that the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the accounting policies state in Note 1 to the financial statement.

Graham Boothby
Treasurer

Journal Editor's Report

This has been a year of change for the Journal. After a long and colourful career, CAPT Jenny Graham has departed from active service with the ADF and also her role on the AMMA Executive as the Editor of the Journal. She not only will be, but had been sorely missed – a tribute to her efforts during service to the Association. Prior to her departure the Executive discussed and accepted a proposal to establish an Editorial Board recognizing the significant logistic effort required to produce this publication. Concurrent with this move will be a level of rigour that will further elevate the Journal into the scientific health literature. The strength of submissions to the Journal, the Annual Conference and the growth of the Association both support this direction. The Board will accommodate the close association of military and veteran's health and the increasingly academic nature of this field in Australia by including representatives from the Universities actively researching and teaching the field.

The Board will then review the publication process for the Journal towards an efficient means of disseminating scientific and academic information of military and veteran's health in addition to documenting the activities of the Association. Towards the latter, accepted abstracts of the AMMA 2006 Conference will be published in the next edition of the Journal and will appear in future years as an annual supplement to the Journal.

Your suggestions and advice will be sought at the Annual Conference in Brisbane. Comments are also welcomed by email.

Scott Kitchener
Journal Editor

Secretariat Report

Total membership of AMMA as at 30 June 2006 stands at 381. The Association welcomed thirteen new members in the last financial year. Twelve resignations were received from 1/7/05 to 30/6/06.

New Members

During 1/7/05 – 30/6/06, AMMA welcomed the following new members:

WGCDR Heidi Yeats
MAJ Ken Smith
LCDR Neil Smith
Dr John Chalk
CPL Neville Whiteley
Adam Abdul Gafoor
WGCDR Pedita Hall
Dr Marc Lakos
Dr Stephen Laidley
Dr Malcolm Johnston-Leek

2LT Daniel England
Capt David Williams
Lt Naomi Gallagher
Lt Col Andrew Williams
MAJ Zabidi Hussin
CAPT Emma Jennings
Dr Stephen Hodby
Col G. Dennis Shanks

Weary Dunlop Award

The 'Weary' Dunlop Award is presented annually for the paper judged the best original work at the AMMA Scientific Conference. The 2005 Award was given to Lt.Cnl. Gerard Gill.

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 2005, the grant was given to Rae Weng Chang.

Library

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

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. The page is located at: <http://www.amma.asn.au>

Financial Statements

Attached are the audited figures for the 2005 – 2006 financial year.