



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY MEDICINE

November 1992

Volume 1 Number 3

"Facsimile Edition"

Australian Military Medicine Association
Newsletter
Volume 1 Number 3
November 1992

Facsimile Edition - November 1995

1995 Office Holders

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This is a facsimile edition, printed in a limited number of 10 copies, of the Australian Military Medicine Association Newsletter as originally published.

The original Newsletter editor was Major Mark Slatyer RAAMC, the current journal editor assuming the role for the March 1993 edition.

Australian Military Medicine Association

AMMA Newsletter

Volume One / Number Three / November 1992

The First AMMA Conference voted great success

The first AMMA Conference which took place in Melbourne 8 - 9 August 1992 and was considered by all to be a resounding success with an attendance of well over 100 members at the St Frances Xavier Cabrini Hospital. The retiring Surgeon General and first patron of AMMA gave an oration to the attending members which is included unedited below in the current newsletter. The conference organisers were given the generous support by two sponsors Bristol Myers Squibb and the Cabrini Hospital. Bristol Myer Squibb made the conference possible by their provision of funds to subsidise the dinner, printing of abstracts and miscellaneous expenses. While Cabrini Hospital made their auditorium available as a conference venue at no cost. The conference would not have gone ahead without the untiring efforts of AMMA Vice President Nader Abou-Sief, Surgeon Captain Peter Habersberger and of course our hardworking President Squadron Leader James Ross. Lieutenant Colonel Wettenhall Trustee for the Third Military District Medical Officers' Trust Fund advised the Annual General Meeting at the First Conference that funds would be made available for setting up a journal for AMMA.

Surgeon General's Oration to Inaugural AMMA Conference

As patron of AMMA, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to give the opening address at the first AMMA conference. A forum such as this is unique and long overdue. It brings together those with an interest in military medicine as well as providing information and communication, fellowship and friendship. It also provides a cornerstone to promote and maintain high standards of scholarship in military medicine. I foresee only positive effects for the health services personnel of the ADF and, through them, for the ADF as a whole.

I would like to reinforce the importance of the continued development of academic and professional links with the civilian health community, ensuring that the discipline of military medicine in Australia continues to grow, with reciprocal benefits for the ADF Health Services. The ADF Health Services has planned to foster its involvement with various professional colleges and associations, including for example the College of Physicians and the College of General Practitioners. Other long term aims should include the development of a masters degree in military medicine that could form part of a recognised training program.

Not only do I support and encourage links