

From the WIA Board Table

Official News from the WIA Board of Directors.

Number 3

This Information is for Dissemination to all Radio Amateurs

June 2016

Editorial

Our first Board meeting after the AGM is always a bit of a marathon. There are many items to cover and the new Directors are also orientated to the on-line Board meetings.

The Board also commenced the process of firming up strategies for the three key areas identified as priorities at the previous meeting. These being:

1. Youth Education STEAM/STEM
2. Membership
3. The Committee System.

Board members are generating documentation to address the priorities.

For more information on any of these issues check the WIA web site www.wia.org.au or email the WIA Office.

nationaloffice@wia.org.au

Phil Wait WIA President



1 AGM Video Popularity

There has been a good response, with many complimentary comments received, to the on-line streaming and download of the AGM and Open Forum. There have been 351 downloads at the time of this newsletter, and the Board expects this to be a regular feature of future AGM and Open Forum meetings.

2. Governance Training for Board Members

The WIA Board has decided that all Board members are to undertake and complete a governance training program. The Board has identified a program at a cost of \$185 per person and is intending to complete the training at the earliest convenience. A second program has also been identified, and when the budget allows this program will also be considered.

3. VI9ANZAC

The QSL process for VI9ANZAC was via the Outwards QSL Bureau. We received many requests for E-QSL, so Paul VK5PAS has followed this up and we can now provide E-QSL, as well as paper cards sent via the Bureau.

4. WIA Volunteer Charter

The WIA Board is very keen to increase the volunteer participation in a wide range of activities. To assist with the volunteer structure a Volunteer charter is being developed and will be circulated. In addition to the charter the Board will be asking the volunteers to agree to a confidentiality agreement. All WIA officials and volunteers are required to protect confidential WIA information such as member's personal details contained in membership lists.

5. Committee Re-structure

The restructure of the WIA Committee system has commenced. The review of the committee structure will take some time to complete and news on progress in conjunction with the volunteer charter will be made available.

6. PLT Issue

The WIA is very concerned about the potential for interference from Power Line Telecommunications (PLT/BPL) devices to licensed amateur operators. Such harmful interference has the potential to render it impossible for some amateur licensees to use the spectrum allocated to the Amateur Service.

Based on a complaint received from an affected operator to the lack of investigative action by the ACMA in a case of PLT/BPL interference, the WIA wrote to the ACMA for a second time expressing its concern. The WIA

requests the ACMA to assist the licensee in providing a resolution to the interference he is experiencing. We will keep you informed of the outcome.

7. Membership

A document outlining a strategy to increase membership was presented to the Board. This document identifies potential membership sources including:

1. WIA Website inquiries
2. WIA Contact forms
3. Newly licensed amateurs

The Board are considering these strategies and how they may be implemented.

8. Licensing

The WIA has received many complaints from concerned members about the lack of callsigns on ACMA licence renewal notices. At a recent meeting the ACMA informed the WIA that there is no scope within the current software configuration for call signs to be included on renewal notices. ACMA has investigated the issue and will consider software changes in the future.

The WIA has identified 76 Amateur licences flagged as "not granted" in the ACMA database. This can occur when the ACMA have received a new licence (callsign) application, however the ACMA has not received payment. Until payment has been made these people are currently unlicensed. If your licence is showing as "not granted" in the ACMA database you should contact the ACMA on 1300 850115 to make payment ASAP.

Remember under Federal law it is the licensee's responsibility to renew a licence, regardless of the notification provided. (A callsign recommendation from the WIA Office is valid for 30 days only).

