

From the WIA Board Table

Official News from the WIA Board of Directors.

Number 1

This Information is for Dissemination to all Radio Amateurs

January 2016

Editorial

Due to the volume of business and the need to make some Board appointments, the January meeting was over two nights, the 5th January, when we appointed our new Director and Treasurer, and on the night of the 19th January where we conducted the regular business. This newsletter is a summary of the proceedings of both nights.

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. WIA Board Changes

The Board resolved to appoint Paul Simmonds VK5PAS as a Director of the WIA in place of retiring Director Chris Platt VK5CP, who has recently taken a position with the Fair Work Commission.

The Board also resolved to accept the resignation of Rowan Dollar as Director of the WIA with effect from 28 December 2015, and to maintain the number of Directors at six (6) until the 2016 AGM,

The Board resolved to appoint Chris Chapman VK3QP as Treasurer of the WIA, effective immediately.

3. The WIA Foundation

The WIA Foundation was set-up several years ago but never progressed further due to the legal costs involved in acquiring a beneficial tax status. The WIA has been approached by Jenny Owen

(Michael Owen's daughter) and Jenny has offered to review the status of the Foundation and to report to the Board. The Board would like to progress the Foundation if the costs prove reasonable.

4. Use of WIA name & logo.

The WIA Board is concerned about the uncontrolled use of the WIAs name and logo, especially on certain internet sites which could easily give the false impression that the site is sponsored, controlled or sanctioned by the WIA. The WIA is taking advice on the matter.

5. WIA Office Restructuring

At the time of the meeting the WIA had received 43 applications for the Executive Administrator position, and is intending to interview the six of top rated applicants. The Board is also discussing the possibility of a permanent position in the office for Petra. Petra has been doing a terrific job and we hope she can accept the offer.

6. Norfolk Island AGM

NI registrations are now running over 100, with over 70 of those being members. There are additional people booking independently of the WIA. It is expected that invoices for payment will be sent out sometime in February directly from the WIAs travel company.

7. ACMA Database Issues

The ACMA continue to have issues with the daily feed to the WIA. The available callsign list is being taken down when we detect we have received incorrect data, but there is

inevitably a delay in identifying the problem. People who discover their callsign is incorrect listed as available should not be concerned so long as they have paid their licence fee.

8. Repeater Licences

There is currently a very long delay in ACMA processing repeater licenses. This appears to be associated with the other issues they are experiencing.

9. Maker Space and STEAM

The meeting was joined by Debbie Hunter who is currently heavily involved in the Maker Space movement in high schools and the introduction of the STEAM program (Science, Technology, Arts, Mathematics), which is being offered to schools nationally. Debbie believes there is a natural place for wireless technologies within the STEAM technology module, and Amateur Radio could have a role to play. Her presentation was informative and very encouraging. There is an opportunity for Amateur Radio, but not in the traditional sense of gaining an Amateur licence, though that may be a spin-off as any basic training in technology may spark an interest. The Board is considering the way forward.

