



**AUSTRALIAN PEACEKEEPER & PEACEMAKER  
VETERANS' ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

P.O. BOX 5444, HEIDELBERG WEST, VIC, 3081

(INCORPORATED IN VICTORIA)

ABN 59 558 194 094

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**Patron**  
**Major General John Pearn AO, KStJ,**  
**RFD (Ret'd)**

*Affiliated with the Soldiers of Peace  
International Association – SPIA*  
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*Also assisting Veterans of Iraq, Afghanistan and Peacetime Service*

**Minutes of the  
National Committee to the  
Australian Peacekeeper & Peacemaker Veterans' Association,  
NATIONAL QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING  
Gallipoli Barracks Sergeant's Mess,  
Enoggera, QLD  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 0930h.**

**Opening: 0948h**

1. The President, Allan Thomas, JP, opened the meeting and welcomed all to Enoggera.

**The Ode.** The President cited the ode and special memory to CFN Beau Pridue of 8CSSB, International Stabilisation Force in Timor Leste.

2. **Present:** Check off financial members. Allan Thomas JP (National President); Paul Copeland OAM, JP (National Secretary); Rhonda Copeland (National Treasurer); Michael Quinn (Victorian Branch President); John Burgess ED (SQLD Branch President); Jeremy Muhling (Victorian Branch Secretary); Robert Sumpton (SQLD Branch Secretary); Kevin Ryan JP (Nat Admin/Project Officer); Anne O'Brien; and Carolyn Cavanagh.

3. **Apologies:** As attached to these Minutes.

**Previous QGM Minutes 17 July 2011**

4. QGM Minutes of 17 July 2011 presented.
5. Outstanding matters to QGM 17 July 2011.
6. Corrections/Amendments to QGM Minutes 17 July 2011.
7. Acceptance of QGM Minutes 17 July 2011.

**Motion:** It was moved that the QGM Minutes of 17 July 2011 be accepted.

**Moved:** John Burgess. **Seconded:** Kevin Ryan. **CARRIED.**

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**8. Correspondence:**

9. In Correspondence. Was read.
10. Out Correspondence. Was read.
11. Matters outstanding from Correspondence. There was no significant matters outstanding raised by the Members.
12. Acceptance of Correspondence.

**Motion:** That the Correspondence of the APPVA from 17 July to 15 October 2011 be accepted.

**Moved:** Rhonda Copeland. **Seconded:** Robert Sumpton. **CARRIED.**

**Reports:**

13. National President's Report. The National President provided a verbal report. A written report has been since received and is attached to these Minutes.
14. National Vice President's Report. Not Received.
15. National Secretary Report. Tabled.
16. National Treasurer's Report. Tabled and Read.
17. NSW Branch Report. Not Received.
18. NQLD Branch Report. Not Received.
19. SA Branch Report. Not Received.
20. SQLD Branch Report. Tabled.
21. VIC Branch Report. Tabled.
22. TAS Branch Report. Not Received.
23. Editor Report. Verbal from Paul Copeland. After the successful Spring 2011 Edition, the Magazine is now being prepared for publishing for the Summer 2011 Edition. There has been a Handover/Takeover from Paul Copeland to Phil Pyke.

Paul advised that there needed to be a very close proofing of the articles as they tend to be cut and pasted without proof reading by the graphic artist. Hence it is necessary to view the final product prior to publishing.

The Spring Edition also commemorated the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the RAN and the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the RAAF.

24. National Police Liaison Officer Report. Not Received. However received as a late submission and attached to this report.

25. Membership Secretary Report. Tabled.
26. Merchandise Officer Report. Tabled.
27. Project Officer Report. Verbal. Referral to Secretary Report and Admin/Project Officer Report. Services Delivery Incentive Grant (SDI) was re-emphasised for each APPVA Branch to liaise with ESO in their given regions and ensure that the APPVA is a partner of a consolidated Veteran or ESO Centre that delivers Services to Veterans and their Families.
28. Web Manager Report. Tabled. Well presented report.
29. Administration Report. Tabled. Well presented Report.
30. ACT Branch Report. Received. For General Business.

**Motion:** Acceptance of Reports as Presented.

**Moved:** John Burgess. **Seconded:** Michael Quinn. **CARRIED.**

**1120h. The QGM paused for morning tea and await the arrival of guests to receive the APPVA National Honorary Membership.**

Mrs Mills and Mrs Kirkman were presented the APPVA National Honorary Certificates to recognise their deceased partner's service to Australia, their membership to the APPVA and to recognise the suffering of the NOK. The Award is also to provide a family environment, similar to that of the ADF, and that the recipients are considered members of the APPVA and they as families will not be forgotten.

**1210h. The QGM re-convened.**

**General Business. (Item 008/11)**

**31. APPVA ACT Branch Closure.**

The APPVA ACT Branch matter was raised in that the current Point of Contact (Mr Dale Cooper) has put to the NATCOM in writing of a number of concerns and that the disbursement of RSL Canberra S.B. Gifted Funds be dispersed as requested.

Considerable discussion was made over this matter.

It was noted that it was unfortunate that the APPVA ACT Branch has had to close due to no Executive Committee. The NATCOM hopes that the APPVA ACT Branch will re-constitute sometime in the future and that the motions made in the previous QGM stands.

That is that the Gifted Funds will remain in Trust with the APPVA National Treasurer, until such time as the APPVA ACT Branch is either re-constituted within two years or the situation will be reviewed within two years (October 2013).

It was also noted that the approaches made by Mr Cooper to the membership did not constitute a vote from ACT members, nor was it a formal General meeting to decide the fate of the Branch or of these funds. There are no Minutes evident of such a meeting and there is

no functional ACT Branch Executive that could have been the quorum of such an important meeting to fold the Branch.

The APPVA ACT Branch had **yet to meet** the NATCOM requirements for the receipt of such funds and monies as a functioning Executive. These measures are in place in order to protect such funds and they are made in the best interests of the Members of the Branch to ensure transparency and a guarantee of a capable and functioning committee.

It was therefore resolved that the extant provisions provided by the NATCOM in the Minutes of 17 July 2011 remain in force.

The National President stated that he will again write to Mr Cooper to re-emphasise these points.

**32. Nomination for Honorary Membership – Mrs Linda Haddon.**

Kevin Ryan nominated Mrs Linda Haddon for Honorary Membership as a result of her husband passing away, who was a member of the APPVA.

**Motion:** That Mrs Haddon is presented Honorary Membership to the APPVA.

**Moved:** Kevin Ryan, JP. **Seconded:** Paul Copeland. **CARRIED.**

**Business was Open to the Floor.**

No further points of significance raised.

**Next QGM:** To be held in Melbourne (RAAF Association), via Skype, on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at 1000h.

**Action Point:** The National President requested that the **Secretary** research the possibility of a Telstra Phone Conference Call for these and future QGM/QGM.

**Closure Of Meeting.** There being no further business, the President closed the meeting at **1250h.**

**A. Thomas, JP.**  
National President.

October 2012

**K.J. Ryan, JP,**  
National Secretary.

October 2012

**Attachments:**

- 1. Apologies List.**
- 2. Reports to the QGM 22 October 2011.**

## **List of Apologies Received – APPVA National Conference**

### **Invited Officials:**

COL David Jamison AM (Retired) – National President DFWA;  
CMDR Lachlan King – NOIC QLD;  
Commissioner R. Atkinson APM – Commissioner QLD Police Service;  
CDRE Kinghorne – Director Nature of Service Branch, Office of the VCDF;  
LTGEN Morrison AO – Chief of the Army;  
MAJGEN Mark Kelly AO, DSC – Repatriation Commissioner;  
Mr Ian Campbell PSM – Secretary Department of Veterans' Affairs;  
Mr Ron Coxon OAM – National President Viet Nam Veterans' Association of Australia;  
Commissioner Tony Negus APM – Commissioner Australian Federal Police;  
Assistant Commissioner Tony Prendergast – OIC International Deployment Group AFP;  
Rear Admiral Ken Doolan AO (Retired) – National President RSL;  
Senator David Feeney – Parliamentary Secretary for Defence;  
Senator David Johnston – Shadow Minister for Defence;  
Senator Michael Ronaldson – Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs;  
Stuart Roberts, MP – Shadow Minister for Defence, Science and Personnel;  
Vice Admiral Ray Griggs AM, CSC (RAN) – Chief of the Navy;  
WO David Ashley OAM – RSM of the Australian Army;  
WO J.J. Millar AM – Warrant Officer of the RAAF;  
WO Mark Tandy CSC – Warrant Officer of the RAN;

### **Members (APPVA National Conference and QGM/AGM):**

MAJGEN John Pearn AO, RFD (Retired) – National Patron;  
MAJGEN Ian Gordon AO (Retired) – APPVA NSW Branch Patron;  
MAJ Matina Jewell (Retired) – APPVA Ambassador;  
Mick Phelan – APPVA Website Manager;  
Fiona Quinn – APPVA Membership Secretary (22 Oct);  
Chris Chatterton – APPVA Merchandise Member;  
Mike Romalis – APPVA TAS POC  
Geoff "Lofty" Evans – APPVA NQLD President;  
Dale Potter – National Vice President;  
David Lee – APPVA W.A. Coordinator;  
Phil Pyke – Editor;  
Glenn Keyte – (National Police Liaison Officer);  
Dale Cooper – ACT/NSW Branch;  
Steve Hunter – VIC Member;  
Nick Hannay – QLD Member;  
Peter Vidler – NSW Secretary;  
Robert Kennard – VIC Member;  
Graham Castles – VIC Member;  
Kevin Egan – VIC Member;  
John Wyatt – NSW Member;

Robert Pilgrim – NSW;  
Ian Mintern – APPVA QLD Member;  
Peter Harris;  
Nigel Shelton – APPVA S.A. Member;  
Steve Ager – APPVA VIC Member;  
Naomi Ager – Vic Member;  
Dave Vinen – NSW Member;  
Chris “Smokey” Dawson – APPVA QLD Member;  
Gavin Lee – APPVA VIC Member;  
Reece Pfingst;  
Nigel Shelton – APPVA S.A. Member; and  
Tony Richings – TAS.



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*Commemorating 20 Years of The Deployment of the  
Australian Contingent to the United Nations Advance  
Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC)*

21 October 2011

**NATCOM**

**National President QGM Report covering period 17 July 2011 to 22 October 2011**

NATCOM members,

Firstly I would like to welcome everyone to the QGM in Brisbane since my appointment as the Interim National President of the APPVA we have had extensive consultations with various government departments.

Some of the issues raised by the APPVA over the 3 months are as follows:

- Military Rehabilitation Compensation Commission (MRCC) Review
- Medallion Recognition – Rhodesian Medal, RCB, Lagoon 94
- Exclusion of the TIA and the introduction of the LOE under the VEA Act
- BEST – Hurt Statements National and NSW, Reduced hours of practitioners
- SDI Grant

**MRCC Review**

The APPVA completed its recommendations to the Review in July 2011, the association made recommendations to the service differentials that exists within service, age and discrimination factors concerning payments to injuries incurred whilst in service and the impairment points obtained to be entitled to the Special Rate Disability Pension (SRDP). The department has yet to release its findings to date. The APPVA will await the findings of the department and if not in favour of the departments findings will make further recommendations to review those factors that will impact on those younger veterans.

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## **Medallic Recognition**

APPVA have taken the issues concerning medals to several government departments advising them of the procedures that once a medal application was revoked back by the DHAT that the only way to appeal this process was through the high courts. This has taken away a unique process which has worked effectively in the past between ESOs and the DHAT. The APPVA delegation which comprised of Mick Quinn, Paul Copeland and myself visited Canberra on 10 October 2011 and visited the opposition leader Sen. Ian McDonald of certain medallic issues that we have had in the past, we will be consulting with the Senator regarding our concerns in the event that he will raise these issues with the current Parliamentary Secretary of Defence Senator Feeney and provide the association with positive feedback.

## **TIA and LOE**

In May 2011, the secretary to the Minister of DVA Mr Ian Campbell had spoken about the TIA and LOE as purely a discussion point. The association was not advised of this through any form of consultation, the Bill was passed through Parliament by the Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Sen. Feeney, and the association in general has a large number of younger veterans who are still serving who will be disadvantaged by this move. What I have requested and continually request from the various government departments is procedural fairness and ensure that these concerns are not purely raised as a discussion point and that more consultation is provided from ESOs which will ensure that correct guidelines have been put in place prior to the implementation of policies such as the current LOE.

## **Association Hurt Statement**

In my most recent trip to Canberra to visit the Minister of DVA I had brought up the concerns of the association regarding BEST Funding. The minister had acknowledged that he had received our hurt statements and was addressing these concerns. I advised the minister that association had to change the way in which we dealt with the veteran's community to such an extent that we had to reduce the hours of our paid practioners to work within those hours now allocated to them. This meant passing on some of our clients to various ESO within the those localities. To date the association is having further discussions with the Department of Veterans Affairs regarding our 44 points which we have raised to date we have only managed to elaborate on the first 8 points and hope to finish this ongoing consultation with the department in the coming weeks. A post report will be forwarded to all NATCOM members on finalisation of our discussion.

## **SDI Grant**

On receiving notice of the SDI Grant and have forwarded this onto all NATCOM members enticing all to get in touch with local ESOs and showing interest in participating in obtaining future grants. What the Minister is wanting is a collaborative approach to future BEST Funding. With this in mind this is why I have requested all branch members to get behind this grant and support local ESO with their applications. This will ensure that we have representation within these facilities on how the money can be spent and so there is an equal distribution between all relevant ESOs who provide practioners both Welfare/ Pensions to provide such a service to the greater veteran's community. All applications for this grant have been open since 19 Oct 2011 and will remain open until last week in November 2011. If your application falls out of this period you will not be considered for the grant.

**Representation at QGM**

NATCOM members there are certain obligations/requirements for you to be represented at these quarterly meetings and if you are unable to attend then you should notify the National Executive in particular the National Secretary of your proxy. This is essential to our viability as an association that we have representation at these QGMs to pass on reports regarding the State and any issues that may arise that we need to be concerned about. I would like those states who did not attend to provide a report to the National Secretary regarding what issues or what has happened in your state.

This concludes the National President's Report for the QGM dated 22 October 2011.

Yours Sincerely,

**Allan Thomas JP**  
National President



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Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC)*

19 October 2011

**Subject: National Secretary Report – QGM 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2011**

1. This Report covers the period 17 July to 19 October 2011.
2. The reporting period has seen an increase in workload, in particular toward consultation with Federal Government Ministers. Other areas have seen close consultation with the Department of Veterans Affairs for the Military Rehabilitation Compensation Arrangements Review Recommendations and our response submission to those Recommendations. These are available on the APPVA website.

**Defence Honours, Awards and Appeals Tribunal.**

3. We (David Vinen and I), are currently working on the Contention toward the construct of the DHAAT with Senator Macdonald, along with seeking support toward the medallic recognition that has been rejected by the Tribunal and Government.
4. Senator Feeney does not wish to discuss this matter, nor has fully addressed our contentions.
5. The DHAAT Inquiry into ADF service for recognition of OP LAGOON (South Pacific Peacekeeping Force (SPPKF)) 1994 has been submitted and we await a decision on this Inquiry.
6. There is an application for the ASM Clasp Counter Terrorism/Special Recovery (ASM CT/SR) for members of 1<sup>st</sup> Commando Regiment. This is currently with the Commander Special Operations Command. It appears that there will be an appeal made to DHAAT.

**Defence Commendations**

7. I have enlisted the help from former RSM Ceremonial – WO1 Steve Ager CSM, to assist with the CGS Group Commendations for the following:
  - a. UN Mine Clearance Training Team Peshawar (Pakistan/Afghanistan) 1989-1993;

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- b. ASC UN Transitional Assistance Group Namibia (UNTAG) 1989-1990;
- c. ASC UNTAG 17 Field Troop; and
- d. ASC Force Comms Unit AS Detachment 1993-1994.

8. This will ensure that all members of these deployments will be provided with a copy of the Citation and have the award entered into their PMKeys.

9. The next project will be seeking the same approaches for the CGS Commendation of the 1RAR Battalion Group Somalia (OP SOLACE).

### **Army Combat Badges.**

10. Demand for information and applications have slowed to around 10.

### **Service Delivery Incentive (SDI).**

11. The National President and the Executive are working on a Feasibility Study for future BEST Grants of our National Younger Veteran Outreach Program. This is due to DVA NLT 30 Nov 2011.

12. As noted by the President, we have been significantly affected in this FY Grant Funds, as has all ESO. Any entity that does not participate in the SDI will not receive BEST Funding for FY12/13. So, it is in the best interests of your members and constituents to get involved in this process.

### **Retrospective Reclassifications.**

13. Advice received from CDRE Kinghorne has rejected the retrospective Reclassification for OP ASTUTE (Timor Leste) or JTF631 from Non-warlike to warlike service during the period May 2006 to Feb 2008 during the periods of the State of Siege.

14. Humanitarian Operations that were highlighted to the Nature of Service Branch to be retrospectively reclassified to non-warlike service from peacetime service has also seen a rejection. It is intended to respond to these outcomes.

### **Peacekeeping Memorial Project.**

15. The Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Project continues, and we are now shovel ready. The Project is ahead of three other projects in terms of design and funds. We need our members, families and friends to support this Project. Please visit the website for ways of which you can give or donate to the project.

16. I also advise that the Tax-deductibility for the Project, as well for the APPVA has hit a snag with the Department of Finance. It appears now that any Tax-Deductible claims made by donors or sponsors for a particular activity will be deducted from the respective Federal Department's Budget.

17. The above places a great deal of strain on the ability to attract sponsors and to also have such Tax-Deductibility approved by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs. Where Tax Returns

were traditionally paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF), this latest policy from Finance will cripple recognised organisations that hold Deductible Gift Recipients (DGR) and Public Benevolent Institute (PBI) status.

18. The effects of this has potential to affect the vast majority of the Veteran Community.
19. As the APPVA Representative, I will be attending the APMPC AGM on 26 October in Canberra.
20. Please support this worthwhile project.

#### **Peacekeeper Mental Health Study.**

21. There has been a breach to protocol to participants of the Peacekeeper Mental Health Study with an email that has offended some veterans. I have been advised of the details of the breach and provided advice to the Chair Professor Hawthorne of future emails and encouraging our veterans to complete the study.
22. So far we are just short of the 1,000 target by around 78. If you know of someone who has yet to complete the Study, please encourage them to do so. It can also be done over the phone.
23. I understand that the study is intrusive to a number of veterans and support is available, along with peer or mate support through the APPVA.

#### **Viet Nam Veteran Family Study.**

24. The Viet Nam Veteran Family Study Consultative Forum meets on 14 Nov 2011. The Study has been launched with the main Survey Questionnaires distributed in August 2011.
25. It was initially expected that the Vietnam Veterans' Family Study would conclude in 2016 however, it is now anticipated that the final research components will be completed by mid 2012. A final report incorporating all the research elements will be completed and handed to the Government in late 2012. This is over four years earlier than originally programmed and will be achieved without compromising the scientific validity of the study.
26. Registration for the Vietnam Veterans' Family Study is still open. Visit the website: [http://www.dva.gov.au/health\\_and\\_wellbeing/research/FamilyStudyProgram/vietnam\\_vets\\_family\\_study/Pages/news.aspx](http://www.dva.gov.au/health_and_wellbeing/research/FamilyStudyProgram/vietnam_vets_family_study/Pages/news.aspx) for further information.

#### **Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Arrangements Review Recommendations.**

27. A Work Group consisting of Allan Thomas, Michael Quinn and I completed a complex document in response to the "Campbell Review" Recommendations. The main areas of contention were:
  - a. The Service Differential of Peacetime Service to Warlike/Non-warlike service levels of Permanent Incapacity payments;
  - b. The injustice of offsetting between Acts, Special Rate Disability Pension (SRDP) matters; and

- c. The need for closer consultation with the MRCA by the Department with the APPVA as a Key Stakeholder.

28. The Service Differentiation has been a highly contentious area within the ESO Community, however it appears that ESO such as the RSL, DFWA, ISPA and VVAA have approached the Review to remove the Service Differential.

29. I would like to thank Michael Quinn for his 18 months of close consultation with the Campbell Review Committee, representing our interests in a very complicated Legislation.

30. The APPVA Submission that was supported by the VVAA and dated 25 July 2011 is available on our website for viewing.

31. The Review was discussed with Minister Snowdon on 11 Oct, of which there is no indication of any Government position at this point in time.

### **Retirement.**

32. I am intending to step down from this position as National Secretary at the Elections on Saturday 22 October. This will be after 15 years of continual service in an Office Bearing or Appointed position within the APPVA before and since its inception on 1997.

33. I would like to thank those who have made this and other positions enjoyable, along with great friendships. The working environment has been enjoyable with a great team that are working hard for the benefit of our members, veterans and the veteran community.

34. I would particularly like to thank Rhonda, my long suffering wife for her support and lending an ear when the going got a little turbulent. Also thanks go to Michael Quinn and Allan Thomas for their great friendship and professional approaches.

35. For those who may be hesitant in volunteering to assist our Office Bearers, either at National or Branch Level, you will gain a great experience and a great deal of satisfaction of what you do for the APPVA. These are tangible skills and experience that not only help our people, but also carrying on the legacy of a number of dedicated people who have made this organisation to what it is today.

All the best.

Yours Sincerely,



**P.A. Copeland, OAM, JP.**  
National Secretary.

**QGM Saturday 22 Oct 2011 -  
National Treasurers Report – 01 July to 12 October 2011**

1. QUARTERLY BAS and Group Certificate for end of Financial Year 2010/11 submitted. Quarterly BAS for end of September has been submitted.
2. NATIONALS BOOKS – Have been audited by Surfcoast Taxation and Audit letters written for FY 2010/11. Books all fine, no problems. BEST and GIA Grant Acquittals are ready to send to DVA or have been sent.
3. ADMIN POSITION UNSPENT FUNDS FY 2010/11 - **\$2,264.72** to be repaid to DVA.
4. BEST GRANT Rnd 13 - was not deposited into Nationals Account until 24 August 2011, leaving National to self fund Contractors Salaries for **8 weeks**. This used 90% of our funds.
5. GIA (Grant in Aide) Rnd 13 – was not deposited into Nationals Account until 01 September 2011, leaving National to self fund essential expenses ONLY with the remainder in the account funds.
6. CAPITATION PAYMENTS – Quarter Jul -Sep has been paid to Established Incorporated States.
7. MEMBERSHIP – has increased due to phone contacts and follow-ups by Kevin the Admin Officer. This has increased both National and Incorporated functioning States with their Capitation Payments.
8. CONTRACTORS - paid by Nationals BEST Funding Grant – New Contracts have been signed. I would like to welcome Pauline Maczkowiack a NSW Advocate as a National Contractor. NSW BEST funding this year has been split between John Wyatt and Pauline.
9. BEST GRANT – CONTRACTORS – Unfortunately due to a massive cut of \$60,000 in our BEST funding this year, our Contractors /Pensions Officers / Advocates have been forced to reduce their hours from a 5 day fulltime week to 3 day part time week.  
The amount of each Salary cut was not known until paperwork was received – mid August.
10. RESIGNATION OF MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY FIONA QUINN last QGM– I would like to thank Fiona for all the work she did on the National Database and Memberships. It was greatly appreciated.
11. APPVA MAGAZINE – Kevin and I have Volunteers assisting us with the distribution of the Mag quarterly. A thank you to Lyn Bradford.  
It costs National between \$900 - \$1,200 for quarterly distribution. K & R Publisher contribute \$1,000.00 towards distribution costs.

**BANK BALANCES - as at 12 October 2011**

INGDIRECT -	\$151,892.34
DEFCREDIT -	\$3,531.97
<b>SUB TOTAL =</b>	<b>\$155,424.31</b>

**DEDUCTIONS -**

Funds held in Trust for APPVA ACT Branch (Total includes Capitation Payments)	- \$4,808.92
Admin Funds to be repaid to DVA	- \$2,264.72
<b>TOTAL =</b>	<b>\$148,350.67</b>

REMAINING of BEST FUNDS allocated for Contractors - \$100,227.95

**BALANCE OF NATIONALS AVAILABLE FUNDS TOTAL = \$48,122.72**

Forthcoming Expenses – BAS = \$13,314, Insurance= \$1,200

NATIONAL TREASURER POSITION IS STILL OPEN FOR THE TAKING –

**ATTACHMENTS –**

- a – Profit & Loss Statement – 01 July – 12 October 2011
- b- ACT Branch Funds Breakdown

Signed

National Treasurer  
Rhonda Copeland

## Profit & Loss Statement

17/07/2011 through 12/10/2011

14/10/2011  
1:23:22 PM

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Income	
K & R Publisher- contribution	\$1,000.00
Memberships - no gst	\$3,488.00
Memberships - GST	\$130.90
Merchandise	\$143.63
APPVA Donations	\$85.00
BEST Grant	\$145,895.35
GIA Grant	\$9,090.91
Postage	\$227.78
Miscellaneous Income	\$100.00
Total Income	<u>\$160,161.57</u>
Cost Of Sales	
Gross Profit	<u>\$160,161.57</u>
Expenses	
Running Costs/Consumables	\$54.19
Wreaths	\$136.36
Capitation fees	\$2,568.00
Accountant	\$309.09
Postage	\$1,406.96
IT Equipment	\$100.00
Insurance	\$419.22
Paypal Fees	\$28.63
CBA Merchant Fees -C Card	\$38.67
Misc Expenses	\$86.36
Travel	
Misc Travel	\$377.91
AGM expenses	\$3,406.42
CS1	\$11,619.37
CS2	\$8,402.75
CS3	\$8,662.70
CS4	\$6,708.04
CS5	\$2,977.72
Rounding	\$0.37
Total Expenses	<u>\$47,302.76</u>
Operating Profit	<u>\$112,858.81</u>
Other Income-Holding Account	
Interest ING	\$971.90
Total Other Income-Holding Account	<u>\$971.90</u>
Other Expenses-Holding Account	
Net Profit/(Loss)	<u>\$113,830.71</u>

## **APPVA Victorian Presidents Report Jul-Oct 2011**

Victoria continues to grow in both member numbers and also active member who are involving them selves with both smaller projects, welfare and pensions. The cuts in salary positions have had an impact on the level of professional services we are able to provide to the veteran community in both pension and advocacy work. This is an issue we are addressing with other ESOs to over come this problem.

We are in the early stages of negotiations with the RAASC Vietnam Veterans to take over and run an opportunity shop with drop in center, which has been providing welfare assistance to the veteran community for over 10 years. This will be a win-win situation for both organizations and will enable a well-established facility to continue into the future with APPVA Victoria.

We had good attendance at the Aust PK/PM day at Heidelberg service and laid the ashes of John Hopkins at our rock in the memorial gardens. This was good for both our members and John's family and a fitting way to say good-bye; you will be remembered.

A fund has been started to raise funds to provide a statue of Jonathon Churches for the entrance of the new building that houses ward 17. We have costed the project at about \$15k and we have a location identified that will give a younger veteran profile to the new facility for anyone who enters the facility.

Our BBQ trailer has been used a couple of times and it is intended to run a number of BBQs in the future with the aim of engaging the more isolated veterans (we have applied for extra funding).

Financially Victoria is stable and our annual auditing has been completed. Our executive is made up of My self as president, Secretary Jeremy Muhling, Vice President Craig Dekaste and Treasurer Fiona Quinn.

Our provision of services in advocacy and welfare is gaining a wider footprint with services being provided from Geelong, Torquay, Heidelberg, Frankston and Shepparton. We also liaise with other ESOs with a referral system that is interactive both ways.

Our members represent on the following forums: Victorian ESO round table, Deputy Commissioners Advisory Forum, VVCS consultative forum, Veteran Psychiatry consultative group and nationally on the Operational Working Party and the TIP consultative forum.

Mick Quinn  
President APPVA Vic

**From:** Jill [Kashmir@futureweb.com.au]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 October 2011 11:40 AM  
**To:** Paul Copeland  
**Subject:** APPVA STHQLD REPORT FOR QGM

We continue to have difficulties in encouraging members to attend our meetings. This results in few people being available, or willing, to assist in activities in which the Branch should be involved. The AGM in September drew so few that we barely achieved a quorum. It appears that members wish to continue with their association with the APPVA but do not want to become too involved with the running of the Branch.

The result of the Branch election saw no change in the composition of the main office bearers; however, the position of Vice President remains vacant. The Committee post of Veterans Affairs Adviser has been established with Glenn Warnes being appointed to the role.

The Branch has been represented at the following events:

The War Widows Guild AGM

Vietnam Veterans Day Service in Brisbane

The DVA Queensland Consultative Forum

VVCS Regional Council meeting Brisbane

Police National Remembrance Vigil

Police National Remembrance Day Church Service

Royal Australian Navy Centenary Ceremonial Sunset and Civic Reception

On Saturday 10 September, the Branch recognised Australian Peacekeepers Day with a memorial service at Windaroo Peace Park. This was attended by Parliamentary, local Council, Defence Force, DVA and Federal and State Police representatives. Planning is underway for a major function in Brisbane, in 2012, to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of Australian involvement in peacekeeping operations.

## APPVA Membership Secretary's Report National AGM Oct 2011

Since the last QGM all responsibilities of the membership secretary's role has been picked up by the paid National Administration position. Now that this has been completed and is running smoothly I am giving formal notice that I am stepping away from the position and with confidence would like to nominate Kevin Ryan JP for the position of National Membership Secretary.

Fiona Quinn  
Membership Secretary



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## **National Police Liaison Officer – Annual General Meeting – 22nd October 2011**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Another year has passed and I thank the other members and executive of the APPVA for their assistance.

There are a number of police related matters that have previously been identified which require our attention in the coming year to resolve them to a satisfactory outcome.

I make a formal apology that I cannot attend the QGM / AGM due to work commitments within the Victoria Police.

### **2. POLICE OVERSEAS SERVICE MEDAL REGULATIONS.**

In recent years a number of representations have been made to the AFP and Government regarding inequities of the issuing of the Police Overseas Service Medal to police overseas service veterans. Several serving Vicpol and ex-members of the AFP International Deployment Group have not received the POSM. Their service was not declared as prescribed service as per the medal regulations that were last reviewed in October 2007.

This review recognised the anomalies in the service of members. In particular, mission in Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Jordan and Vanuatu. The AFP has acknowledged that these were sanctioned AFP missions but fall under 'capacity building' programs and are not recognised under the current POSM entitlement / regulations.

In early 2011, I had discussions with IDG staff in regard to the current mission to Papua New Guinea. I was advised verbally that these members were eligible for the POSM. That gave rise to the notion that this issues could be revisited and that a retrospective argument was warranted for the former PNG mission in 2005.

This matter seems to be dragging on with little or no recognition from the Government. This matter requires further lobbying and representation to the appropriate areas to push the issues to an area of resolution.

### **3. BRAVERY awards**

In early 2011, National Vice President Dale POTTER formulated a report in regard to service of three Victoria Police members. This was in regard to the members who received the AFP Commendation for Bravery whilst serving with the IDG. These were internal awards which reflected their actions and were formally presented as part of the Federation Days Honours.

As a standard when members are awarded these commendations it is normally a practice for the matter to also be referred to the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat for consideration of an Australian honour. This has been the practice in the past where member not only receive the internal award but they also receive the Australian Award as well. This is not seen as a duplication but formalising the act of bravery in the proper forums.

Recent recipients of the Australian Bravery medals have been for not only members of the police forces but individuals from the community who have shown acts of courage in exceptional circumstances. This have been both within Australia and overseas.

As such a formal report has been forwarded for the three members to be considered for the awards.

This matter is being followed up as a priority item.

### **4. NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE MEDAL**

As previously acknowledged the Australian Government announced that a National Police Service Medal (NPSM) to be struck to recognise State, Federal and Territory police long and diligent service. This was announced on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2008. .

In September 2011, two police members from policing organisation around Australia were invited to receive NPSM at Mural Hall, Parliament House, Victoria. There, the award was formally presented by Prime Minister Julia GILLARD.

It is anticipated that a further 56,000 police members are eligible for this award which will be presented in the coming months to eligible recipients. I have been given a 12 timeframe for presentation of these awards.

### **5. RAMSI beret.**

Vicpol has recently authorised the wearing of RAMSI beret. The badge that is worn is the Participating Police Force (PPF) logo which is worn on the sleeve of the

Australian Federal Police members who are deployed to RAMSI mission in the Solomon Islands.

This was worn for the first time on Anzac Day 2011. The beret was very popular with ex IDG members who marched in the Victoria Police contingent.

After discussions with S/SGT Jeff HALMARICK of Vicpol, there appears to have been some confusion between the AFP and Victoria Police over the validity of wearing the beret. I have been informed that the matter has been resolved as the emblem refers to the (PPF) Participating Police Force and not RAMSI. The issue was raised that the RAMSI name could not be formally used through ownership rights. This however is not the case and as such members will continue to wear the beret.

## **6. IDG service.**

As of a number of months ago former Chief Commissioner Simon Overland has announced that the Victoria police have now ceased supplying staff to the IDG on secondment. This means that once the current staff deployed to the IDG from Vicpol finish their mission no further staff will be required in the near future. I was advised that due to the winding down of AFP commitments in RAMSI there would not be a need for Victoria police staff to bolster AFP numbers in the mission.

## **7. POLICE COMPENSATION**

There has been some recent developments in regard to members that have been diagnosed with medical conditions during upon return from overseas missions. I have spoken to a number of members diagnosed with a wide range of conditions including bowel complaints and communal diseases that effects their daily lives.

One member in particular, Adrian PIDUTTI (Vicpol) recently died as a result of a diagnosis of bowel cancer. This was identified during his service in the Solomon Islands and treatment upon return to Australia. This matter is being explored through the VEA / COMCARE as to entitlements and classification of his injury which ultimately cut short his life.

A further (3) members have also been diagnosed with tuberculosis from service in East Timor. This is not an isolated case as members of the military have also been afflicted with this complaint from service in the same area. One of the members has been given white card status for his injury after formal rejection of his claim where it was overturned on review.

Recent discussions with Paul COPELAND state that Police members are not going to be entitled to compensation through the MRCA as it is for military personnel only. The VEA is also being phased out where police members will not be eligible for benefits. This is a point of discussion by the APPVA.

The AFP Commissioner has signed an Instrument where police will receive a 50% loading on Permanent Impairment through COMCARE. The burden of proof falls on

the applicant to prove the illness on the balance of probabilities to the satisfaction of COMBARE.

**8. POLICE PEACEKEEPERS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

At present there are 57 current and former police members on the database. This is a poor reflection of police members that have served overseas. I have sent emails through the Victoria Police IDG where there are in excess of 100 members listed.

I have contacted the AFP (IDG), Canberra to obtain a list of current and former members in an attempt to organise a group email again to advise of our association and what we provide to members.

**Glenn KEYTE  
National Police Liaison Officer  
APPVA**

**19/10/2011**

ACT Report for the AGM.

No change form status regarding the windup of ACT Branch.

At present:

- Our accounts are being audited for submission to ACT Office of Regulation as required by the Associations Incorporations Act 1991
- The Annual return is being prepared for submission to ACT Office of Regulation as required by the Associations Incorporations Act 1991
- A letter is being drafted for closure of the ACT Branch Incorporation for submission to ACT Office of Regulation as required by the Associations Incorporations Act 1991
- A letter is being drafted for closure of the TFN for ACT Branch.
- The former submissions are dependent on the desired outcome relayed to National Committee previously and again as per attached document in response to Allan THOMAS's letter dated 22 Sept 2011-10-19
- Our bank account has been closed with \$10 membership fee to be directly credited to National Bank account to be held in trust with the ACT Branch Funds extant
- A decision is requested regarding another branch or National Committee taking possession of the APPVA Marching Banner (Used for ANZAC Parade etc) and APPVA Flag that I have in my possession, and
- Copy of ACT Branch Financial position is attached (as provided by National Treasurer.

*Cheers*

*Dale DJC Cooper RFD*

**President**

**APPVA(ACT)Inc**



*"lookin' after our own"*

**PO BOX 5430**

**KINGSTON ACT 2604**

**Mob: 0418 266 033**

**<mailto:actpres@peacekeepers.asn.au>**

**[www.peacekeepers.asn.au](http://www.peacekeepers.asn.au)**



AUSTRALIAN PEACEKEEPER & PEACEMAKER  
VETERANS' ASSOCIATION

**ACT BRANCH**

P.O. Box 5430  
KINGSTON ACT 2604

(INCORPORATED IN ACT)

ABN 59 558 194 094

**Patron:**

MAJGEN Ian Gordon (Rtd)

Mobile: 0418 266 033

Email: [actpres@peacekeepers.asn.au](mailto:actpres@peacekeepers.asn.au)

Website: [www.peacekeepers.asn.au](http://www.peacekeepers.asn.au)

*Listed Ex-Service Organisation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs ESO Directory*

17 October 2011

**Allan THOMAS**

National President  
APPVA  
PO Box 5444  
HEIDELBERG WEST  
VIC 3081

*Allan,*

**RESPONSE TO YOUR PROPOSAL 'ACT BRANCH WIND -UP  
Dated 22 September 2011**

I appreciate the support provided by you regarding the wind-up of ACT Branch and transfer of members to NSW Branch.

I would like to reiterate a couple of factors regarding the wind-up of the Branch.

Firstly, I am very disappointed at the lack of support from the APPVA National Committee in supporting attempts to revive the ACT Branch. The National Secretary made various promises earlier in 2011 through his personal and Association Network in ACT, and the offer was all I received. For this small token, I would extend my thanks, however, extremely disappointed at the National Committee overall.

Secondly, of note is the outcome for the ACT Branch Funds as proposed by the National Committee. I will reiterate again ACT branch presidents report tabled to QGM 17 July 2011, that I vetted my Branch members regarding the outcomes desired for the ACT Branch Funds (held in Trust by National Treasurer) mentioned.



## AUSTRALIAN PEACEKEEPER & PEACEMAKER VETERANS' ASSOCIATION ACT BRANCH

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However, under legislation through the Incorporations Act, as well as under the ACT Branch constitution, this is not a decision for the National Committee to deliberate on, however I did seek your comments regarding this before I take any further action (if any was warranted).

Comments made previously through our branch to the National Committee stated:

*"Until the wind up provisions are required, the Association can still use its funds in furtherance of its objectives (identified in para 2.1 of the Constitution).*

*Those objectives include*

*2.1.f. Provide and further co-operate in the achievements of the above objects\* and to that end, bring together in committee and conferences, Authorities, Voluntary Organisations, Centres for Higher Learning or Scientific Research or any individuals or Organisations;*

*2.1.w. Actively promote affiliation with groups with similar objectives*

*\* - ie those in 2.1 a-e (provide assistance to & on behalf of the sick, helpless, wounded, aged, disabled, destitute and needy among those who are serving/have served .... promote and assist welfare etc*

*Both of these objectives would be achieved by transferring funds to Legacy Australia (ACT), Police Welfare Association and the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Committee; they may also be achieved by transferring some funds to the United Nations Sub-Branch of the RSL Canberra.*

Therefore under the ACT Branch Constitution, through feedback from the ACT Branch members, it is proposed that the following occur, with presentations made by myself and/or Ian GORDON on behalf of ACT Branch of APPVA:

- \* \$1000 be donated to Legacy Australia (ACT)
- \* \$1000 be donated to Police Welfare
- \* \$1500 be donated to Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Committee

The remaining funds (\$1200 approximately) be held in trust with APPVA National Treasurer which will cover costs for;

- \* Closing down ACT Branch Mailbox and redirect mail for twelve months to NSW Branch
- \* Cancelling the ACT Branch Incorporation
- \* transfer of flag/banner to NSW Branch/national Committee



## AUSTRALIAN PEACEKEEPER & PEACEMAKER VETERANS' ASSOCIATION ACT BRANCH

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- \* Fees incurred by current ACT Branch President in closing down the ACT Branch and its incorporation, and
- \* Remainder kept in trust until ACT Branch is started again in the future, or after two year period, upon which the APPVA National Committee AGM can decide the fate of the outstanding funds.

As stated previously, under the Incorporations Act and ACT Branch Constitution, the final decision and outcome does not require approval nor do they give authority for the APPVA National Committee to decide the outcome. The former outcome above is the general view of the ACT Branch members whom were consulted and their feedback received accordingly. This is in line with the ACT Branch Constitution and it is the desire of the Branch members, Ian GORDON and I to fulfil this respectfully.

Thank you once again for allowing the time for this to be reviewed and it would now be appreciated if the three cheques could be made out and sent to me accordingly for presentation to the respective funds.

I would request also what you want me to do with the APPVA Banner and Flag that I have in my possession. I travel to Sydney frequently and will also be in Melbourne on weekend of 5/6 November, enabling cost effective transfer to the rightful caretaker/s.

I will be in contact with National Treasurer regarding expenditure I incur in closing down the ACT branch and incorporation for refund from the Trust funds for ACT Branch.

Your faithful servant

**Dale DJC COOPER RFD**  
APPVA (ACT) President

**Dale DJC COOPER RFD**  
APPVA (ACT) President

18 November 2010

**Attachments**

- a. A
- b. B

## **Administration / Project Officer Report – APPVA – Oct 2011**

The Administration / Project Officer position has continued to be filled by Kevin Ryan with a continuation of his contract from 14 Feb 2011.

### **Previously identified items requiring attention have been addressed and processed**

#### **They are:**

- Up to date identification, registering and filing of all In and Out correspondence items
- Identifying missing items of correspondence and location of said items
- All In and Out correspondence for 2009 / 2010 / 2011 flagged and registers updated
- Ongoing identification of correspondence items prior to 2009 for flagging and registry update
- Updating all other correspondence letters required by Treasurer with changes of address details from Torquay PO Box to PO Box Veterans' Liaison Office at Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital VIC
- Updating Website details with assistance from Web Manager. These have included:
  - Rationalising all correspondence address for National Executive from Torquay PO Box to Heidelberg Repatriation Veterans' Centre address, which have included:
    - Secretary
    - Memberships
    - Editor
    - Inclusion of Administration
  - Those remaining as is – no change required:
    - President
    - Vice President
    - Treasurer (PO Box Torquay)
    - Merchandise
    - Entitlements – Mick Quinn
    - Police Liaison Officer

#### **BEST Grants**

- Identifying BEST qualifications of current APPVA practitioners (incorporating known dates of qualification dates rather than a statement stating qualified only)
- Creation of up to date BEST qualifications for Practitioners with contact with state TIP offices of current qualifications
- Preparation of advice to Practitioners requiring refresher courses
- Collating all quarterly data WRT Practitioners (VIC) – Mick Quinn, Graham Castles, John Wyatt and Paul Copeland
- Creation of endorsement certificates for VITA requirements
- Creating one report in total from all four Practitioners to be forwarded along with individual reports for each Round when required

#### **TIP Courses reconciliation**

- TIP Offices in each state have been contacted several times since Dec 2010 to identify Practitioners for APPVA who require refresher training or new courses
- Ratifying current lists with TIP and APPVA of who is still practicing and not practicing

#### **Problems Identified with TIP**

- TIP Offices still reluctant to provide details to reconcile current qualifications list

#### **Welfare**

- Calls made and received from / to members requiring assistance with obtaining application forms such as:
  - Transport cards
  - Appliances
  - VVCS Counselling contact numbers

- Request for contact details of APPVA Entitlement / Pension Officers / Advocate in their respective states
- Personal visits (if / when required)

### Creation of Certificates for Awards System for APPVA

- An Awards Register has created as per correspondence between Secretary and Admin (Oct 2011), on Excel with Certificate Numbers allocated for existing and potential Awards and Nominees
- Certificates have been created for the following:
  - Honorary members
  - Life members including patrons
  - National Executive Certificates of Appreciation
  - National Presidents Award Certificates
  - VITA Endorsements for Practitioners

### Membership National Database (since 17 Jul 2011)

- Updating of Membership Database and identifying potential members' changes in contact details
- Updating of receipt numbers for FY 10/11
- Continuation of allocation of receipt numbers for paid up members through to FY 11/12
- Identifying potential APPVA members not currently financial for notification of required continued payments to bring them up to date financially
- Membership Database restructured with twice weekly updates and daily backups. Restructure included columns detailing:
  - Movements of members if moving interstate or overseas (both serving and ex serving)
  - Those members who have recently deceased and pending Honoraries for their respective spouses/families
  - Those members with deceased estates
  - Unknown addressees
  - Those members no longer wishing to be members (after confirmation by phone / email / letter)
  - Those members paid up for the next 5 years
- Membership Database created in Excel spreadsheet format (due to Access format file size) for distribution to independent state Presidents and Secretaries
- Respective State / Territory DB clearly marked as **Association In Confidence**
- Provision of up to date Membership Database to all state Presidents / Secretaries on a monthly basis in Excel Spreadsheet format (with only states receiving their respective DB's for confidentiality)
- Continuation of advising out of up to date members financials through email and phone contacts and letters if required
- Continuation of sending Welcome Pack to new members with advise by email, phone and mail out of Welcome Packs
- Provision of the DB to the Treasurer weekly for ongoing updates required for payment receipt details
- Provision of up to date Capitation list for cross checking with payments made by CC, PP, Cheque, MO, DC, Cash
- Creation of Capitation letters required for respective states of members currently financial each quarter sent through to Treasurer
- Allocation of magazines as they are published – sent to paid up members, Parliamentary / APCD / Dignitary lists
- To date total membership numbers stand at 1236 Of this, 80 no longer wish to remain as members due to the following:
  - Already involved in other associations such as RSL, Corps Associations, etc
  - Loss of interest in being members and the interests of the APPVA
  - Personal interests that do not invoke wanting to be members
- There are currently 42 unknown addresses / contact details of previously listed members. This may be due to members (currently serving) who have been posted and not advising of their current whereabouts; ex-service members who have moved and not advised of their updated contact details
- Several members contacted have stated that because they have not been contacted, they were unaware of the procedures of updating their memberships. Considering that this information is provided with their Welcome Packs is an indication of the following:

- they have not kept the information provided in their Welcome Packs re: contact procedures
- they have not been contacted by their state Presidents / Treasurers / Secretaries etc for renewal purposes
- or change of address details
- they do not fully appreciate what the APPVA can provide them
- Construction of a separate Access Database for those members not currently financial and who have not been financial for a number of years. This DB also includes those members who no longer wish to be members, deceased members, deceased estate members, and unknown members (due to changes in address with no notification to the APPVA)

### **Future Activities**

- Continued updating of National DB for receipting details for members who are financial during the FY 10/11 with current receipt numbers for capitation requirements
- Continued monitoring of members who have paid for FY 10/11, FY 11/12 and beyond
- Identification of potential new members from Cases conducted by Entitlements Officer and Advocate (VIC)
- Every effort continues to be made to recontact those members not wishing to be members at this time in the future to ascertain if they wish to return as paying members.
- Ongoing tasks as directed by National President / National Secretary / National Treasurer
- Continuation of sundry tasks as highlighted by achievements to date
- Continued update of current IT register of items held by Practitioners
- Continued updating of relevant contracts for VIC Practitioners in consultation with Treasurer / Secretary

### **Recommendations**

#### **TIP**

- Continued contact with TIP Offices to identify an accurate record of those Practitioners working for APPVA with up to date information of their current qualifications and requirements for refresher
- Identification of new Practitioners in each State / Territory

### **Membership Renewals for long term non paid members**

- Those previous members wishing to come back to pay \$30 to rejoin. The reason for this is if these members only pay \$20, they may possibly fall out again and expect to only pay every two years instead of yearly

This reports ends as at 14 Oct 2011.

Kevin Ryan JP  
Admin / Project Officer  
National Executive Branch  
APPVA

14 Oct 2011