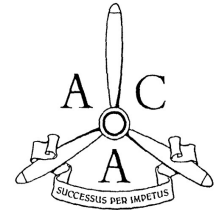


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THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION (CYPRUS)



MINUTES OF THE 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION CYPRUS HELD ON TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2020

ITEM 1. Call to Order and Act of Remembrance The meeting was called to order at 1103 hours and the Act of Remembrance in the form of one minute's silence was observed.

ITEM 2. Welcome and Apologies There were 12 Full Members present (Annex A) plus 1 Associate and 1 Honorary Members. This represented a quorum as defined in the Constitution. Including wives and partners, a total of 20 were in attendance for the meeting. Apologies had been received from 6 full Members, 1 Associate and 3 Honorary Members (Annex B). The Hon Chairman formally welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ITEM 3. Minutes of the Last Meeting The minutes of the last meeting held at the Officers' Mess, Episkopi, on Tuesday 5 November 2019 were approved as a true record of the meeting.

Proposer: David Richmond **Seconder:** Brian Nicolle **Vote:** Unanimous

ITEM 4. Matters Arising There were no matters arising from the 2020 Minutes.

ITEM 5. Annual Report – Honorary Treasurer The Hon Treasurer presented his report and Statement of Accounts which showed that the Association's funds were in good shape. His report is at Annex C. Terry Mitchell volunteered to audit the accounts. The membership voted on the approval of the Hon Treasurer's report:

Proposer: Frank Haggerty **Seconder:** Terry Mitchell **Vote:** Unanimous

ITEM 6. Annual Report – Honorary Chairman The Honorary Chairman presented his report for the period since the last AGM. The report is at Annex D. The membership voted for the approval of the Honorary Chairman's report.

Proposer: Nigel Voute **Seconder:** David Richmond **Vote:** Unanimous

ITEM 7. Annual Contribution to Akrotiri Air Training Corps The Honorary Treasurer introduced the item by stating: 'the ACA Cyprus makes an annual contribution to the Akrotiri Air Training Squadron to be used for cadet pilot training. Last year we contributed €400. Your Committee considers that a contribution of €400 for 2021 remains affordable'. A suggestion that our contribution should be directly linked to our subscription was rejected on

the grounds that the ATC has to budget and a varying contribution would give them financial difficulties. Brian Nicolle, as an ATC committee member, assured the meeting that our contribution is ring fenced for flying training. There had been a period in the recent past when this had not been the case.

The proposal: *That the membership accept a Committee recommendation that this Meeting approves a grant of €400 to the Akrotiri Air Training Corps supporting their access to Flying Training.* was voted on.

Proposer: Mike Humphrey **Seconder:** Rick Willey **Vote:** Unanimous

ITEM 8. Annual subscription The Honorary Treasurer introduced the item by stating:_'Subscriptions have remained at €20 for some six years. It is time for an increase, which would take effect from next year's AGM.' After discussion, including a suggestions that the figure could be €30, or levied this year,

The proposal: *That the annual subscription for Full and Associate members shall be raised to €25, with effect from the 2022 AGM* was voted on.

Proposer: Mike Humphrey **Seconder:** James Heath **Vote:** Unanimous

ITEM 9 Change to the ACA Cyprus Constitution Clause 7 (1) The Honorary Treasurer introduced the item by stating: 'The ACA Constitution includes, inter alia, an Associate Membership category; members in this category presently have no voting rights, although they pay the same annual subscription as full members and are entitled to fill committee posts (other than Chairman). The proposal seeks to remove this anomaly and grant Associate Members voting rights.' A lively discussion ensued; a proposal from the floor that Associate members should not be permitted to vote on changes to the constitution was defeated. The proposal was voted on and initially defeated. After discussion under the next item, the proposal was voted on again, and

The proposal: *That the ACA Cyprus Constitution Clause 7 shall be amended to grant Associate Members the same voting rights as Full members* was voted on.

Proposer: Mike Humphrey **Seconder:** Rick Willey **Vote:** Unanimous

ITEM 10 Change to the ACA Cyprus Constitution Clause 7 (2) The Hon Secretary introduced this item by stating: 'The number of Full Members of the ACA has been in steady decline for many years; the reasons include a sustained reduction in the number of potential recruits from the armed forces, and the incomprehensible reduction in the number of qualified retirees choosing a life in the sun. If our numbers are to remain at a level at which the ACA Cyprus continues to be a viable organisation, the proportion of Associate to Full members should be increased . This Committee recommends a radical increase to a number equal to but not exceeding the number of Full members. Associate members would not be refused renewal of membership should the proportion change.' A lively and somewhat chaotic discussion ensued. A proposal that the original proposal should be voted on with a reduced percentage was defeated The original proposal was voted on and defeated.

Finally, the amended proposal: *That the ACA Cyprus Constitution Clause 7 shall be amended to increase the permitted proportion of Associate Members to 70% of Full Members.* was voted on.

Proposer: Rick Willey **Seconder:** Mike Humphrey **Vote:** Unanimous
ITEM 11 **Change to the ACA Cyprus Constitution Clause 7 (3)**

The proposal:

That the ACA Cyprus Constitution Clause 7 shall be amended to allow Associate members to be elected Chairman, provided they have previously served at least two years in another committee post was withdrawn by the proposer.

Proposer: James Heath **Seconder:** Mike Humphrey **Vote:** N/A

ITEM 12 **Change to the ACA Cyprus Constitution Clause 7 (4)** The Hon Chairman introduced the item by stating: 'This committee suggests that the criteria for admission to Associate membership of the ACA Cyprus be relaxed to include military experience, or an ability to further the aims of the ACA, in addition to the existing criteria.' After discussion, the meeting accepted the committee's arguments.

The proposal: *That the criteria for selection as an Associate member in the ACA Cyprus Constitution Clause 7 shall be amended to allow admission to people with military experience, or an ability to further the aims of the ACA, in addition to the existing criteria* was voted on.

Proposer: James Heath **Seconder:** Mike Humphrey **Vote:** Unanimous

ITEM 13. **Election of Association Officers for 2021** The Honorary Chairman then handed the chair of the meeting to a former chairman, Brian Nicolle, for the election of the Association's Officers for 2021. After the obligatory humorous story, a brief summary of his career from the prospective new Hon Secretary, and there being no other members wishing to stand, the Committee was elected individually with a unanimous vote in favour in each case:

Proposed by: Seconderd by:

Chairman	Rick Willey	James Heath	Mike Humphrey
Hon Secretary	Tony Davenport	Rick Willey	James Heath
Hon Treasurer	Mike Humphrey	Rick Willey	James Heath

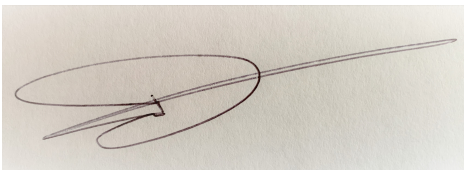
The newly elected and re-elected Committee members then took their places at the top table. After a brief speech of thanks from the new Hon Chairman, the meeting resumed.

ITEM 14. **Outline Programme for 2021** The former Hon Secretary had circulated a provisional calendar for 2021. See the copy of the new Hon Chairman's speech at The meeting appeared accepting of the programme without discussion or a vote.

ITEM 15. Any Other Business The Hon Chairman drew the meeting's attention to the December Christmas lunch at the Secret Valley Golf Resort on 15 December.

ITEM 16. Date, Time and Venue for the Next Meeting The next AGM is scheduled for Tuesday 2 November 2021 at the Officers' Mess, Episkopi.

ITEM 17. Closure of Meeting There being no other business, the Hon Chairman declared the meeting closed at 1243.



TONY DAVENPORT
Honorary Secretary

Date: 10 November 2020

Approved:

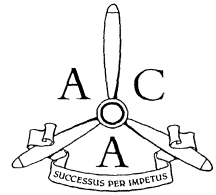
RICK WILLEY
Honorary Chairman

Date:

Annexes:

- A. AGM2021 Voting Members Attending.
- B. AGM2021 Members' Apologies.
- C. AGM2021 Hon Treasurer's Report.
- D. AGM2021 Hon Chairman's Report.
 - Appendix 1. ACA Calendar 2020 Analysis.
 - Appendix 2. ACA Provisional Calendar 2021.
- E. AGM2021 New Hon Chairman's Address.

THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION
(CYPRUS)

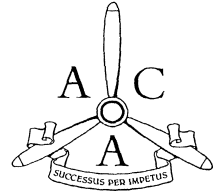


ANNEX A

AGM 2021 VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING

Chris Coleman
Roger Creegan
Francis Haggerty
James Heath
Mike Humphrey
Ake Lindstroem
Terry Mitchell
Brian Nicolle
David Richmond
Jeremy Seavers
Nigel Voute
Rick Willey
Total 12

THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION (CYPRUS)



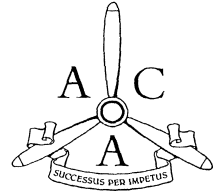
ANNEX B

AGM 2021 MEMBERS' APOLOGIES

Steve Baines
Janet Bureau (Hon)
Eileen Carter (Hon)
Julie Cochrane (Hon)
John Daniel (Assoc)
Brian Hopkins
Fred Luebbe
Peter Plowright
Bryan Tolladay
Frank Watt

Total 6 Full, 1 Associate,
3 Honorary

THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION (CYPRUS)



ANNEX C

AGM 2021 HON TREASURER'S REPORT

Once again I have to report a loss over the operating period, this time covering the 1st November 2019 to 31st October 2020. Last year I informed you that the previous accounting period showed a loss that reflected the change in our accounting period. The loss shown during the period of November 2019 and October 2020 was €676.65. Our income of €2400.65 was exceeded by our expenditure of €3077.30. In reporting this expenditure I would wish to draw your attention to a number of debits to our account. In January 2020 we purchased a projector that was on special offer for the sum of €299. Over the last 4 years a number of speakers have requested access to visual aid tools. We have not always been able to beg or borrow projectors and in anticipation of a number of speakers requesting access during the 2020 Luncheon calendar it was decided that this purchase would be an asset. We also increased our donation to the No 1 Overseas Air Training Corp unit based at RAF Akrotiri by €100, an expenditure we could afford at the time. We are all well aware of Covid. I estimate that we lost about €200 of income because of cancelled luncheons and 2 raffle opportunities. Yes, we did trade at a loss. However, the losses were largely due to the manner in which we operate. Added to our expenditure that which was incurred through the sad demise of some of our members and a memorial donation in memory of the late Ken Spargo our financial status is certainly not disappointing.

We are moving through a period of great uncertainty and a level of caution that particularly affects the age group the majority of us belong to. Our Association is now fighting to survive on a new front that directly impinges on our mutual interests and our cherished social gatherings. Of course, all our fund raising, membership or otherwise, helps the Committee to project its social functions as reflected in our Constitution and as requested or approved by you during our Meetings. The loss we incurred during the last year is not critical but must be heeded. Your Committee spent considerable time discussing our annual subscription fee. It was commonly accepted that an increase of subscription was justified. I believe the last increase was over 6 years ago. Nevertheless, we all agreed that before we increase the level of subscription we must sensibly counterbalance the discussion with the impact of our lost months of fraternity. The upshot was that for this coming year we would peg the subscription at the current level of €20. An Agenda item has been submitted to seek approval to raise the subscription to €25 for the year 2020-2021.

The UK presence of ACA Branches barely survives. Our Agenda includes items that require your frank views. Given that our Association in UK, but more importantly in Cyprus, is shrinking I would ask all members to offer any proposition for presentation at

our November 2021 AGM that may govern the dispersal of our funds. Successful propositions would be actioned in the unfortunate case of the Cyprus ACA having to cease operation. Military charities and the ATC would undoubtedly be proposed beneficiaries.

One further business item. A volunteer to sign off my audit sheet.

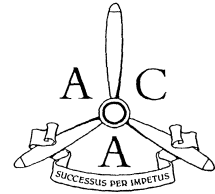
In closing, please ensure that you settle your Membership account either through me or with a Bank Transfer following our website instructions. Also, a reminder to pay your luncheon costs to the Taverna hosts.

Footnote: The overall loss has been reduced by €400 because No1 (Overseas) Air Training Corps has yet to cash their 2020 cheque.

Mike Humphrey

Honorary Treasurer

THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION (CYPRUS)



ANNEX D

AGM 2021 HON CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very good morning to you all and thank you very much for coming during these strange and restricted times caused by the pandemic of COVID 19. The past year began normally but was curtailed by the lock down during the Spring and we have only recently got back onto a more normal footing. Out of the scheduled 10 events we have held 7 this year. Nonetheless, I commend to you all the success of your Committee over the past year, who have worked tirelessly, together with all the volunteers, to produce a successful programme of events for everyone to enjoy. I include my own thanks to them both, for their support and forbearance.

Early in the lockdown, Brian's wife Jean Hopkins sadly passed away, but we were able to obtain special dispensation, largely thanks to sterling efforts from Rick, for Brian to drive the coffin across the border and return from the funeral at the Military Cemetery in Dhekelia, where she was interred in a double grave. Unfortunately, very few members were allowed to attend the ceremony, though she was given a special burial service from the Padre at RAF Akrotiri, who arrived at the scene by helicopter. Later in the lockdown Sir Michael Beavis, our previous President of the ACA here in Cyprus, sadly passed away. Again only a few of us were able to attend the funeral service in Pissouri, which was also attended by the Chief of Staff and the then very new Stn Cdr from Akrotiri.

We began with the Christmas dance last December that was held in the Aquamare hotel, which was very successful and greatly enjoyed by those who attended but unfortunately, we struggled to achieve a critical mass and I suggest, with the present standing of membership, we will find it difficult to mount such an event again in the future. The Christmas function this year aims to provide a meal of Christmas fare in an attractive setting at a reasonable price for those of us, who plan to remain on the island this Christmas, Covid restrictions permitting.

The lunch last January, however, was well attended at the Hillview restaurant, as was the following event in Feb, before we had to halt everything during the lockdown. Attendance at the lunches varied from 19 to 31 members and partners throughout the year. We hosted 3 guest speakers: Dr Mike Heap, who spoke about building an atomic bomb, Sqn Ldr Al Ross, the outgoing OC 84 Sqn Boss on current RAF Ops at Akrotiri both during and after the lockdown and Sqn Ldr Steve Hemsley.

We began again in June at a new venue in Tala hosted by Tony Davenport, which was very well supported and have successfully held lunches over the island ever since with good attendance

levels. There were some inevitable changes to the initial published programme and I apologise for the preponderance of Tuesdays on the calendar if you found that a source of irritation.

May I thank all of you who have volunteered to organize a lunch during the past year and remind everyone that we rely on the participation of all our members to help continue the success of our Association.

The Battle of Britain celebration, it's 80th year this last September, which you may remember was due to be held in the UK with a week of events organized by our Hon Sec, Rick Willey culminating with the flying display at Duxford, unfortunately had to be cancelled due to ongoing restrictions there. Nonetheless, we were able to hold an excellent lunch at the Londros taverna in Timi with a guest speaker Sqn Ldr Steve Hemsley from RAF Akrotiri, Sqn Ldr Ops to us but now called the Executive Officer for Operations, who talked us through the events of that momentous time. The last event in Oct was again held at the Hillview, which proved to be a popular choice once more with 43 diners.

During the year and recent past, we have said farewell to Tim Wheatley, John Lay, Frank Watt and Steve Baines, all of whom were Full (aircrew) members of the Association. They have returned to their families in the UK and Spain. Brian Hopkins and his band of brothers from the north remain members but are stuck on the other side of the border in the northern areas of the island. Thus, we are reduced to some 23 active full members. When I first came to Cyprus and joined the Aircrew Association the numbers then were over 65 retired aircrew and there was a problem inviting friends to come along to functions, because of overbooking.

You will recall at the last AGM, the Committee did flag up the issues of reducing membership but since then, we have only been able to recruit one new aircrew member very recently and we are already at the maximum allowed under the Constitution rules for Associate membership. Yet all the events we hold do remain popular, with the exception perhaps of the Christmas dance, with good attendance albeit with a large contingent of guests.

It is my view, as your Chairman, that we do have a future to look forward to and it is also the view of your Committee. All of us, I think, would be very reluctant to watch this Association wither and die as has happened to many branches in the UK and elsewhere. The main Aircrew Association was closed in 2011 and the Archive Trust of the ACA was itself wound up this summer. Before I introduce some of the proposed changes your Committee recommend to secure our future, I would ask you to consider some of the changes that have occurred and are still being instigated within the military of today.

Firstly, you will recall that a recent Commander of the British Forces in Cyprus came from the RAF Regiment. In my own career, I came across the RAF Regiment when I was training Officer Cadets at RAF Henlow and a fine group of chaps they were, whom I quickly grew to respect. Secondly, I would emphasise that the attitude of the modern Air Force of today, with its greatly reduced numbers compared to what most of us are used to, is the concept of teamwork and everyone working together to achieve the common objective. Not only have the different sexes been integrated successfully into all aspects of the Service but so have the different branches of the Royal Air Force to produce an effective team, that can still achieve its goals of projecting airpower across the globe.

I believe that we should remain a military Association that encompasses some civilian aircrew as well but opens our doors to other branches of the service, who have contributed to the outcome of air operations. Teamwork certainly contributed to the success of the Falklands campaign and the aftermath, that transformed the standing of the military with the general public back home and I am sure it did also in the two Gulf wars.

It's time, therefore, that the Aircrew Association, which began following the bombing campaign over Germany in WWII to embrace the modern Air Force in all its aspects, if we wish to grow our numbers back to a more sustainable level. You may feel initially that the proposals dilute to the purpose of the ACA, but we all must accept change to thrive and we all know that nothing in this world is ever static. Indeed, there are others out there, who would love to join our ACA if they were able qualify for membership. Moreover, the Paphos branch of the RAFA has now closed so we remain the sole organisation for veterans from the Royal Air Force in this area of Cyprus.

You will hear more of our proposals shortly, which together with the notes attached to the Agenda will we hope, help to secure our future by creating an Association that is relevant to the society we support and reflects the modern reality of the R.A.F. Then new members will find they can relate to us as well. If we do not take positive action now, we will all grow old together and leave nothing behind for others to enjoy!

That concludes my report.

APPENDIX 1 TO ANNEX D, AGM 2021 HON CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

ACA Calendar 2020 Analysis

		Event	Location	Turnout*	Organiser
November 2019	Tuesday 5 2019	AGM	Episkopi Officers' Mess	41,0	Brian Nicolle
December 2019	Thursday 6 2019	Christmas Dinner Dance	Aquamare Hotel Paphos		James Heath
January	Thursday 30	Lunch, Speaker	Hill View Pissouri	30,18	James Heath
February	Wednesday 26	Lunch, raffle	Mandria Fish & Chips	19,5	Carol Willey
March	Cancelled				
April	Cancelled				
May	Cancelled				
June	Thursday 25	Lunch, Speaker	Martika's Kitchen Tala	31,13	Tony Davenport
July	Friday 17	Lunch	Nicholas Taverna Anogyra	21,6	Brian Nicolle
September	Tuesday 15	Lunch, Speaker	Londos Perasma Timi	22,10	Nikki Eldred
October	Tuesday 13	Lunch	Hill View Pissouri	29,16	James Heath
November	Tuesday 3	AGM & Lunch	Episkopi Officers' Mess		Brian Nicolle
December	Tuesday 15	Festive Lunch	Secret Valley Golf Club		Committee

* Turnout: Members & Partners, Guests

Average Turnout – Members & Partners 25, Guests 11

Median Turnout – Members & Partners 25, Guests 11

Best Turnout 48

Lowest Turnout 23

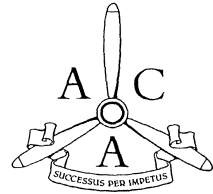
(excludes AGM and Dinner Dance)

APPENDIX 2 TO ANNEX D, AGM 2021 HON CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

ACA Provisional Calendar 2021

		Event	Location	Organizer
January	Tuesday 26			
February	Wednesday 24			
March	Tuesday 23			
April	Tuesday 27			
May	Wednesday 26	Lunch	Martika's Kitchen, Tala	Tony Davenport
June	Thursday 24			
July	Tuesday 20			
August				
September	Tuesday 7			
October	Wednesday 6			
November	Thursday 11	AGM & Lunch		
December	Tuesday 7	Christmas Do		

THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION (CYPRUS)



ANNEX E

AGM 2021 NEW HON CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Thank you all for showing your confidence in your new committee by electing us unopposed.

I'm not sure how many of you are aware of my service credentials; I am one of only a tiny handful of fast jet pilots (Jeremy...) in a field of truckies and navigators. I was fortunate to fly the Buccaneer in the RAF for four tours, as well as the Canberra, and I had a short tour instructing on the Hawk. Never having had a ground tour, I wound up as a Squadron Leader as CFI on the Buccaneer OCU, and finally as a Flight Commander on 12 Sqn. I left after nearly 20 years to fly much bigger jets from a much more comfortable seat.

I'd like to thank Mike for agreeing to continue to serve as Treasurer, and Tony for stepping up as Hon Secretary. It's good to find an Associate member getting involved in the running of the Association.

I've already seen Tony in action in other environments and I'm confident that he'll be an outstanding Hon. Sec. Tony, was an operational logistician with 34 years of service in the national, NATO and international arena, both home and abroad, including Northern Ireland, the Falklands, Balkans, Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Following his retirement as a Group Captain, he spent a further 4 years in Saudi Arabia as a Command, Control, Communications and Computing systems Subject Matter Expert.

I'd also like to thank my predecessor as Chairman, James, for his support over the last three years. I wish him a long and happy retirement, and I look forward to his and Maggie's continued presence at future lunches.

Now to business. I firmly believe that the decisions made today were essential to secure the future of the ACA Cyprus. As James has already pointed out, the supply of potential new full, military aircrew, members has shrunk dramatically over the years. I joined the RAF in the same year the Red Arrows was formed; had the Reds shrunk in the same proportion as the RAF as a whole, they'd now be scratching around to put up a pair. The fast-jet fleet is now entirely single-seat, and aircraft of other fleets are operated by smaller crews, with the elimination of entire aircrew categories. And where they're choosing to retire is a mystery, although James and I found a Tornado navigator in Greece while sailing this summer. Meanwhile there are retired commercial pilots, and others, in Cyprus who wish they'd made the right career choice in their younger days and now have an opportunity to be associated with the coolest people on the Island.

Moving on...

Item 14 on the Agenda is the outline programme for next year. It is very much on the same lines as this year, and I would ask you to step forward and offer to organise a lunch, especially if you haven't arranged one before. All that's required is for you to select a restaurant of your choice and agree a menu with the management; all the administrative work will be handled by Tony (I'm not sure he realises that yet). If you can find an interesting speaker as well, all the better, and we now have the technology to display photos and Powerpoint presentations.

It's some time since we visited RAF Akrotiri, so we'll try to fit in a repeat in 2021, though it's less interesting now that the Red Arrows are no longer coming.

I don't propose to organise an ACA holiday next year, especially as everything is likely to be disrupted by the ongoing pandemic. This year's battlefield tour of Kent was poorly supported but would have been very interesting. Carol and I visited some of the sites on the projected itinerary, in exceptionally good weather, but disappointingly the highlight of the week, the Battle of Britain air display at Duxford, was cancelled with only a week's notice.

Does anyone have any comments or suggestions relating to the programme?

Now to Item 15 on the Agenda – any other business?

We have tickets here for next month's Christmas lunch at Secret Valley Golf Resort. They're €24, which is cost price, less a €4 discount for subs payers. As it seems likely the 'rule of 6' will still be in force, I suggest you buy six tickets now and organise your own tables, rather than let me mess up the seating plan.

Finally, Item 16... The next AGM will hopefully be at Epi on Tuesday 2 November 2021 at 1100.

The meeting is now closed, at 1243. Enjoy your lunch.