



MCF-A ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

1. The MCF AGM was held at Campbell Park Offices on Tuesday 19th November 2019. The quorum was confirmed with 18 members (12 in attendance and 6 by telecon). The meeting was opened by Dan Sutherland, MCF Chairman at 1238 hrs, inviting Collin Acton to pray. The Agenda for the meeting is included as Annex A to these minutes.

Attendees

2. The following 16 members, excusing ranks, were present during the AGM:

Daniel Sutherland	Miloslav Velebir (telecon)	Russell Bielenberg
David Horton	Glenn Thomas (telecon)	Helen Bielenberg
David Coleman	Darren Jaensch	Alexander Long
Eric Bettanin (telecon)	Mark Willis	Remane DeSilver (telecon)
Julie Jaensch	James Leitch	
Collin Acton	Elmo Jacob	

Apologies

3. Apologies were received from the following MCF-A members:

Charles Thomlinson (proxy vote)	David Walker (proxy vote)	Andrea Davey
Ian Thomason (proxy vote)	Dan Fortune	Gary Lock
Douglas Randell (proxy vote)	Col Heslop	Lindsay Goodwin
Ian Sarah (proxy vote)	Christiaan Schulte (proxy vote)	Brenda Youse
Martin Fisher (proxy vote)	Patricia Hunt (postal vote)	Owen Davies
Thomas Colborne (proxy vote)	Steven Richards (postal vote)	Brenda Youse
Thomas Bielenberg (proxy vote)	Jacob Choi (postal vote)	Geoff Robertson (proxy vote)
Jim Wallace	Trish Hunt (postal vote)	Sam Hayes (proxy vote)
Paul Sheehan	Phil McMaster (proxy vote)	Jamie Van Heel
Mick Mumford	Paul Sheehan	

Previous Minutes

4. Copies of the previous minutes were distributed and the Chair provided a summary of key points. There were no issues raised on the previous minutes.



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5. Russell Bielenberg proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the 2018 AGM. This was seconded by David Horton and the motion was carried.

Chairman's Report

6. Dan Sutherland delivered the Chairman's Report, which is attached at Annex B.
7. Alexander Long proposed that the Chairman's report be accepted. The motion was seconded by Collin Acton and was carried.

Treasurer's Report

8. Eric Bettanin delivered the Treasurer's Report, which is attached at Annex C. The Auditor's report is attached as Annex D.
9. Dan Sutherland proposed that the Treasurer's report, inclusive of the audit, be accepted. The motion was seconded by Mark Willis and was carried.
10. The draft budget attached at Annex E was presented and discussed. MCF expects to have a budget deficit of \$1,318 over financial year 19/20. David Horton proposed that the budget be accepted. The motion was seconded by David Coleman and was carried.
11. The meeting expressed its thanks to the auditor Prabh Singh for continuing to conduct audits free of charge and agreed to request him to conduct the audit for the 19/20 financial year.

Administrator's Report

12. Julie Jaensch presented her Administrator's report, which is attached at Annex F.
13. Dan Sutherland proposed that the Administrator's report be accepted. The motion was seconded by James Leitch and was carried.

Election of Office Bearers

14. The Chairman declared all positions on the MCF Council open. The following people were elected as office bearers:

Position	Nominated person	Moved	Seconded by	Carried
Chairman	CMDR Dan Sutherland (2018 cont)	Helen Bielenberg	Alexander Long	Yes
Vice Chair	CAPT Jacob Choi (new)	Helen Bielenberg	Eric Bettanin	Yes
Secretary	Mr David Coleman (2017 cont)	Dan Sutherland	David Horton	Yes



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Treasurer	MAJ Eric Bettanin (2018 cont)	Dan Sutherland	Alexander Long	Yes
Chaplains rep	Chaplain Mark Willis (new)	James Leitch	Darren Jaensch	Yes
Members rep	Mr Sam Hayes (2009 cont)	Mark Willis	Dan Sutherland	Yes
Members rep	MAJ Geoff Robertson (2013 cont)	Mark Willis	David Horton	Yes
Members rep	WO2 Darren Thomas (2018 cont)	Alexander long	Eric Bettanin	Yes

15. The following postal votes (of 17 total (some individual votes given to chairman as proxy)) were received for Council positions:

- a. CMDR Daniel Sutherland as Chairman – 4
- b. CAPT Jacob Choi as Vice Chairman – 1
- c. Mr David Coleman as Secretary – 4
- d. MAJ Eric Bettanin as Treasurer – 4
- e. Chaplain Mark Willis as Chaplain’s Representative – 4
- f. Mr Sam Hays as Member’s Representative – 4
- g. MAJ Geoff Robertson as Member’s Representative – 4
- h. WO2 Darren Thomas as Member’s Representative – 4

16. The following proxy votes were votes accorded to the Chair - 13

17. Non-council positions noted and thanked by the Chair were:

- a. Webmaster – Jono Thow
- b. Crossfire Editor – David Coleman
- c. Prayer Coordinator – Brendan Pell
- d. Media Outreach Resources Officer – vacant
- e. Deployment Coordinator – vacant

MCF Mission and Objectives

18. The Chairman reported on the Council’s intention to review and amend, if necessary, the MCF-A Constitution prior to the next AGM. He noted that the Constitution was in need of some minor administrative amendments, but that it would



also be beneficial to revise the statement of faith to make it more inclusive of a greater range of Christian denominations.

19. Dan Sutherland moved that; a committee of up to 6 people be appointed by Council to review the MCF-A Constitution and statement of faith, to make recommendations to be circulated to members in time such that they could be voted on at the 2020 AGM. The motion was seconded by Darren Jaensch and was carried.

Other Business

20. Presentations were made to Collin Acton as the outgoing Chaplain's Rep and David Horton as the outgoing Vice Chairman to thank them for their respective service to the MCF-A and its membership.

21. Russell and Helen Bielenberg were recognised before the meeting and presented with Lifetime Honourary Centurion membership for their faithful service to MCF-A since 1972.

22. Helen Bielenberg spoke of the Bible Society resources available as well as their visit to the MCFs in Fiji and Tonga. Helen concluded by thanking the meeting for MCF-A's support over the years.

23. The Chairman invited Mark Willis to close the meeting in prayer at 1332 hrs.

DM Sutherland
CMDR, RAN
Chairman MCF-A

17 Dec 19

Annexes

- A. AGM Agenda 2019
- B. Chairman's Report
- C. Treasurer's Report
- D. Auditor's report
- E. Budget 2019/20
- F. Administrator's Report



ANNEX A

AGM AGENDA 2019

**MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP OF AUSTRALIA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019
CP4-5-004 – 19 Nov 2019**

Agenda

1. 1230 -1232 Prayer and Confirmation of quorum
2. 1232 - 1235 Previous Minutes
3. 1235 -1245 Chairman's Report
4. 1245 -1300 Treasurer's Report
5. 1300 - 1305 Administrator's Report
6. 1305 - 1320 Election of Office Bearers
7. 1320 - 1325 MCF Mission and Objectives for 2020 and beyond
8. 1325 -1330 General Business and closing prayer

After the AGM, all are welcome to meet at the Campbell Park Offices café. Exit the security entrance on the ground floor. Follow the path along the length of the building through the glass doors. No pass required for café.



ANNEX B

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AGM 2019

MCF has this year sought to build the kingdom of God in the ADO through creating opportunities for Defence Christians to share, encourage and be encouraged in their faith. We have also worked to support, encourage and equip MCF members and worked with Chaplains and with other Forum of Christian Military Ministry partners in achieving this aim.

We have continued to implement Operation Fruitful Tree, our strategic plan. We are now looking towards the future through a process of drafting and then implementing an MCF Concept of Operations (CONOPS).

Julie Jaensch has continued in her role as the Staff Worker, our paid person who enables us to meet our ministry objectives as laid out in Operation Fruitful Tree (and the future CONOPS). She has indicated her willingness to continue to serve in that role as she feels God's leading in it.

Content has been collated for a Crossfire magazine which is expected to be released early 2020.

This year we sponsored the 9th National Day of Prayer for Defence, which took place around 13 Apr 19. 25 groups supported our Defence organisation, leadership, deployed members and their families through prayer, both around the nation and overseas. Next year we are looking forward to more broadly involve the body of Christ in Australia through national prayer with a Defence focus as we celebrate 10 years of this event.

This year saw not two, but three significant social Defence Christians' events held around the country. A second Melbourne Defence Christians' Dinner was held on 06 Sep 19, again ably organised by WO2 Darren Thomas and this time with Dave Fuller (a former school chaplain and current life member of the God Squad Motorcycle Club) sharing his experiences with the 37 people who attended. This fantastic event featured multiple repeat attendees from last year as well as many new faces and looks set to become a very welcome permanent fixture in the MCF calendar.

The Canberra Defence Christians' Dinner on 27 Sep 19 was again held at the Academy Cadets' Mess at ADFA, a fantastic venue that enabled us to enjoy our shared heart for, and service in, Defence and was particularly conducive to attendance by trainee ADF officers. Chaplain Gary Stone shared some powerful and moving examples of God's love and grace through his own experiences in decades of service to the nation. 118 Defence Christians were privileged to attend the event, which was organised by an outstanding committee headed by Brett Gallagher (from Red Shield Defence Services) and which included representation from several FCMM ministries.

The inaugural Top End BBQ was arranged by AB Luke Eglinton, who did an excellent job in providing a start to social get-togethers by MCF members and other Defence Christians in Darwin. In true Darwin style, it was far less formal than its southern counterparts but the 50+ folks who attended on 24 Aug 19 (including many US Marines based in Darwin on exercise) enjoyed the opportunity for food and fellowship just as much.



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The annual FCMM leaders' meeting took place on 25 Sep 19 in Canberra, and included representatives from 8 military ministries as well as three representatives from the Bible Society. It was an encouraging time of sharing where all provided updates on their ministry activities and challenges, and we prayed together for each. At the meeting the Bible Society made it very clear that they are keen to continue to support Defence Christian ministry in Australia and invited suggestions on how to do so. Opportunities for further cooperation and coordinated effort between FCMM partners were also discussed for next year.

As we adjusted to a new Council in 2019, much of our effort was invested in communications with our members and supporters and in the development of a strategy to manage this going forward. In addition to personal communications from Council to our donors and Centurions, we have also sought to have the MCF leadership personally represented at all of the major events. This has gone hand in hand with the Staff Worker visiting MCF groups in different parts of the country to encourage them and seek any feedback on how we can better support them in building God's kingdom in the ADO. Increasing our footprint and "brand awareness" is also another area of focus moving forward; this has commenced through our financial support to chapel services at ADFA and running a Faith Under Fire course there (many thanks to LAC Brendon Lukin for organising the latter).

Unfortunately we were required to cancel the planned Seminar this year due to very low attendees (only four people signed up to attend, apart from those organising or speaking). From this it seems clear that this particular element of our ministry may have run its course and we will look at other events to focus our effort and resources on in 2020.

Overall, our membership base has remained mostly static, with 701 members and associates (a gain of 17), and an extra 192 e-News subscribers (a gain of 47) since the last AGM. Encouragingly, we have welcomed 7 new Centurions to our ranks since the last AGM (and 1 asked to be released due to personal circumstances) – praise God for those individuals and their willingness to commit to serving God through the ministry in this way. I encourage those of you who are not MCF members to join us in a network of Christ followers with a heart for Defence; to our members, thank you for your continued support and I would like to highlight the opportunity to commit financially and in prayer to aid the work of MCF as Centurions. It is an exciting time as we examine what we do, why we do it and work to keep our ministry relevant, uplifting and useful to Defence Christians.

Next year you can expect to see us continue our social events, the NDOP4D and look to identify opportunities to work with other Christian ministries to build God's kingdom in the ADO and support Defence Christians around Australia and overseas. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the MCF Executive members – David Horton (Vice Chair), David Coleman (Secretary) and Eric Bettanin (Treasurer) – as well as the wider Council, including Collin Acton, Sam Hays, Darren Thomas and Geoff Robertson. Thank you all for your contributions to MCF. In particular I would like to thank PCHAP Collin Acton, RAN for his service as the Chaplains' Representative and warmly welcome PCHAP-AF Mark Willis to the role – welcome on board! To Prabh Singh (our auditor), Jono Thow (webmaster), Brendan Pell (Prayer Coordinator) and most especially to our Representatives and contacts, a massive thank you – without you all this ministry would simply be faith without deeds! Finally, to our



Patron: COL Mick Mumford, CSC

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Staff Worker Julie Jaensch, who more than any other individual person has been the “Engine Room” of MCF, a heartfelt thanks and well done.

Finally, I would like to wish all Defence Christians, our supporters, and families a blessed, safe Christmas and 2020. May God bless and go with you.

CMDR Dan Sutherland
MCF-A Chairman

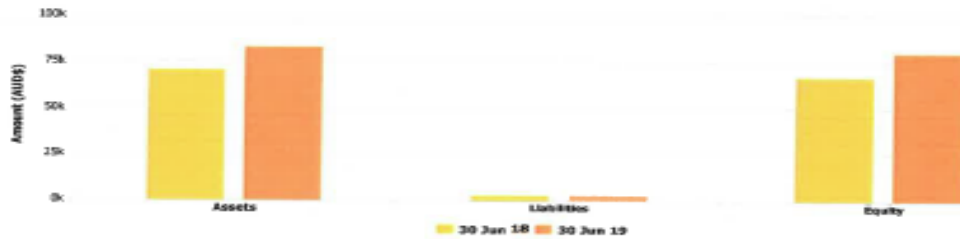


MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

ANNEX C

TREASURER'S REPORT AGM 2019

Military Christian Fellowship of Australia Balance Sheet



As at date: 30 Jun 19, Created: 18 Oct 19 03:39 PM, Tags: -- All Tags --

Assets	30 Jun 18	30 Jun 19	Change	% Change
1. I-Saver account 20380708	13,621.24	11,523.08	-2,098.16	-15.40
2. National Access 20514572 (to be closed)	9,263.21	2,651.83	-6,611.38	-71.37
3. Payments 20753492 (to be closed)	125.05	0.00	-125.05	-100.00
4. Term Deposit - 9 Month - 171539441 (Maturity Date: 24/01/2020)	11,528.89	14,000.00	2,471.11	21.43
5. Term Deposit - 10 Month - Prom Cert 171056678 (Maturity Date: 23/11/2019)	18,089.75	18,503.60	413.85	2.29
6. Term Deposit - 6 Month - 171552393 - (Maturity Date: 21/09/2019)		14,000.00	14,000.00	
7. AMCF saver 20412984	4,635.94	8,653.29	3,997.35	85.85
8. Term Deposit - 9 months (AMCF) 171542977 (Maturity Date: 26/08/2019)	13,450.14	13,681.52	231.38	1.72
MCF Credit Card (To be closed)	67.12	0.00	-67.12	-100.00
Total Assets	70,801.34	83,013.32	12,211.98	17.25
Liabilities	30 Jun 18	30 Jun 19	Change	% Change
Employee PAYG Payable	2,026.00	2,590.00	564.00	27.84
Employee SGC Super Payable	1,345.98	0.00	-1,345.98	-100.00
Total Liabilities	3,371.98	2,590.00	-781.98	-23.19
Net Assets	67,429.36	80,423.32	12,993.96	19.27
Equity	30 Jun 18	30 Jun 19	Change	% Change
Current Earnings	67,429.36	12,993.96	-54,435.40	-80.73
Previous Financial Years (Retained) Earnings		67,429.36	67,429.36	
Total Equity	67,429.36	80,423.32	12,993.96	19.27



MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Profit & Loss Summary - Saasu

18/10/19, 3:41 pm

Military Christian Fellowship of Australia Profit & Loss Summary

Created: 18 Oct 19, Accounting: Cash, Compared to: ---None---, Compared to budget: FY18-19 Budget, Tag: ---All Tags---, Percentage performance vs total income: No, Zero balances: No

01 Jul 18 - 30 Jun 19

Income	Budget	01 Jul 18 to 30 Jun 19	Variance	Progress
				100%
General Income				
- AMCF Trivia Night Fundraiser	1,356.31	1,356.31	-	
- Genesis Foundation Grant	10,000.00	10,000.00	-	
- Interest	1,000.00	873.95	-2.61%	
- Donations and Gifts (inc Grants)	40,000.00	41,211.84	-10.41%	
AMCF Grants and donations	0.00	5,000.00	-	
	58,356.31	58,542.10	+0.32%	
Income from Sales				
- AMCF Conference Tickets	11,459.06	11,579.86	+1.04%	
- Tickets, Canberra Dinner	10,627.25	10,627.25	-	
- Tickets, Melbourne Dinner	2,043.90	2,043.90	-	
	24,130.21	24,250.21	+0.50%	
	82,486.52	82,792.31	+0.37%	
				100%
Cost of Sales				
- AMCF Conference/Seminar	10,261.98	9,741.48	-5.07%	
- Canberra Dinner Costs	6,726.53	6,726.53	-	
- Melbourne Dinner Costs	1,998.00	1,998.00	-	
	18,986.51	18,466.51	-2.74%	
Gross Profit		64,325.80		
				100%
Expense				
Administration Costs				
- Bank Fees	0.00	2.50	-	
- Office and Administration	1,200.00	467.50	-61.65%	
- Thank you Gifts	1,000.00	190.24	-80.98%	
- Travel (8x\$500)	4,000.00	2,400.51	-39.99%	
	6,200.00	3,060.75	-50.63%	
AMCF				
AMCF Travel (non-seminar)	0.00	1,950.00	-	
	0.00	1,950.00	-	
Marketing Costs				
- Merchandise, marketing and promotional items	1,000.00	698.00	-30.20%	
- Web Site Hosting and Maintenance	1,718.14	427.80	-75.12%	
	2,718.14	1,125.80	-58.58%	
Ministry Resources				
- Ministry Resources	1,000.00	64.00	-93.60%	



MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Profit & Loss Summary - Saasu

18/10/19, 3:41 pm

	1,000.00	64.00	-93.60%
Personnel Costs			
- Insurance (Workers Compensation)	595.95	676.22	+11.46%
	595.95	676.22	+11.47%
Tithing			
- External Ministry Support (\$300 per ministry)	4,600.00	3,594.62	-21.87%
	4,600.00	3,594.02	-21.87%
- Crossfire Printing (One Digital/One Printed)	1,400.00	0.00	-
- Media campaign / advertising / content creation (Allocate to Genesis)	5,000.00	0.00	-
- Small Groups / leaders / resources / training	2,000.00	0.00	-
- Website Development (BrownBox)	1,850.00	0.00	-
Employee Base Pay	35,851.20	37,631.56	+4.96%
Employee SGC Super	3,405.86	3,189.49	-6.30%
	53,597.06	40,821.05	-23.71%
	68,621.15	51,371.84	-25.20%
Operating Profit		12,993.96	
Other Income	0.00	0.00	-
Other Expense	0.00	0.00	-
Net Profit		12,993.96	

Gross Profit = Income - Cost of Sales
 Operating Profit = Gross Profit - Expenses
 Net Profit = Operating Profit + Other Income - Other Expenses
 Please note that this report shows amounts excluding tax.



AUDITOR'S REPORT

Audit Report

Military Christian Fellowship of Australia

For the Period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019



MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

1 PURPOSE OF THE AUDIT

The purpose of the Military Christian Fellowship of Australia (MCF) audit was to objectively evaluate financial documents provided to me by Eric Bettarin. These documents included various receipts, MCF Profit and Loss Summary, Defence Bank statements, and monthly bank reconciliation prepared by MCF.

The audit did not examine current practices of account keeping and was purely based on documents on hand.

2 SCOPE OF THE AUDIT

The Audit was conducted by Prabh Singh of 4 Middle Street, Sutton and covered the financial period of 12 months starting from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019. Key scope was to provide an opinion as to whether the accounts prepared provide a true and accurate reflection of current financial position of the Military Christian Fellowship of Australia.

3 AUDIT SUMMARY

3.1 Method of Performing the Audit

- Records provided were reviewed with random check on deposits.
- Email discussion on the accounts provided.
- Expenses listed on bank reconciliation were cross referenced with bank issued statements.

4 AUDIT CONCLUSION

I have audited the financial records of Military Christian Fellowship of Australia for the period of 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 and in my opinion the financial records provide a fair view of the current financial position of the Military Christian Fellowship of Australia.


PRABH SINGH
23/8/19



Military Christian Fellowship of Australia Budget FY 2019/2020

18/10/19, 3:45 pm

Military Christian Fellowship of Australia - Budget FY 2019/2020

Income	Budget
- Interest	1,500.00
- Tickets, Canberra Dinner	11,000.00
- Tickets, Melbourne Dinner	2,200.00
- Donations and Gifts (inc Grants)	43,000.00
	57,700.00
Cost of Sales	
- Canberra Dinner Costs	10,000.00
- Melbourne Dinner Costs	2,000.00
	12,000.00
Expense	
- Accounting Software	440.00
- Bank Fees	5.00
- Constituent Relationship Management Software	500.00
- Crossfire Printing (One Digital/One Printed)	1,400.00
- External Ministry Support (\$300 per ministry)	1,800.00
- Insurance (Workers Compensation)	570.00
- Merchandise, marketing and promotional items	1,000.00
- Ministry Resources	2,000.00
- Office and Administration	300.00
- Thank you Gifts	300.00
- Training course fees	200.00
- Travel (8x\$500)	4,000.00
- Web Site Hosting and Maintenance	383.00
- Employee Base Pay	29,333.00
- Employee SGC Super	2,787.00
	47,018.00
Budgeted Surplus/Deficit	-1,318.00



Administrators Report 2019

Greetings all,

Well, I've now been in this role by myself for just over 12mths. In some ways it feels like it's only been a couple of months as I'm still learning so much each day and there are still many of you I've not yet communicated with directly. I give thanks to God that we are still able to have an office at a Defence site, access to the DRN and Bases, and places where Christians are free to meet together within the ADO. God is good, and along with your thanks and praise prayers for these please continue to pray for your fellow Defence Christians, for those who don't yet know Christ as their Lord and Saviour and that MCF can maintain the access across Defence that it has.

If you have any questions about this report please contact me at

mcf.office@defence.gov.au

Membership

Due to the high tempo of work over the past 12mths with Dinners and the AMCF Conference in Brisbane, I am still working on having a better membership database. It is great that the membership continues to grow and a huge thank you to those of you who also contribute financially to MCF-A and those who spread the word about MCF. MCF-A gets no government funding so can only do what is funded through the generous donations of its members and the occasional grant like the support from the Bible Society. At end 31 October 2019 MCF-A had 701 ordinary and associate members, up 19 since last year, with an extra 192 e-news subscribers, up 47 since last year. The e-news currently goes out across Australia and overseas to 990 email addresses. (All of these figures are after a number of duplicate or old data was removed from figures reported last year.)

At present there are 53 Centurions (up 7 from last year's report)

Events

This year's National Day of Prayer was well supported with 25 groups taking part in services or prayer groups around Australia and overseas. Some Churches also took part and it is exciting to know it is now going international with a couple of other countries incorporating praying for the ADO, as well as for their own Defence Force and leaders in their country. (India and Canada) Early next year I will be sending out emails asking for support for next year's National Day of Prayer to be held on Saturday 28 March 2020, making this the 10th year of praying for the ADO.

There were two Defence Christians' Dinners this year as well as a BBQ. Special thanks to WO2 Darren Thomas for coordinating the Melbourne Dinner (37 in attendance), and to LS Luke Eglinton for organising the BBQ in Darwin, with over 50 people (including some USA Marines) attending at some time during the day. I encourage you to look at holding a Dinner, BBQ, Morning or Afternoon Tea or something similar in your area. It doesn't have to be big or fancy and is a great space for other Christians in the ADO to meet together or come along to find out more about MCF. Please email mcf.office@defence.gov.au to show your interest and for admin and other support.



MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The Forum of Christian Military Ministries (FCMM) annual gathering was held on 26 September 2019, the day before the Canberra Defence Christians' Dinner. It was a great chance to hear about what the other Defence Christian Military Ministries are doing, to meet with and get to know their leads better as well as hear what's on their agenda heading into 2020. I was very encouraged by the offers of support being shown to each other and it was great to be able to pray for each of the Ministries. It was fantastic to discuss ways of working better together and supporting each other to grow God's Kingdom in the ADO. All Ministries were able to be represented except Everymans. AMCF was asked along as an observer and the Bible Society also sent 3 of their team to the day so they could understand FCMM and Defence better and the announcement of extra support to FCMM and Chaplains for the next 3 years was very welcome. This allowed for lots of thought and discussion on what may be possible to better support Defence Christians and grow God's Kingdom in the ADO. Keep tuned to the MCF e-news over the next years to see what is happening or contact the MCF office if you have an idea that may be able to be supported.

mcf.office@defence.gov.au

The SW Pacific AMCF Conference was held in Brisbane on the last weekend of October 2018. It ran very smoothly with Delegates from 6 countries and one Reserve soldier from the Torres Strait in attendance. It was great how well all the Delegates got along and discussed freely their struggles and joys of being a Christian in their own Forces. Many are keen to come to Australia to do further Chaplaincy or Christian study and I am still in touch with all the Delegates. We also had a couple of the MCF Member Reps (Darren Thomas and Geoff Robertson) able to attend all or some of the event and an wonderful time of fun, fellowship, worship, singing, learning and growing in faith was had by all. Not many MCF members attended the weekend that was open to all, but it was still a great time of growth in faith and friendships and special thanks to Bishop Ian Lambert for leading some very helpful and thought provoking studies during the weekend. It was really encouraging to all that the President of AMCF, General Weerasooriya, from Sri Lanka and his wife could attend the weekend after some trouble getting a visa. A very uplifting induction service was held for the new SW Pacific Vice President, LTCOL Jamie Van Heel, and his wife on the Friday night and it was a shame the outgoing SWPVP, CHAP Eric Burton, was unable to attend due to ill health. A special mention and thank you to the International Policy Division who sponsored the overseas Delegate's flights, a lunch and cultural outing around Brisbane worth nearly \$15,000 total. We had Delegates and family members, leaders, MCF members and supporters attend from around Australia including the Torres Strait as well as from the USA, NZ, PNG, Fiji, Kiribati, Tonga, Vanuatu, Sri Lanka, Singapore and the Republic of Korea, totalling around 50 individuals in attendance for all or part of the time. A huge thanks to all who helped with transport and extra accommodation for our international visitors and to everyone involved for making them feel so welcome. I highly recommend MCF members and supporters attending an event like this in the future.

Travels

As well as the AMCF Conference in Brisbane last year, I have been fortunate enough to have been able to attend the Melbourne and Canberra Defence Christians' Dinners as well as the BBQ in Darwin, where I have enjoyed being able to meet a



MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

number of members and supporters and Chaplains. I have loved hearing your stories and working on ways MCF-A may be able to support you better going into 2020 and beyond. I hope to get out to more Bases in 2020, but the Dinners or similar gatherings are the easiest and most cost effective way to meet a lot of you at one time. If you are planning on having a Defence Christian's event in your area, let me know and I'll try to attend. If you'd just like a visit, or if I can assist in any way, please contact the office and I'll do my best to support you. Remember I'm always on email and the phone and this too is a great way to get to know you and how MCF-A can support you too. mcf.office@defence.gov.au or ph 02 6266 4950.

Small Groups

A vast number of our membership are not in MCF small groups however these groups really are at the heart of keeping MCF going. Without the small groups many people would never find out about MCF and become members. In many areas around Australia it is a challenge to meet together but it is a worthwhile challenge. Thank you to all our MCF Reps for coordinating such groups, or where there isn't a group, for persevering in your role and trying to do what you are able. For those of you no longer associated with Defence through your/your partners work, you are still most welcome to attend your local MCF small group and MCF appreciate your prayers and support since your separation from Defence. Remember if you don't have the capacity to do a full on bible study, you can meet for prayer and fellowship. MCF members can support each other and fellow Christians in a variety of ways, so think creatively, and contact the MCF office if you need some assistance or would like some material for your group or ideas for meetings. mcf.office@defence.gov.au As mentioned, the Bible Society of Australia announced at the last annual FCMM meeting they are giving extra support to FCMM and Chaplains for the next three years. MCF is in discussion with the Bible Society and the other FCMM groups to develop new material for small groups and other resources for our members. Let me know if there is something that may assist your Small Group or be useful in your area that the Bible Society may be able to support. All ideas are most welcome and will be considered so don't be afraid to ask. mcf.office@defence.gov.au

Communication

The website seems to be working well and is often the first point of contact for those looking for Christians and Christian Groups within the ADO. We even get inquiries from overseas and have managed to support US Marines who were coming to Australia and connect them to the local Aussie Padres. In 2020 the Bible Society and MCF are looking to work together to add more resources for Small Groups and Christians in the ADO via a link on the website, so look out for updates on this in the e-news.

The Crossfire magazine is still proving popular and we often have our military friends in poorer overseas countries asking if we can send older copies to them to help with their mission work into their defence groups. There aren't many old copies of Crossfire left so if you would like some for mission work in your location please let me know. mcf.office@defence.gov.au Due to illness and other difficulties in 2019 the Crossfire is yet to come out but the next edition should be ready before the end of 2019 or early in 2020. The Exec have been brainstorming better ways to distribute



Patron: COL Mick Mumford, CSC

MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

and have the Crossfire mag published more often to keep the information current. Watch the e-news for updates on this.

Our social media footprint continues to slowly grow and there has been a positive response to having the weekly prayers from the Prayer Calendar posted each week. I have been trying to mix up what is posted but with limited time each week I am happy for someone who has an interest in the area of social media to help out. (I have never used Facebook before becoming MCF Staff Worker so thank you for your patience as I've learnt.) Thank you too to those of you who have sent in events, book reviews, items of interest and the like. Keep them coming in as it is a great help for social media and the e-news.

Lastly, a huge thank you to each one of you for your prayers and support since the last AGM. I love hearing from, working with and meeting the MCF-A members and supporters. I am privileged to hear many of your encouraging stories and to see and hear firsthand how God is Blessing the ADO through each of you.

Your patience, care, contact and support to both myself and MCF-A are appreciated and I look forward to serving you better as we head into 2020.

Special thanks to the MCF Exec, Committee, the MCF Reps and many others who work tirelessly behind the scenes volunteering their time to help me and the MCF-A community and various other Defence Christians to support all Christians in the Defence Force and grow God's Kingdom. It is very much appreciated and doesn't go unnoticed.

Blessings to you all as we walk together in faith into whatever 2020 has in store for the MCF-A community,

Julie Jaensch

MCF-A National Administrator/Staff Worker