

# F111 Deseal/Reseal Support Group Inc.

**Courage**  
**The ability to face that which cannot be imagined**

Newsletter November 2005

**Editorial By Barry Willis [f111drpr@bigpond.net.au](mailto:f111drpr@bigpond.net.au)**

Since the 15th September, the committee has been extremely proactive with streamlining our resources. This has resulted in the creation of a number of new positions to assist the Executive Committee to reduce the workload burden on the already heavy schedules that have an immediate EXTREME PRIORITY LEVEL. Creating these positions I hope will attract nominations from group members to ensure important progress is made and that all issues receive equal attention rather than being left unattended temporarily. We as a group need to focus on all issues now and to the future to succeed in our goals, I ask all of you to please consider a roll with your nominations for these areas.

## **SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**

A Support Group Meeting was held on Sunday 15th September 2005 at the Ipswich RSL Club. The Minutes of the Meeting along with all Report attachments are available on the Goop Troop Website. Because they add up to over 30 pages it is not possible to include full reports in this Newsletter. However, the minutes are attached so you can read them.

## **COMMITTEE CHANGES**

Ian Fraser resigned as President of the Support Group after the CAF/DVA meeting on 6 September 2005. As a result, the Support Group Meeting was held to elect a new President. Ian will continue to be a member of the Support Group and maintain the server for the website and forum, and we thank Ian for the major milestones he began and achieved for us all.

Barry Willis was voted into the position of President. Barry is an ex-RAAF desealer and has been on the committee for several years, however we welcome him into his new role, and wish him every success.

In October, Natalie Nielsen resigned as Civilian Co-ordinator. Her efforts in representing the Support Group to WorkCover Queensland, ComComp, on the SHOAMP Health Screening Program Forum, the SHOAMP Health Screening Expert Advisory Panel, the AWU, Legal representatives, the media, and her invaluable assistance to Kathleen, the committee and all desealers is greatly appreciated. She was a very effective team member in the short time she was on the committee and contributed greatly to our success. Natalie has offered to be a major contributor to our planned workshops next year.

## **LIFESTYLE MANAGEMENT COURSE**

The Lifestyle Management Course (LMC) is conducted by Vietnam Veteran's Counselling Service (VVCS) for all Group 1 members of the F111 Deseal/Reseal Support Group and their partners regardless of age or illness. The Course is conducted over four days and covers many relationship subjects as well as having guests from DVA, MCRS, Health Care Scheme, and Support Group to meet with you and address your questions and bring you up to date with current information.

It is highly recommended to help both affected members and their partners understand the relationship and physical changes and work together to address and overcome the negative effects of these changes. Younger members and singles are also encouraged to attend.

All travel costs are covered by the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme for interstate and local participants and all accommodation costs, meals and snacks are provided during the Course. Contact the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme to register your interest in a Course. These Courses are not scheduled until sufficient numbers register.

Cameron Thompson MP Liberal Member for Blair has taken up our cause since our September Support Group Meeting. Peter Felton (from the F111 Advocate's Office) has joined his team to assist members with DVA/MCRS issues (and civilian issues when they arise). If you have any claims issues such as: Lump Sum Payment rejection or reduction, DVA/MCRS Claim rejection, Health Care Scheme rejection of payment, Any other DVA/MCRS issues, Then he's the man to talk to. A DVA representative is in Cameron Thompson's office every week to discuss and resolve member's personal issues. Don't miss this opportunity. They have achieved some great results in the last six weeks. Contact on 07 3813 0088 and ask for Peter Felton.

## **SPOUSES SURVEY**

The Spouses Survey went out at the end of June to all registered participants.

There is a problem however. The RAAF have been unable to obtain sufficient numbers for the cohort group.

We need 200 spouses and/or ex-spouses of RAAF aircraft trades who did not work on F-111 aircraft undertaking deseal.

We need your help in contacting any persons you know to seek their assistance to complete the questionnaires in their own homes and return them in the postage paid envelope back to the University in Perth.

Please phone Liz Agerbeek on 0407 947 090 or email [ruliza@hypermax.com.au](mailto:ruliza@hypermax.com.au) with the details: Name, Address (including post code), Age, Sex, (important for matching the control group), Phone number and Email address, and confirm they are ex-RAAF spouse/ex-spouse.

Recognition may be just around the corner for the partners of Desealers. This is what we have been working so hard for! We have now got just this one window of opportunity.

We believe that if we can get the recognition we deserve, our children (both adult and younger) who we know have problems as a result of their parent's contamination, will have a greater opportunity to get the help they both need and deserve.

So we are encouraging everyone to contact their friends and ask that you don't waste this opportunity to help yourself and others.

## **CARER'S ASSOCIATION**

SPOUSES.....

Are you receiving a Carer's Payment from Centrelink, DVA or MCRS?

Are you struggling to cope sometimes?

Join the Carer's Association in your state. They offer education, recreation, respite, support and companionship and help take the edge off your burden.

We don't have to go through this on our own. There is a group of people who understand and care and they encourage you to join them.

## **CHANGES TO THE HEALTH CARE SCHEME**

The Government announcement of the Ex-Gratia Lump Sum Payment "package" on 19 August 2005 brought with it changes to the F111 Interim Health Care Scheme.

The Scheme has been handed to DVA and is now called the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme.

No new conditions which materialize after 20 September 2005 are covered by the Health Care Scheme. This means that regardless of whether the injury/illness/condition/disease is listed and recognised as caused by deseal, you are NOT eligible to have your doctor's costs, testing costs, prescription costs or travel costs reimbursed before your claim is determined.

Also, we have been repeatedly told that the Health Care Scheme will pay for the medical expenses until such time as our claims (DVA/MCRS/WorkCover/ComComp) have been determined AND all avenues of appeal have been pursued.

**THIS HAS ALSO CHANGED.**

When your claim has been rejected by whichever department, the Health Care Scheme will cease to cover you UNTIL you lodge an appeal. When your appeal is received, the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme will reinstate your eligibility until that appeal has been determined.

**ANOTHER WARNING...**

A member recently had his claims returned for a condition which has been paid for previously. His claim is not yet determined, but SHOAMP Health Care Scheme rejected it anyway. The reason is because it is not on their "approved list of conditions" which their doctors have determined to be attributable to Deseal.

Because of intervention by Cameron Thompson's office, the member's medical claims are now being paid.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE PROBLEMS** with the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme, contact Peter Felton immediately at Cameron Thompson's office. (07 3813 0088)

## **DESEAL/RESEAL BROCHURE**

We have produced a fold out brochure giving a brief history and future directions of the Support Group. It is with the Meeting Minutes or you can download a full colour copy from the gooptroop website. Please feel free to copy and distribute this brochure to your local member's office, doctor's offices, friends and acquaintances and to any media contacts you may have. It is one way to help advertise the Support Group and provide a professional looking handout to show we are a serious group who intend to make a difference.

## MCRS LIST OF CONDITIONS

MCRS has released a list of conditions which it attributes to F-111 Deseal/Reseal. From what we can determine, this list is a combination of those approved by the F-111 Health Care Scheme for payment of medical costs, and an overlap of the SHOAMP Health Study Findings. The obvious omission to this list is Respiratory conditions which we are addressing. The list is:

Dysplastic Naevus—A pigmented lesion of the skin, other than a melanoma, displaying an irregular border, indistinct margin and mixed colouration.

Eczema/Dermatitis—Eczema is a pruritic papulovesicular dermatitis, that also has a later scaly stage. A dermatitis is any inflammation of the skin.

Multiple Sclerosis—A degenerative disease of the nervous system characterised by the development of lesions separated in time and space in which the underlying pathology is the demyelination of the affected nervous tissue.

Parkinson's Disease—A degenerative disease of the nervous system, characterised by rigidity, tremor and bradykinesia with abnormality of gait and mask like faces.

Peripheral Neuropathy—A condition where there is simultaneous loss of function of multiple peripheral nerves.

Spinal Muscular Atrophy—A disease characterised by excessive loss of large motor neurons, with muscle showing evidence of degeneration atrophy.

Erectile Dysfunction—An inability to obtain or maintain an erection of sufficient strength to complete the act of sexual intercourse.

Cauda equina syndrome—An impairment of both somatic and visceral sensory and motor function referable to the lower sacral and lumbar nerve roots.

Neurogenic Bladder—A loss of bladder function or control as a result of a neurogenic disease.

Non-alcoholic Toxic Encephalopathy—A loss of cerebral functions, caused by toxic insult to the neurons, resulting from a toxic exposure other than ethanol.

Acquired Colour Vision Deficiency—A disorder of colour vision not being due to genetic factors.

Depression—A disorder of the affect, with depressed mood, or the loss of interest of pleasure in almost all activities; the individual may also suffer from loss of appetite, weight, sleep, has decreased energy, has feelings of worthlessness or guilt, with recurrent thoughts of death or suicide.

Sleep Disorders with Neurological Basis—A sleep disorder associated with either Parkinson's Disease or degeneration of the cerebrum.

Bi-polar Affective Disorder—A disorder in which there has been at least one episode of mania and one episode of major depression.

Vertigo—An illusory sense of environment or self movement.

Memory Loss—A loss of memory above the normal (either short-term or long-term).

Anxiety—A disease in which there is excessive anxiety and worry on more days than not for a period of at least six months, with the sufferer also displaying features such as restlessness, irritability, muscle tension or disturbed sleep.

Impaired Cognition—A measurable loss of higher cerebral function.

Malignant Neoplasms—Any disorder in which there is an abnormal growth of cells and the cells display either the ability to metastasize or to invade the surrounding tissues.

Myeloproliferative disorders—Any one of a family of diseases characterised by increased blood cell production, including myelogenous leukaemia, polycythaemia rubra vera and myelofibrosis.

Liver Disease—Any disease or inflammation of the liver due to concentrations of chemicals or solvents.

Pancreatic Disease—Any disease or inflammation of the pancreas.

Irritable Bowel Disorder—Chronic intermittent symptoms, including recurrent abdominal pain, with altered frequency of defecation with either constipation or diarrhoea or both, stool urgency and a sense of incomplete evacuation of the bowel.

Ulcerative Colitis/Crohn's Disease—Ulcerative colitis means a chronic, recurrent ulceration of the colon, chiefly of the mucosa or sub-mucosa, manifesting as cramping abdominal pain, rectal bleeding and loose discharges of blood, pus and mucosa. Crohn's disease is a chronic, granulomatous inflammatory disease involving any part of the digestive tract with scarring and thickening of the bowel wall.

Diverticulitis—The presence of inflammation in and around a diverticulum of the colon or rectum.

Bowel Polyps—A protruding growth from the mucosa of the colon or rectum.

Mixed Connective Tissue Disease—A disease when there is overlap of the clinical features of systemic lupus erythematosus, scleroderma, polymyositis and rheumatoid arthritis, usually with unusually high circulating antibody to a nuclear ribonucleoprotein.

Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)- A disease in which tissues and cells are damaged by pathological autoantibodies and immune complexes.

Sarcoidosis—A chronic, multisystem disorder in which in the affected organs there is an accumulation of T-lymphocytes and mononuclear phagocytes, with noncaseating epithelial granuloma and derangement of the normal tissue architecture.

MCRS has enacted Section 7.2 of the SRCA and Section 31 of the 1971 Compensation Act to allow payment to F-111 Desealers as a particular class of persons for these conditions.

## CANCER & HEALTH SCREENING PROGRAM

The Minister for Defence announced in his Media Release of 20 December 2005 that money would be set aside for ongoing health monitoring of F111 Deseal/Reseal members.

The government has allocated \$400,000.00 per year for the next 5 years to undertake Cancer and Health Screening and Disease Prevention (CHSDPP) for members.

The second Consultative Forum for this Program was conducted on 8th June and Natalie Nielsen and Kathleen Henry were invited to participate as voting members of the Forum. Our role is to advise members of progress and advise the Forum of members issues and concerns. Our positions are voluntary and unpaid.

The CHSDPP will concentrate on the following:

Encouraging members to cease smoking

Bowel cancer screening

Neuro-psychological screening for members identified as potentially experiencing decline

Three yearly survey of self-reported and diagnosed conditions including myopathy, MS, motor neuron disease, psychological and neurological conditions

Screening for melanoma and skin cancer

Natalie raised the question of confidentiality of information. The Support Group is concerned that test results could be used to deny member's claims if they are given to DVA or MCRS determining officers or review officers. As an example, a member suffers depression. On the day of testing he/she is not having too bad a day, even though perhaps he/she is just coming out of months of a severe depressive state. The tests show reduced depression. If the information is passed to their determining officer, could their claim be reviewed and their payment reduced or cancelled. We have not yet received an answer to this question.

We have also not received any minutes from this meeting, nor has a new meeting date been set.

We have already lost funding for the first financial year ie \$400,000.00 with nothing achieved. We are almost halfway through the second financial year and we still have no health screening program in place.

When the minutes of the meeting are available, they will be placed on the Website and your ongoing comments and concerns are welcomed by us so we can give feedback to the Consultative Forum.

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

### THE SHOAMP HEALTH CARE SCHEME 1800 708 007

Register with the Health Care Scheme to enable you to be verified as a Desealer and be allocated a grouping.

Chris Gill has left the Scheme and heads up the SHOAMP Health Care Scheme and it provides reimbursement of some medical and pharmacy expenses, travel expenses, occupational therapy needs and expenses.

Book with for Lifestyle Management Workshops.

### VVCS COUNSELLORS (07) 3831 6100

Amanda Robinson runs the Lifestyle Management Workshops.

Psychological counselling is available to all group 1 members and their spouses and children. Contact either VVCS or the F111 Health Care Scheme for further information.

VVCS has short support workshops available to members and spouses. Contact Lyn Needham for details.

### 1800 011 046

24 hour emergency telephone counselling is available to all desealers and spouses.

### SUPPORT GROUP Barry Willis 0409 727 000 Kathleen Henry 0438 380 540 Liz Agerbeek 0407 947 090

### DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN'S AFFAIRS (DVA) (07) 3223 8728

Glynis Jones is your very important contact at DVA. She will assist in your enquiries for DVA claims

### MILITARY COMPENSATION & REHABILITATION SERVICE (MCRS) Metro 133254 Country 1800 555 254 Interstate 1300 13 19 45

Peter Gill is the F111 Deseal/Reseal contact at MCRS for member claims.

### CAMERON THOMPSON MP (07) 3813 0088

Peter Felton will assist with any and all issues relating to Deseal/Reseal including Ex-gratia, DVA/MCRS rejections etc.

*The Queensland State Executive of the RSL have voted to support us in representation to DVA and the government on our F-111 Deseal/Reseal Issues. We have the full support of Queensland RSL and they are taking it to the National Executive to obtain national recognition and support.*



## REPORT ON WORKCOVER QUEENSLAND

WorkCover Queensland representatives attended the CAF/DVA meeting at Amberley on 6th September 2005. During the meeting, they removed the civilian deseal participants to a separate room and advised them that their compensation claims would now be processed.

After the meeting, they held one-on-one interviews with their deseal claimants at the Ipswich RSL Club. They discussed each member's issues and some members were advised that their claims were accepted on the spot.

So, it's good to know that the State Government is eager to have members claims finalised and is trying to assist them in a reasonable manner.

The Support Group has had no further feedback from civilians on the progress, so we cannot report any further news.

However, if you have any difficulties with your claims, please contact Cameron Thompson's office for assistance.

## F111 ADVOCATE'S OFFICE

At the CAF/DVA meeting at Amberley on 6th September 2005, the new Chief of Air Force announced that the government has decided that the RAAF is to have no further involvement in the F-111 Deseal/Reseal issue for ex-serving members and civilians.

The F-111 Advocate's Office is now closed to all ex-serving members and civilians and will continue to assist serving members only with claims.

All contact for ex-serving members is now DVA.

For civilians it is WorkCover Queensland or ComComp, with the exception of the Lump Sum Ex-Gratia payment which is also the domain of the DVA.

Having said that, the RAAF will continue, through the Advocate's Office, to undertake the Mitochondrial Study which the previous Chief of Air Force approved.

The Spouses Survey will still proceed until completion and results are given to the RAAF.

Peter Felton has left the F-111 Advocate's Office and is now assisting desealers through Cameron Thompson MP (member for Blair—ie Ipswich).

## DVA AND MCRS CLAIMS

DVA IS NOW processing member's claims.

The official position is that the government is not going to legislate to change Statements of Principles to include chemical contamination or deseal/reseal. Therefore, all the claims which have been held for the last five years are starting to be processed.

MCRS have a list of conditions which DVA doctors have determined are associated with the deseal/reseal process. If a DVA (Veteran's Entitlements Act) claim by a member is for a condition on the list then the claim will be passed to MCRS for processing. (This is addressed in a separate article in this newsletter).

If the DVA claim is for a condition which is not on the list, then the normal DVA procedure of acceptance if it complies with the current factors and eligibility, or rejection if it does not comply, will be determined and members advised of the decision.

For some time now, the Support Group has been requesting that the government allow a Section 180A (a special group of person or persons) to be enacted to allow deseal/reseal claims to be accepted under VEA. The RSL also agrees and will now assist in lobbying both DVA and government to provide compensation under VEA for all of us.

## CAF/DVA MEETING 6TH SEPTEMBER

At the CAF/DVA meeting at Amberley on 6th September 2005, the new Chief of Air Force announced that the government has decided that the RAAF is to have no further involvement in the F-111 Deseal/Reseal issue for ex-serving members and civilians.

The Chief handed the meeting over to the DVA representatives from Canberra, Barry Telford and Caroline Spiers who answered member's questions on the Lump Sum Ex-gratia payment and package.

A recording of the meeting is on the website and is available for you to listen to so you can hear what was discussed.

## VVFA SUPPORT

**The Vietnam Veteran's Federation of Australia (Queensland) have contacted us and offered their support. They are the second largest Ex-Service Organisation in Australia, only outnumbered by the RSL.**

**Membership to the VVFA is offered to all ex-service deseal/reseal members, and all ex-servicemen and women.**

**Contact Terry Pinkerton on (07) 5465 2591 to join.**

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting  
of the  
F-111 Deseal/Reseal Support Group Inc.  
will be held at  
Ipswich RSL Club, Lowry St, North Ipswich  
On  
Sunday 27th November 2005  
Commencing  
9:15 am for a 9:30 am start

The meeting is to present the audited financial statements of the Support Group Inc for ratification by members, to present the constitution for members to read if they wish, and to elect a new committee.

The positions being vacated are:

**President** (*currently Barry Willis*)

**Vice President** (*currently Kathleen Henry*)

**Treasurer** (*currently Sue Coss*)

**Secretary** (*currently Raelene Ramsden*)

**Civilian Co-ordinator** (*vacant*)

Member (new title) **Spouses Co-ordinator** (*currently Liz Agerbeek*)

Member (new title) **Children's Co-ordinator** (*vacant*)

Member (new title) **Media/Union Co-ordinator** (*vacant*)

**Member** (*currently Carolyne Olsen*)

Nominations from interested parties are called and can be submitted on the Proxy Form attached to this newsletter.

All proxy votes should be addressed to The Proxy, F-111 Deseal/Reseal Support Group Inc and forwarded to us at  
PO Box 2387  
BRISBANE QLD 4001  
to arrive no later than  
22nd November 2005.

Additional proxy forms can be downloaded from our website or photocopy the one attached.

Please try to attend this meeting. If you cannot, then please make your vote count and send us your proxy form. Your support is important.

We would like to extend a special note of thanks to TAS Web Hosting who provides us with FREE hosting of our gooptroop website and forum.

Without both his and his Company's support, we would not have the facilities available to us to hold, maintain and update the resources we have accumulated over the years to offer for public use.

Thank you from The Committee & Members.

## ADRESSING PARLIAMENT

On 8th November 2005, Barry Willis and Kathleen Henry will address the Chairman of the Joint Standing Committee on Defence, Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the full Sub-Committee on Defence, Foreign Affairs and Trade in Canberra to speak solely on the F-111 Deseal/Reseal Issues affecting our members.

The sub-committee has offered to pay our airfares and accommodation to give the presentation, which is a surprise and gratefully accepted.

We will be supported by Ray Townsend (ex-deseal supervisor) Acting President of Queensland RSL State Executive and by Cameron Thompson MP, Liberal Member for Blair.

While in Canberra, we will meet with Senator Mark Bishop (Shadow Minister for Defence Personnel) and his assistant Peter Reece.

On 30th November, Barry and Kathleen will again go to Canberra and address the Coalition Committee on Defence and Veteran's Affairs and highlight the issues which desealers face in actually receiving the "package" described by the government.

We will report on the 8th November meeting at the Annual General Meeting, and we will issue a newsletter after the Annual General Meeting and 30th November meeting to advise you of the new committee and how our meetings went.

## NEW INITIATIVE

Several members have voiced the need to have a database of conditions which have been claimed to be attributed to the deseal/reseal programs.

The database should include:

The name of the condition

Whether claimed from DVA or MCRS or both

The success or otherwise of the claim

The reason for acceptance

The reason for rejection

The information would be set up in such a way that the informant would be anonymous on the database with only a registration number to identify who the original contributor was, and this number not linked where it could be obtained by anyone.

Having a compilation of conditions suffered, we could work together to identify trends and assist members in submission of their own claims if and when the condition manifests in them.

What do you think?

Are you willing to contribute?

Are you willing to assist in compilation of data?

## LUMP SUM EX-GRATIA PAYMENT

The Support Group members have highlighted many inconsistencies in the Lump Sum Ex-Gratia Payment Eligibility Criteria, and are addressing these to government and DVA both directly and through the RSL and Cameron Thompson's office.

The draft "Letter to the Ombudsman" outlined and raised at the CAF/DVA meeting on 6th September and will also be presented to Canberra on 8th November. If you have any additional discrepancies, please contact the support group to have them included also.

DVA stated that if you are not satisfied with their decision regarding the lump sum payment, your only recourse was to write to the Ombudsman. This has changed. You can appeal the decision directly to the Ex-Gratia cell in DVA, or go through Peter Felton to address the issue (which will probably be quicker and more informal, therefore less stressful for you). Several of our members have successfully had their claims reviewed and corrected through Peter.

### WHAT ABOUT OUR WIDOWS

Widows of members who died prior to 8 September 2001 are not eligible for the lump sum ex-gratia payment. We are pushing to have this date changed so they can receive equitable justice.

*With the help of Peter Felton, several of our widows are now also finally receiving the DVA widow's pension after many years of waiting.*

Contact Peter if you have claims issues.

lines the problems which we are aware of meeting at Amberley on 8th November. If you have any additional discrepancies, please contact the support group to have them included also.

are not satisfied with their decision regarding the lump sum payment, your only recourse was to write to the Ombudsman. This has changed. You can appeal the decision directly to the Ex-Gratia cell in DVA, or go through Peter Felton to address the issue (which will probably be quicker and more informal, therefore less stressful for you). Several of our members have successfully had their claims reviewed and corrected through Peter.

Early legal and union advice was to hold off on submitting your claim while the committee pushes for a larger payment. To date over 900 people have submitted claims, so RSL advice is to submit your claim now if you have been holding back. If the committee and RSL are successful in seeking an increase in the amount, all successful members are to be included.

## AUSTRALIAN WORKER'S UNION

Bill Shorten, National Secretary of the Australian Worker's Union (AWU) contacted us in June as a result of the story by Paul Daley in the Bulletin Magazine in May this year.

The AWU met with us and have attended our last two support group meetings.

They are appalled at the treatment of both military and civilian workers by Defence and Veteran's Affairs in the F-111 Deseal/Reseal programs and have offered assistance in pushing for greater compensation and national recognition of the disaster and our issues.

The AWU has been monitoring our issue for many years and was even involved earlier when asked by Defence to provide evidence of the effects of chemical contamination for the Board of Inquiry.

They have suggested ways to help promote our issues nationally, have obtained legal representation to give us advice on our statutory rights and paid for this advice themselves, and have made a large financial contribution to our support group together with suggestions on how to fundraise and promote our issues at the same time.

## AUSTRALIAN MANUFACTURERS WORKER'S UNION

The Queensland Branch of the Australian Manufacturing Worker's Union has met with our committee and offered their support.

They have over 300 members at Amberley and several are ex-desealers.

They have offered in-kind assistance (photocopying, mailing, use of facilities, etc) and are willing to promote our issues to encourage equitable compensation for all civilian and ex-service desealers.

Both the AMWU and the AWU have stated they would not rule out industrial action as a means of supporting us.

### SO, WHAT'S AHEAD

We are now self-funding. RAAF has ceased all funding from 1st July 2005. At this stage, we are not looking at membership fees.

We are seeking grants to undertake workshops for spouses and members to help provide coping skills and also to introduce them to other members in their area so we can get support cells activated to give time out and companionship.

The Children's issues are yet to be addressed and we will continue to prepare to get recognition for them after we have resolved the members current issues.

We have approached the Ex-gratia payment cell and asked them to send out a letter and application from the support group to encourage more desealers and their families to join.

# **F111 DESEAL RESEAL SUPPORT GROUP INC.**

## **FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY**

I, ..... (full name)

Of.....

.....(address)

**Being a member** of THE F111 DESEAL/RESEAL SUPPORT GROUP INC.

**Hereby appoint\*** the presiding member, .....(Name of Presiding member)

or

\*.....(full name of proxy) of

.....(address) being a \*member/\*representative of a  
Committee Member of that incorporated association.

(\*delete as appropriate)

**as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Incorporated Support Group, to be held on the 27th November 2005 and at any adjournment of that meeting.**

**My proxy is authorised to vote as follows:**

Motion for President.....FOR or AGAINST

Motion for Vice President.....FOR or AGAINST

Motion for Civilian Co-ordinator..... FOR or AGAINST

Motion for Spouses Co-ordinator..... FOR or AGAINST

Motion for Childrens Co-ordinator.....FOR or AGAINST

Motion for Media Co-ordinator.....FOR or AGAINST

Motion for Member..... FOR or AGAINST

Motion to..... FOR or AGAINST

**I accept the presiding member** at the above mentioned meeting, or any adjournment of that meeting, if:

- I nominate a proxy who is not a member or a duly nominated representative of a Corporate Member of the association.
- I do not nominate any on this form as my proxy.
- I appoint two or more proxies, or

The proxy that I appointed chose not to attend the meeting

**I also accept that my proxy can decide whether or how to vote for me if I do not show above the way my proxy is authorised to vote for me or if other votes are called for at the meeting.**

.....  
Signature of Member appointing proxy

.....  
Date

**NOTES:**A proxy vote may not be given to a person who is not a member of the association or a duly nominated representative of a Corporate Member.

Please return this to **THE PROXY, PO Box 2387 BRISBANE QLD 4001 by 22 November 2005**