

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Dalmeny Narooma Bushwalkers Inc.

1 June 2024, Narooma Men's Shed

1. President Jan Thomas opened the meeting at 10 am, with 21 members present and 8 apologies.
2. Confirmation of minutes from 2023 AGM: the 2023 AGM minutes were read. Motion *that the AGM minutes of 2023 be confirmed*. Moved by H. Ferguson, Seconded by P. Reid. Votes in favour – unanimous. Motion passed.
3. Discussion of any business arising from 2023 minutes: Pat Reid confirmed apparel with the club name can be obtained direct from EzyPrint, Narooma. Marg Moran is still doing name tags for new members.
4. Presentation of annual reports: the following reports were presented:
  - President's report
  - Treasurer's report and financial statement
  - Walks Organiser's report
  - Correspondence summary
5. Special Resolution – On behalf of the committee, president Jan Thomas proposed: *that the following changes are made to the Constitution of Dalmeny Narooma Bushwalkers Inc.*
  - *Section 7 Social Membership – is revoked.*
  - *Section 12 Membership fees – (2) is changed to: "(2) If the member becomes a member on or after the first day of October in any financial year of the association, their membership fee will be valid for the remaining time of that financial year, and for one further financial year".*
  - *Section 18 Composition and membership of the committee – is changed so that: (f) "web manager" replaces "webmaster"; (h) (position of the publicity officer) is revoked.*
  - *Section 20 Responsibilities of office bearers – is changed so that: (6) "web manager" replaces "webmaster". (8) (responsibilities of publicity officer) is revoked.*
  - *Section 52 Financial Year - is changed to: "The financial year of the association is: (a) the period of time commencing on 1 January and ending on 31 December, and (b) each period of 12 months after the expiration of the previous financial year of the association, commencing on 1 January and ending on 31 December".*

Note: all members received the special resolution one month before the meeting and had the opportunity to vote electronically. To pass, 75% or more of members who vote must be in favour of resolution.

Votes in favour of special resolution: electronic votes = 8 received, and at the meeting = 18. Total 26 votes for special resolution. There were 3 abstentions.

Votes against: Electronic = 0 votes, and at the meeting = 0. Total 0 votes against the special resolution.

The Special Resolution was passed.

5. Election of new committee – Returning officer Laurelle Pacey appointed by president, and all offices declared vacant. President stepped down from the chair. Returning officer conducted the ballot for election of voluntary office bearers. At the close of the ballot, the new committee was announced, and the elected president took the chair. Results: president Jan Thomas; vice-president Davey McMillan; secretary Julian Armstrong, treasurer Heather Ferguson, walks organiser Steve Deck, web manager Wendy Selby, membership officer Jan Blok.

#### 7. Other business

a) Discussion on including other club activities, such as cycling or kayaking, into the club's activities: general support was shown for this idea. This will be discussed further by the committee.

b) Discussion of club's Facebook group: president Jan advised that most members are now part of this group and it is working well. The walks organiser Steve queried the recent appearance of content that was not directly related to our programs. After some discussion, a summary proposal was presented by Jan as follows: to allow posts not directly related to our program but relevant to bushwalking. Limit of one post and a couple of photos on the subject.

By a show of hands, this proposal was supported by 10, with 4 against and 7 abstaining.

c) Possible grant proposals – decided to carry this over to another meeting.

#### 8. Any other business

a) Steve Deck queried how long the club intended to keep AGM minutes, and in what format. He also asked in what format and place would past programs be kept. There was some general discussion and agreement about the need to keep the club's history, including past President reports.

9. Date of next AGM in 2025: tentatively proposed Saturday 22 February 2025 at 10 am. It will be confirmed later in the year.

Meeting closed at 11.15 am.

Pages 3-5: reports and summary of correspondence. The treasurer's report and income and expenditure statement are published separately.

## Presidents Report 2024

Welcome everyone, thank you all for coming and supporting your club. First, we must thank the Community Shed for letting us have our AGM here, it is all new to us, they have made us feel most welcome too.

Well, we certainly have had a big year in the club, did you know, we now have 84 members, club is healthy, with plenty of walkers on club walks and leaders are doing a fine job putting on a variety of walks, something for everyone.

I would like to thank all the present committee, it is an amazing job everyone has done in the past year. I would like to thank our retiring 4 long serving committee members. Beris, vice president, my backup, and off sider, you were always quick to respond or take over with no questions asked, you will be sorely missed. Maggie, our membership officer, took her role very seriously, now all members are on an excel spreadsheet with all details, even though Maggie hardly walks with the group now, she had a way of keeping the committee up to date with lists. Well done Maggie we will miss you. Michael, I really don't know what to say, I think it was July 2013, you started making a website for us, but before that you were walks organiser, you even met your wife Jenny on a walk, introduced by Margaret Moran. After becoming walks organiser you became our Publicity Officer, and I think that is when you started the website. We re-organised the committee so you became our webmaster. You were always there for us, putting up the walks, home page updates, "never a problem" you said, "it is a hobby". A lot of members that have been here awhile, remember only too well what you have done over the past. Thank you ever so much Michael. David – thank you for your contributions to the committee and as our publicity officer. Unfortunately, all the usual places we once advertised have closed in recent years, making your job difficult. But you kick-started the Facebook group for us, and that has gone from strength to strength. We wish all the best for our retiring 4 committee.

Thanks to Patty Reid for the past few years, had organized our polos and shirts, it is easier now to go to Ezyprint, Pat set that all up for us. "Mistress of the Wardrobe" (see me later if you want to know why!)

What about our new website? With the help from Michael and the creative team, Wendy has become a tech savvy website creator. Wendy did not know a thing about websites, now she has created one of the best walking websites in NSW, even Bushwalking NSW say it is excellent. We are proud of what you have achieved, Wendy. Heather our treasurer, a job well done, always checking our bank making sure we are not overspending. And our walk organiser, Steve, another year of successful walking, organising us all, the programs, a lot of work goes into encouraging the walk leaders to lead walks. Thank you Steve for another great year.

Thank you to the other club members that act behind the scenes, the members that did a first aid course this year, the walk leaders, drivers, Margaret Moran for our name tags, Sharon Pearson, who helps look after our Facebook page. Thankyou.

We are affiliated with Bushwalking NSW, you can sign up for their newsletter, check their website, loads of information on clubs, safety, news and a variety of subjects concerning bushwalking that are quite interesting.

One thing I must say, when you have a moment, check our web site, read the minutes, read how our club works, you will understand more what commitment and work that goes into the club so that you can enjoy a bushwalk.

Our club is not a big group, and it falls onto a smaller group to organise and prepare, however, we certainly need walkers and members so this can be done. Thank you everyone.

A club motto ... keep looking after each other.

Jan Thomas, President DNB Inc.

## Walks Organiser's Report 23/24

### Steady as she goes

Our club has had another busy year with 58 scheduled day walks, two full (five day) camps, and five mini (two day) camps. Of these, only five walks had to be cancelled, mostly due to adverse weather. The average number of walkers per walk has remained similar to previous years, certainly no less, and there is quite a consistency week on week, so we must be doing something right.

So these are the dry statistics, but what trends are there, if any? The main one I see is the increasing popularity of mini-camps, which allow us to explore in areas further afield than is possible in just one day. Overall our programs offer a very balanced selection, with challenges available for the more adventurous, but plenty of easier options. We strive to continue to meet the needs of our members, who all have different preferences and/or constraints on what they want to get out of their walking.

Once again my sincere thanks go to the small but dedicated band of leaders who create and deliver such a wonderful array of walks – without them there would be no walks and therefore no club. Since last year we have welcomed three new leaders who I'm sure will further develop their skills into the future.

Finally I would just like to make the wider membership aware of some recent and/or ongoing issues to do with our overall walks program, and that your new committee will be further discussing.

- The trial of a revised driver donation schedule grouped into fewer price points
- The format of our quarterly programs, and how to publish them, both to our members and to the wider community who might be interested in joining us
- What records of our walks and programs should be kept, and in what form
- Whether to change our walk grades to bring them into line with the Australian Standard (Australian Walking Track Grading System), and if so, how to apply it

Please let any committee person know if you have any thoughts or preferences on these issues. After all, it is your club.

Thank-you for entrusting me again with overseeing our walks program.

Steve Deck, Walks Organiser, DNB Inc

## Correspondence DNB 2023-2024

- 7 Jun 2023, receipt of \$50 from Service NSW, for submission of 2023 A12-T2 form to Fair Trading.
- 28 Jun 2023 – notice from Bushwalking NSW that as of 1 July 2023 ebike accidents are covered by the insurer, providing they are being ridden in a group together with conventional bikes and at the same speed as conventional bikes.
- 4 Jul 2023 – Bushwalking NSW emailed the Public Liability Certificate of Currency for 2024-25, along with their best-practice and risk management guidelines.
- 7 Sep 2023 - Bushwalking NSW sent the receipt of payment for \$1407.83 (invoice date 31 Jul 2023)
- Oct - Nov 2023 - Numerous communications with National Australia Bank in relation to their requirement to verify the identity of our account signatories. This was part of their anti-money laundering regulations. The verification process was protracted but finally completed on 6 March 2024.
- 28 Nov 2023 - Eurobodalla Shire Council advised us of being successful in getting a Healthy Communities Grant of \$500. On 30 Nov 2023, ESC sent the remittance advice that \$500 had been deposited in our bank account.
- 8 Jan 2024 – receipt from Just First Aid, Ulladulla, for \$500, for the training of 4 walk leaders. Numerous other communications with them about first aid training, including for the renewal of the CPR certificate for 1 leader.
- 15 Jan 2024 – Eurobodalla Shire Council's invitation to participate in Clean Up Australia Day in March 2024.
- Throughout the year, numerous communications with Bushwalking NSW in relation to various affiliation and administrative matters.

Note: all correspondence is digital. The concept of 'in' and 'out' is no longer applicable because all digital communications are acknowledged.

Wendy Selby, Secretary