Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, Dalmeny Narooma Bushwalkers Inc.
Held on 21 February 2026 at Narooma Men's Shed, Narooma
(for financial year 1 January 2025 - 31 December 2025)

President Jan Thomas opened the meeting at 10.02 am with 17 people in attendance and 6 apologies. She welcomed everyone to the meeting.

A summary of the minutes of the last AGM were read by Secretary Julian Armstrong (also published on the website).

Motion that the minutes of the last AGM be accepted. Motion moved by Steve Deck, seconded by Heather Ferguson. Carried unanimously.

Business arising from the AGM Minutes: Wendy advised that the club was unsuccessful in obtaining a Federal government grant for training. Will rely on ESC grants in future. Jan Thomas advised that the Coastrek walk has been moved to the Munjip trail to avoid lake crossings south of Narooma.

Presentation of annual reports

- Presidents report
- Treasurer's report and Financial Statement
- Walks Organiser's report
- Membership Officer's report
- Correspondence

See below, from page 3, for all reports.

Election of new committee - all positions were declared vacant, and Marg Moran was appointed as the returning officer to conduct the election. See page 3 for the nominations and the results of the election. Most of the existing committee were reappointed. Julian Armstrong has replaced Steve Deck as Walks Organiser and the Secretary's position is vacant as no nominations were received. Julian Armstrong will continue as temporary Secretary until alternative arrangements are made.

Jan Thomas announced that after many years, she will be retiring as President at the end of this year. Wendy, web manager, also said that she would still like to retire, if possible. Anyone interested in joining the next committee would be encouraged and supported. After the elections, Jan Thomas returned to preside over the meeting.

<u>Other business</u>

Bushwalking NSW Womens' Walks – Jan Thomas advised that DNB is involved with providing two womens' walks in March this year as part of a BWNSW program.

DNB 40th anniversary – Jan Thomas advised that a small sub-committee has been making arrangements for the club's 40th birthday. Details are on the Autumn program, including re-walking part of the club's first walk and a get-together afterwards. All present and past members will be receiving an invitation with more details.

Bushwalking NSW – Steve asked if the club should nominate 1 or 2 delegates to BWNSW so we could get involved in wider issues and vote if required. Trevor suggested that we could put up two nominees and only exercise voting rights if required. This issue will be discussed further at the next committee meeting.

First aid training – Wendy updated the meeting on the Community Wellbeing grant received from ESC, which provided $600 towards training 8 walk leaders, with a $300 co-contribution from DNB.

Next year's Annual General Meeting will likely be held on Saturday 20 February 2027 at 10 am at the Narooma Men's Shed. Confirmation of the date, time and place will be made closer to the event.

President Jan closed the meeting at 11.05 am. Refreshments were served.

Nominations and election of the Committee for 2026

Position	Nomination	1st endorsement	2nd endorsement	Vote only if 2+ nominations – otherwise elected automatically*
President	1. Jan Thomas 2.	Jan Blok	Joy Scott	No vote Jan Thomas elected
Vice-President	1. Davey McMillan 2.	Jan Thomas	Jan Blok	No vote Davey McMillan elected
Secretary	1.			No nominations received
Treasurer	1. Heather Ferguson 2.	Jan Thomas	Steve Deck	No vote Heather Ferguson elected
Walks Organiser	1. Julian Armstrong 2.	Steve Deck	Davey McMillan	No vote Julian Armstrong elected
Web Manager	1. Wendy Selby 2.	Jan Thomas	Kathy Canning	No vote Wendy Selby elected
Membership Officer	1. Jan Blok 2.	Jan Thomas	Marg Moran	No vote Jan Blok elected

The club's **Public Officer** Steve Deck continues in this position (no vote required).

* the procedures for the nomination and election of the committee are outlined in our Constitution, Part 3 – 19, pg. 8.

President's report – Jan Thomas

Welcome everyone, thank you all for coming and supporting your club. Another year of walks has come and gone, this year we celebrate our 40th but more on that later. In 2025 we ended up with over 90 members, thank heavens they did not all turn up together for an activity!

A variety of walks and activities were held last year. Starting with Australia Day picnic. Then our Feb 2025 brunch walks. We were down on numbers last year, however the walks were much fun, and a great way to start off a year. We also had our first kayak and cycling on the program, with geology and wander & wonder walks, something for everyone to enjoy in our club. At our end of year Christmas Party Celebrations 43 attended, everyone had a good time, thank you to all that assisted.

Our walks and activities started in Autumn, Davey organized a hands on First Aid which 29 of our members attended! Hopefully we won't have to use the newly learned skills. Also throughout the year, others attended first aid courses.

A big thank you to the members that organised the mini camps and trips away, a lot of work goes into planning and organising, the walks, activities, finding accommodation, all good fun and when you do organise one, I can say, you actually feel you have been there! I won't go into all the camps for 2025 as our walk organiser may have that in his report. But thank you to those that contributed.

How do we get the programs together? These are held around members' homes, 3 times a year, where we discuss walks, kayaking and cycling. All members are welcome. All suggestions too, just talk to a committee member. Last year our volunteers on the committee and others did a great job.

I hope you check our website regularly, our Web Manager Wendy, often changes the gallery where photos are changed. Don't forget any good photos you take send to Wendy. The web is set up in the search actions to get new members, but it is for us also. At the moment we have no back up, I am sure Wendy would love to hear from you if interested, it is easy, as long as you have a bit of technical background. We need a backup only if something goes amiss.

Davey, our vice president, a wonderful backup for the committee, watch out for the map/gps reading courses, that Davey organizes throughout the year.

Our membership officer Jan has some interesting facts for later to share with us, and is doing a great job keeping the member list up to date working with our treasurer.

Heather, our treasurer, whom looks after our finances, and gets a friend to audit the finances for our club. I think it costs a coffee!? Also Heather works with our membership officer Jan making sure new members have paid and are on our membership list.

Julian our secretary, prepared this meeting and during the year emailing out to you all important information, to keep you informed on what is happening in our club.

Finally, our walks organiser Steve. Steve will be stepping back this year but I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all the work he has done over the years. With the walk programs, leading walks, it was a big role, and I am sure our members will miss your organising skills, however we will still look forward to seeing you on our walking trails.

To members that do things behind the scenes, Sharon our Facebook administrator and with Margaret our name tag maker, our walk leaders and of course the walkers, and drivers, we need you all, thank you.

Lastly, 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 happen. We all work as a team, we are all there to assist and help, you only need to ask. To a wonderful 2026….

Jan Thomas President DNB Inc.

Treasurer's report and Financial Statement – Heather Ferguson

We began our financial year on 1 January 2025 with a balance of $3944.69.

We ended our financial year on 31 December 2025 with a balance of $3782.07.

All our income is from membership fees and in December 2025, we had 85 registered members. We also had a surplus of $169.46 from the Xmas party.

We donated a total of $85 to the Men's Shed for the use of their facilities for our AGM and Xmas party.

The total costs for our website were $207.95.

We paid $1078 to Just First Aid for first aid courses for some of our walk leaders. This was the exact amount of the grant we received for this purpose from Eurobodalla Shire Council the previous year, resulting in no cost to us.

Our annual BNSW affiliation fee and insurance was $1383.13.

Our annual NSW Fair Trading fee was $56.

We had some petty cash expenses to cover the cost of a life member badge for Gail Drury and also a thankyou gift for Jan and Wal Sheehan for hosting our club at Gunuma Lodge at Smiggin Holes for our March camp.

We received payments from 13 participants in the upcoming Capertee camp to cover accommodation costs, which had to be paid in advance to secure the booking. This amount of $3201 was subsequently paid.

Thank you again to the Men's Shed for the use of their great facilities for our AGM and Xmas party. Thank you also to Phil Gaffney for once again agreeing to be our Honorary Auditor.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

BANK BALANCE 1 JAN 2025	3944.69	
MEMBERSHIP FEES	2550.00	
BUSHWALKING NSW AFFILIATION FEES		(1383.13)
NSW FAIR TRADING FEES		(56.00)
XMAS PARTY SURPLUS	169.46	
DONATIONS TO MENS SHED		(85.00)
FIRST AID COURSE		(1078.00)
WEBSITE		(207.95)
LIFE MEMBERSHIP BADGE		(30.00)
PETTY CASH EXPENSE		(42.00)
BANK BALANCE 31 DECEMBER 2025	3782.07	

Walks Organiser's report - Steve Deck
New challenges ahead

During this year we scheduled 57 day activities, one 3 day mini-camp, and two full 5 day camps. Of these, 7 day activities were cancelled for a variety of reasons including weather, and of those that went ahead, there were 44 walks, 2 kayaking, and 1 cycling, and also 3 training/personal improvement days. The camps and mini-camp all went ahead and were well attended. For the walks,

about two-thirds were Thursday and one-third Saturday. There was still a good spread of difficulty levels from easy to hard, with most in the medium category. The average number of walkers was Thursdays 11 and Saturdays 6.5 – compared to previous years there has been a slow downward trend, despite member numbers remaining fairly steady. This trend is something the committee will need to keep an eye on and make changes if required.

An update on an issue that we've been grappling with is that walk grades are now given both in the old style (Easy, Medium, Hard), and also the nearest equivalent in the Australian Walking Track Grading System, bearing in mind this system is designed for tracks, and we often go off-track.
It was good to see some paddling and cycling activities programmed. As with walks, these need leaders to propose and run them if they are to be successful.

Once again my sincere thanks go to the still small but dedicated band of leaders who carry the load of providing the walks we all enjoy. It is pleasing to see some new leaders have joined our merry band. Attracting new leaders also remains a challenge.

This is my final report as Walks Organiser. Thank-you for the privilege of serving this club in this role for the last 10 years, but it is time for some fresher faces. I know members will give the incumbent the same support I have enjoyed. I now look forward to continuing to devise and lead walks and camps in this wonderful pastime of bushwalking, surrounded by such wonderful people as this club has as members.

Steve Deck, Walks Organiser, DNB Inc

Membership Officer's report – Jan Blok
At the end of 2025 we had 93 members, and ratio of women to men of just over 2:1, similar to last year. However, there were six occasions when the men outnumbered the women, compared to only twice the previous year.There were 66 days of activities including the three camps (two 5 day camps and one mini-camp). I mention days rather than walks as there were sometimes a couple of walks offered on some of the camp days. The total distance covered on these walks was about 585 km. *[Wendy actually meant for me to calculate the total distance walked by all of the club members, which is 5358 km]*

Of the 93 members, there were 71 members who attended club activities which included a first aid workshop and Christmas party besides the bushwalks, kayaking and cycling. Of those, there were 63 who enjoyed our outdoor activities – 27 members joined in 1-5 activities, 14 walked 6-10 times and 22 members came to more than 10 walks. There were five members who attended 30 or more walks with Marg Moran leading the way with 37 (285 km) followed by Steve Deck with 35 (320 km).

There were 34 members who joined the camps offered in 2025 – 28 members joined one camp (22 of them enjoyed the camp at Smiggins Hole in Kosciuszko National Park), 3 members attended two camps, and 3 members went to all three offered camps. There were 4 members who only went on camp walks. The most popular of the Thursday walks with 17 people attending were the Tuross Lake walk lead by Julian Armstrong, and the walk on the Swamp Firetrail area in Dampier State Forest led by Leanne Adamthwaite.

The average number of members joining our walks during the year was 8, this is a bit lower compared with 2024 where it was 12 members. This year we had 20 walk leaders with Steve Deck leading the most number of walks, including the popular Smiggins Hole camp as well as leading the two kayak adventures.

There are many more numbers I could mention, but I think that is enough for now, and I believe it shows that the Dalmeny Narooma Bushwalkers Club is still doing a good job catering for its members.During one of the walks Miriam asked where the majority of walkers lived so I did a quick summary and it turns out that 50 of the 93 members live in either Dalmeny or Narooma. Just an update on 2026 membership: we have 71 paid members, 3 life members, 11 members declined to renew and 3 new memberships.

Jan Blok

Correspondence - Julian Armstrong

- 08/01/25 – email confirmation of payment of $15.95 for the renewal of the DNB website domain name.
- 13/01/2025 – Eurobodalla Shire Council's invitation to participate in Clean Up Australia Day in March 2025 for communities.
- 04/02/25 – email invoice from Just First Aid for provision of first aid supplies and training under the healthy communities program
- 12/03/2025 – email Annual Summary of Financial Affairs sent to Dept of Fair Trading
- 19/03/2025 – email from Wendy to Eurobodalla Shire advising that we have completed leaders' first aid and general first aid training and thanking ESC for their grant.
- 16/05/2025 – email from Batemans Bay Post seeking comment on NP campsite fees.
- 16/05/2025 – email to Batemans Bay Post saying no comment as our club trips rarely involve camping in NP sites.
- 01/06/2025 – email to an injured walker explaining the club's insurance and how to make a claim if required
- 30/06/2025 - email from Bushwalking NSW with attached insurance Certificate of Currency for F26 and Insurance and Risk Management Practicalities guide.
- 28/08/2025 – email from Bushwalking NSW with attached Policy schedules for Personal Accident and Public Liability insurance for F26.
- 02/09/2025 – email from Bushwalking NSW with financial statement confirming we have paid our annual fees and insurance.
- 17/11/2025 – email from the Event Director of Coastrek. They are planning a 20 and 30 km walking event in August next year from Bermagui to Narooma and requested some assistance with route planning. President Jan Thomas contacted them with some info.
- 4/12/2025 – email from Eurobodalla Shire Council approving our grant application under the Community Wellbeing Grants for $600 for walk leader first aid training.
- 9/1/2026 – email to all members requesting payment of annual membership fees
- 10/12/2025 – email to ESC accepting the Community Wellbeing grant