



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ILLAWARRA RAMBLERS CLUB INC.
HELD ON SATURDAY, 12th OCTOBER, 2019 AT THE RHODODENDRON PARK, MOUNT PLEASANT**

Meeting to Open at: 10.35am

Present: P Prentice, P Howes, R Tierney, P Hayes, P Mackey, P Jack, M Tenhave, D Currie, S Almond, G Burgess, J Healy, T Ashton, R Guy, J Wood, B Wood, A Martin, A Klasson, T Urbanski, P Jenkins, D Jenkins, M Ward, E Popham, S Feltham, M Feltham, J Groom, P Sim, P Robinson, N Williams, R Sim, B Parker, J Gal, M Webb, L Bertoggi, A Ryan, F Morrison, R Winstanley, C Aldrich, P Freeman, N Freeman, J Cowling, R Krishna, F Marinelli, M Ward. (43)

Apologies: R Verdon, C English, J Liddiard, P Bique, R Bique, J Meharg, C Meharg, G Wellings, A Murdoch, J Polonis, F Newsome, J Ryan. (12)

1 President's Opening Remarks

The President, Ros Tierney welcomed members and friends to the Meeting and said how pleased she was to see everyone in this beautiful environment, particularly since the weather had been so threatening this morning.

2 Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday, 23rd September, 2017

Copies of the Minutes of last year's Meeting were available online and there are also copies here for all members to read and approve as a true copy.

Motion: "That the Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 6th October, 2018, be approved as a true copy".

Moved: J Groom

Seconded: P Jack

3 Business arising from Previous AGM

No Business Arising

4 Annual Report

The President, Ros Tierney gave her Annual Report to the AGM for 2018-2019.

The Ramblers Club has had another busy year with a total of 322 activities which included 14 trips away and 3 social activities. Already there have been several more trips away posted in the program for next year. Our membership has remained at a consistent level, we've lost a few but we have welcomed 48 new members to the club this year.

A breakdown of activities and numbers of participants is set out below.

	2018 – 2019				2017 - 2018			
	Scheduled	Cancelled	Went Ahead	No. Partic'pts	Scheduled	Cancelled	Went Ahead	No. Partic'pts
Spring	92	11	81	859	87	7	80	870
Summer	82	4	78	938	85	4	81	1026
Autumn	89	5	84	1007	90	5	85	869
Winter	89	10	79	887	91	7	84	887
Total	352	30	322	3691	353	23	330	3652
Average				11				11
Walks			122	1067			143	1174
Cycles			129	1537			120	1436
Paddles			52	841			47	664
Trips			14	139			12	131
Social			3	79			5	206
Training			2	28			3	41

I would like to thank all the leaders who have so generously given their time to organising the activities. I would also like to thank all the members who participated, took photos for the website and supported the leaders.

We are always looking for new leaders with new ideas. If you feel you would like to put an activity in the program you should contact Stuart Almond for advice on how to go about it.

We are now coming up to the busiest time for membership renewals in the next two months. Everyone with an online membership will receive an email advising that their membership is coming up for renewal with clear instructions on how to do it

You can renew your membership online and select to pay by credit card, direct bank transfer or cheque. Or if you prefer you can fill out a form, attach a cheque and put it in the mail. You can now renew your subscription before the renewal date. The original date will be retained.

The committee has been in contact with our local councils throughout the year regarding some matters that impact our club's activities :

We have written to Shellharbour Council regarding Skiway Park in Oak Flats on two separate issues:

(1) Requesting that the toilet block be replaced or at least improved. Polycarbonate sheets have now been installed in the roof resulting in much better natural light.

(2) Asking for a designated kayak ramp to be built given the safety issues when motor boats are being launched. A separate ramp for kayaks is currently under construction.

Also, along with other small clubs we have lobbied Bushwalking NSW who co-ordinate insurance for about 60 clubs in NSW for a fairer affiliation fee structure.

Peter Jack, our Treasurer, volunteered to be our delegate to Bushwalking NSW and attended that organisation's AGM about a month ago. At that meeting Peter was elected Treasurer and we congratulate

him on being elected to that position and also thank him for representing our club at their meetings in the future.

The Committee recently made a decision to reduce the amount of paper used in producing the printed newsletter. Effective 2020 it will comprise the President's Report, newsletter articles and notices of events. The Activities Program will not be included, members will need to view it online.

I would like to thank all the committee for their help and assistance during this past year.

Trish Mackey has held the position of Secretary for the past 8 years and has been most diligent in the position and been responsible for holding all the club's past records. Trish has always been very willing to assist in any way she can. However, she has decided the time has come to step down and I thank her on your behalf for her many years of commitment to the committee and the membership.

Peter Jack, took on the position of Treasurer this year and has been instrumental in streamlining the payment system for memberships and introducing more efficient ways of managing the finances of the club.

Stuart Almond took on the role of Program Manager this year and has done an excellent job in making sure that our program of activities is filled every quarter.

Penny Howes has been our Website Manager for many years and also took on the role of Vice President last year. Thank you Penny for keeping our website running smoothly and I particularly want to thank you for all the help you have given me in my role as President being a novice when I took over the position last year.

Pam Hayes has been performing the role of Newsletter Editor this year. As well as still being in fulltime employment as a teacher, she has been producing the Newsletter each quarter and still managing to get to meetings whenever possible.

Phil Prentice, our Activities Recorder, does an excellent job of collating all our statistics. Phil is always ready to help out in any way he can and I thank him for that too.

Ronda Guy our Training Officer this year has done such a wonderful job in that role that we now feel that the position title should be changed to Training and Special Interest Coordinator. Ronda has researched and organised some interesting tours and excursions during her time as Training Officer which have been enthusiastically enjoyed by our members. Sadly, Ronda has decided to step down from her position on Committee and I would like to thank her on your behalf for the great work she has done this year.

Russell Verdon is our Publicity Officer and has been instrumental in raising the club's profile with his knowledge of social media and looking after our Facebook profile. Russell is also an excellent photographer and together with Penny they have been posting many of the club's photos to the cloud for safekeeping. Russell also covers many of the businesses in the Illawarra distributing business cards and posters and raising public awareness of our club's activities.

I will now hand over to Peter Jack to deliver the Treasurer's Report.

5 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Peter Jack then gave his Annual Report to the AGM for 2018-2019.

Peter Jack said the Club had made a small loss, we do have an aging membership and so members should encourage their young people to join. We do have one year's subscriptions in the Bank and so we are in

good shape for twelve months. During the year we had a one-off Website expense. Peter Jack thanked Penny Howes for her work on the Website.

Motion: "That the Reports be accepted".

Moved: P Howes

Seconded: P Mackey

6 Proposed Amendments to the Constitution

None

7 Election of New Officers for the Coming Year

The President, Ros Tierney now stood down from the Chair and Fred Morrison took the Chair as the Returning Officer for the election of the Committee. He declared all positions vacant and called for candidates to stand for each position for the coming year.

The Election of Officers for the coming year is as follows:-

President Ros Tierney

Nominated: P Mackey

Seconded: P Howes

Elected

Secretary

Nominated:

Seconded:

Treasurer Peter Jack

Nominated: R Tierney

Seconded: P Mackey

Elected

Program Manager Stuart Almond

Nominated: P Howes

Seconded: R Guy

Elected

Website Manager Penny Howes

Nominated: P Hayes

Seconded: R Tierney

Elected

Membership Secretary Ros Tierney

Nominated: P Mackey

Seconded: P Prentice

Elected

Newsletter Editor Pam Hayes

Nominated: R Tierney

Seconded: J Groom

Elected

Activities Recorder Phil Prentice

Nominated: R Guy

Seconded: R Tierney

Elected

Training & Special Interests Coordinator

Nominated:

Seconded:

Publicity Officer Russell Verdon

Nominated: R Tierney

Seconded: M Feltham

Elected

The Returning Officer, Fred Morrison expressed his congratulations on the election of a highly qualified committee. Fred Morrison then stood down from the Chair.

The Position of Secretary was later filled by Robyn Sim. And the committee thanked her for accepting this Position.

The Position of Training & Special Interests Coordinator is yet to be filled.

Meeting closed: 10.55am

Those present were invited by the President to join one of the two walks – a walk up the hill above the Park to be led by Penny Howes, or an easier around the Gardens led by Max Tenhave.

Before setting out on the walks, all attendees posed for a Club photograph.

On completion of the walks, a delicious BBQ lunch was served by a band of cooks.

R Tierney
President

Patricia Mackey
Secretary