

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The Illawarra Ramblers
Saturday 13th September 2025
AGENDA

Meeting opened at:

Present:

Apologies: Sharon Knightley, Pam Hayes, Jim Cowling, Phil Prentice, Julie McDonald, Roger Lyle, Steve Perry, Patricia Mackey, Fay Walker, Keith Heyes, Colleen Barclay, Anne Paterson

1 President's Opening Remarks

2 Minutes of Previous AGM Circulated separately

Amendments:

Acceptance proposed:

Seconded:

Passed:

3 Business arising from Previous AGM

Nil

4 Annual Report

President's Report **Page 3**

Financial Report..... **Page 5**

Activity Report..... **Page 8**

5 Proposed Amendments to the Constitution

Nil

6 Election of New Officers for the coming year

Returning Officer: tba

Position	Nominee
President	Pam Hayes
Secretary	Heather Yeatman
Treasurer	Peter Jack
Program Manager	Stuart Almond
Newsletter Editor	Pam Hayes
Website Manager	Penny Howes
Membership Secretary	Anne Murdoch
Activities Recorder	Michael Feltham
Training Coordinator	Colleen Barclay
Publicity Officer	Julie McDonald

Nominees proposed:

Seconded:

Passed:

Election of new General Member for the coming year

General member:	Steve Perry

Nominee/s proposed:

Seconded:

Passed:

Welfare Officer & Public Officer - Phil Prentice has agreed to continue in these roles.

7 Other Business

Meeting closed at:

Heather Yeatman
Secretary

President's Report for 2025 AGM

And I had thought last year was busy!!

Dear fellow members,

As expressed in the recent newsletter it was decided for this year to separate the Xmas Party from the AGM. Those entertainers would then be able to concentrate on and contribute some of their other talents at the AGM.

Thanks come first. Each and every member of the committee has made a very valuable contribution to the stability and ongoing progress of our club. Penny especially gave good counsel, often in this place where we are today, which we dubbed "The Office". Peter Jack will follow me in addressing you, proving again he is worthy of nomination for "World's Best Treasurer". Also with professional input today is Michael Feltham, your Activities Recorder and tracker of what you have been doing. And please don't think I'm diminishing the effort of others by singling out Phil Prentice in his role as Welfare Officer. I belonged to a Rotary Club for 28 years. It always had a Welfare Officer. Not one was as caring and as accomplished as Phil. He is today far from this madding crowd cruising the high seas.

That welfare has led to reporting the loss of present and past members all who made significant contributions to our club and very sadly are no longer with us.

Flora Newsome a many time walk and, ride leader in the early days of cycling and although her membership had lapsed, 14 of us were at her funeral. The family were so taken that we were there. John Bell, a president back in the 90's maintained strong club friendships even though his membership lapsed through ill-health 20 years ago. He is credited with constructing the Forest Path walking track as a contractor in 1995, with it is said, volunteer Ramblers helping to finish the job after funding ran out. Sadly, just a week ago Alan Binns passed away. Alan and his wife Maureen were notable for their tandem bike and their tandem kayak. Although they participated in many local activities, trip organisers always included Alan & Maureen's special vehicles in their trip planning. We will miss Alan and feel very keenly Maureen's loss.

Up until 2014 the Illawarra Ramblers was affiliated with the WEA, (Workers Educational Association), an international organisation with a branch in Wollongong. For a period they offered a course in Walking. WEA made a commercial decision in 2014 to discontinue the affiliation, a side result being that a lot of the Ramblers administration records didn't get to stay with the club. Since 2007 most of our activity and meeting records have been digitalised. Thank goodness. What we are now lacking is a documented history, especially of membership, even parts or all of the committee structure from around 1991 to 2007. Honouring our members with tributes when we have this handicap is proving difficult, as memories fade.

Hopefully we'll be rewriting our history during this coming year. A meeting was held in August with the inaugural President and initial committee members Eric and Pam Taylor. Longtime members wishing to help should please start making notes of recollections of events, trips, committee times, fun moments (even better with photographs). Please contact me with ideas to assist. No recollection or anecdote will be too small.

What an amazing first-aid training event of 18 paddlers initiated by Charlie Yeatman, followed up shortly afterwards with Colleen organising another 10 first-aid trainees among the cyclists and walkers.

Developing through the year has been more interaction between our club and kindred clubs. NPA Illawarra, who are today also holding their AGM after lunch at the Wollongong Botanic Gardens is the most prominent. Both Bicycle NSW and Bushwalking NSW (whose AGM Peter Jack and I are going to next week), continue to influence what we do, while members who participate in shared, or

even not shared, activities with Shoalhaven Bushwalkers and Shoalhaven Bicycle Users Group (Bug), Kiama Bug and Illawarra Bugs, show us other ways of doing things.

The world we live in keeps changing, even if slowly. Last year we focussed on how outcomes from the NSW State Upper House E-Mobility Inquiry might affect where we walk and ride. Recommendations came in February, and the Government's response in May. The issues were important to us. While almost no progress has been made in terms of safety for us all, the State Government has recently let it be known of an intention of banning e-mobility devices on trains, something that would mean abandoning some of our activities, and revising how some members might be able to still attend others. The club wrote, and encouraged members to write to State and Federal members of Parliament about the legislative process having such an impact on us. As this note is being prepared for today's meeting, in Federal Parliament a private member's bill has been introduced seeking to clarify e-mobility import legislation. Again, this affects the well-being of both our **walkers and cyclists**.

Simultaneously to all that, it has become likely that Wollongong Council may approve the establishment of a Jet Ski hire operation on Lake Illawarra. Our paddlers may have thoughts on this. If, and only if, we are to express support or opposition to intrusions of this sort into our lives we should be thinking about developing a background of people and skills to *mix our pleasures with a little bit of protecting our pleasures*. With Lake Illawarra we have engaged in broad consultations about the Lake's mouth. We have been featured on WIN News, (thanks Gerry), and the Illawarra Flame, cleaning up the lake. We have been visible in contact with both councils, thanks to ongoing input from Sam Garrett-Jones, about completing the walking/cycling shared path around the Lake as part of Wollongong Council's 5 year infrastructure planning.

Supported by increased publicity from Julie McDonald, Stuart's publishing interesting activities, great courtesy displayed on the track, convivial atmosphere created in coffee shops, let alone Pam's body bending antics in our great gallery, our club is so respected in our community. And sometimes I wonder if that standing is not sufficiently capitalised on.

It is past time that I thank our leaders who throughout the nearly 2 years of my presidency, week in, week out, kept taking us somewhere different.

So many memories, amazing memories, have come from our trips. In chasing down info for tributes to our members, it is the trips that immediately, and usually with great clarity, come to mind so they are all listed for 2024 and 2025

In 2024 **Graham Burgess** led walking trips to the NSW south-east and the Blue Mountains. **Phil Prentice** did a repeat of Graham's Blue Mountains trip while **Jill Hawkes** and **Joe Pike** went for the annual Lord Howe island sojourn. **Jill** then backed up for the Victorian Rail Trails, and later Narooma cycling. There was a winter cycling trip to Lake Macquarie with **John** where **Peter Aubourg** honed his mapping skills, while **Gerry** took a small group of paddlers to the Macquarie Marshes.

2025 started with **Charlie's** weekend paddle on Tallowa Dam, **Gerry's** well attended Murray paddle then **Charlie** with **Helen Moody** doing day paddles on a Murramarang/Clyde/Durras Lake 4 day walking trip. More walks were put on by **Robyn Sim** down in the Snowy, **Graham Burgess** at Tomaree near Port Stephens, as well as the traditional **Joe Pike & Jill Hawkes** amazing Lord Howe adventure. Cyclists (32 of them) so far this year have been treated to **Jill's** Northern Rivers Rail Trail and there is upcoming, **Peter & Denise Aubourg's** Victorian Rail Trails.

At the end of winter we had 255 members. When counting trip days we've had heaps of fun. We even scrub up well (see the Ballina Players photo in Pam's newsletter).

As said at the top, a lot going on.

And, as also said above, we are members of a very respected club. It has been a privilege to serve as your president. More than that. It has been an honour. **Thank you.**

ILLAWARRA RAMBLERS INC

ABN 37 898 231 337



Statement of Financial Performance

For the year ended June 30;

		2025	2024
Income	Note		
Membership Fees	1	10,150.00	8,625.00
Debit and Credit Card Fees	-	261.42	170.04
Net Membership Fees		9,888.58	8,454.96
Other Income			
Printed Newsletter (2 x \$20)		-	40.00
First Aid Course Kayakers	2	1,155.00	-
First Aid Course; Cyclists & Walkers	2	110.00	-
Interest Income - Statement Account		72.93	95.42
Xmas Party	3	4,316.50	-
Total Other Income		5,654.43	135.42
Total Income		15,543.01	8,590.38
Operating Expenses			
Xmas Party Expense	3	4,589.09	-
AGM/Xmas Party Expense	3	-	1,043.81
Website Hosting and Maintenance		3,073.90	3,190.90
First Aid Training Subsidy	2	1,984.60	-
Bushwalking NSW Affiliation Fee		1,563.10	1,781.65
Bushwalking Australia Affiliation Fee		269.50	-
Insurance - Public Liability		1,243.15	1,266.47
Insurance - Personal Accident		968.45	935.42
Printing and Reproduction		467.50	52.98
Telephone – Wireless		272.00	15.00
PO Box Rental		159.00	154.00
Postage and Stationery		77.10	108.99
Dept Fair Trading - Ann Registration		56.00	54.00
Cycling Leader Training		-	100.00
Member Welfare		-	99.90
Ramblers Cloth Badges		-	348.50
Total Operating Expenses		14,723.39	9,151.62
Surplus/(deficit)		819.62	561.24

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Statement of Financial Position

At June 30;

	2025	2024
Assets		
Current Assets		
Bendigo Bank Card Account	20.00	-
Bendigo Bank Operating Account	12,518.93	12,204.31
Deposit Xmas Party Venue,	500.00	-
Total Current Assets	13,038.93	12,204.31
Non Current Assets	-	-
Total Assets	13,038.93	12,204.31
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	20.00	-
Non Current Liabilities	-	-
Total Liabilities	20.00	-
Net Assets	13,018.93	12,204.31
Retained Earnings		
Surplus for all prior years	12,204.31	12,765.55
Surplus for year ended June 30 2025	819.62	- 561.24
Total Retained Earnings	13,023.93	12,204.31

Notes

1	Membership Fees		
	Membership Full Online (\$40pa)	8,680.00	2,080.00
	Membership Senior Online (\$35pa)	1,470.00	6,475.00
	Membership Senior Print (\$55pa)	-	70.00
	Membership Fees Shortpaid	- 5.00	-
		10,145.00	8,625.00
	Member Numbers		
	Membership Full Online (\$40pa)	217	52
	Membership Senior Online (\$35pa)	42	185
	Membership Senior Print (\$55pa)	-	2
		259	239
2	First Aid Courses		
	Income		
	First Aid Course Kayakers	1,155.00	-
	First Aid Course; Cyclists & Walkers	110.00	-
		1,265.00	-
	First Aid Training Expense	1,984.60	-
	Net Expense	- 719.60	-
3	Xmas Party Income	4,316.50	-
	Xmas Party Expense	4,589.09	-
	AGM/Xmas Party Expense	-	1,043.81
	Net Expense	- 272.59	- 1,043.81

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ABN 37 898 231 337



3	Other Income and Expense Adjusted for Comparison		
	Xmas Party Income	4,316.50	-
	Other Income	1,337.93	135.42
	Total Other Income	5,654.43	135.42
	Xmas Party/AGM Expense	4,589.09	1,043.81
	Other Operating Expense	10,134.30	8,107.81
	Total Operating Expenses	14,723.39	9,151.62

Significant Accounting Policies

These financial statements comply with the recognition and measurement requirements of Australian Accounting Standards, the presentation requirements of those Standards as modified by AASB 1060 (General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures for Not-for-Profit Entities), and the disclosure requirements of that Standard.

These financial statements present fairly the financial position at June 30 2025, and the financial performance for the year ended on that date, of Illawarra Ramblers Inc. All financial amounts are in Australian Dollars.

Illawarra Ramblers Inc is a not-for-profit entity and the financial statements are prepared on that basis. Income and expenses are recognised on a cash basis ie upon the receipt or payment of cash.

Going Concern

The committee of Illawarra Ramblers Inc. has assessed and confirmed the entity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income Tax

As a not for profit entity Illawarra Ramblers Inc has self-assessed as exempt from income tax.

Reporting Entity

Illawarra Ramblers Inc. is an association registered in NSW with registered number 1500917 and ABN 37 898 231 337. No person, persons or entities have a controlling interest in the association and the association has no controlling interest in any other entity. The public officer is Philip Prentice and the registered office is at Barrack Heights NSW 2528.

Events after the End of the Reporting Period

There have been no events between the end of the reporting period and the preparation of these statements that have any material effect on these statements.

Nature of business

Illawarra Ramblers Incorporated is a club that organises and conducts regular walking, cycling and kayaking activities in the Illawarra region of NSW. The club has over 250 members.

Management

The association is managed by the committee that has authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, and whose members are disclosed elsewhere in this report. All members of the committee act voluntarily and receive no remuneration. The committee has no employees.

Activities Recorder's Report - Michael Feltham

	This Year (2024-2025)					Previous Year (2023-2024)				
	Activities	Participants	Average			Activities	Participants	Average		
SPRING 24						SPRING 23				
Walks	31	220				Walks	24	203	8	
Cycles	33	417				Cycles	31	400	13	
Paddles	12	198				Paddles	12	191	16	
Trips	2	14				Trips	3	45	15	
Social	0	0				Social	2	89		
Training	1	1				Training	1	29		
Cancellations	8					Cancellations	8			
Total	79	850	11			Total	73	957	13	
SUMMER 24						SUMMER 23				
Walks	21	158				Walks	28	207	7	
Cycles	38	450				Cycles	26	353	14	
Paddles	12	217				Paddles	13	195	15	
Trips	1	13				Trips	0	0	0	
Social	1	90				Social	0	0	0	
Training	0	0				Training	0	0	0	
Cancellations	5					Cancellations	5	0	0	
Total	73	928	13			Total	67	755	11	
AUTUMN 25						AUTUMN 24				
Walks	32	231				Walks	24	188	8	
Cycles	32	310				Cycles	33	402	12	
Paddles	11	138				Paddles	11	175	16	
Trips	2	24				Trips	5	75	15	
Social	0	0				Social				
Training	1	18				Training				
Cancellations	13					Cancellations	8			
Total	78	721	9			Total	73	840	11.5	
WINTER 25						WINTER 24				
Walks	30	250				Walks	33	266	8	
Cycles	28	316				Cycles	36	341	9	
Paddles	5	58				Paddles	11	149	14	
Trips	2	48				Trips	1	27	27	
Social	0	0				Social	1	8		
Training	1	11				Training				
Cancellations	12					Cancellations	8			
Total	66	683	10			Total	82	791	10	
TOTAL 24/25	275	2957	11			TOTAL	295	3343	11	

	This Year (2024-2025)						Previous Year (2023-2024)			
	Activities	Participants		Average			Activities	Participants	Average	
BY ACTIVITY TYPE						BY ACTIVITY TYPE				
Walks	114		859		8	Walks	109		864	8
Cycles	131		1493		11	Cycles	126		1496	12
Paddles	40		611		15	Paddles	47		710	15
Trips	7		99		14	Trips	9		147	16
Social	1		90		90	Social	3		97	32
Training	3		30		10	Training	1		29	29
Cancellations	39		0			Cancellations	29			
Total	296		3182		11	Total	295		3343	11