

Minutes GM 20 March 2023, LVRSL, 7.30 pm

Present: Andrew Reed, Steve Butler, Tony Abel, Tim Lewis, Tim Urbanc, Dave Long, David Travalia, Paul Markey, Michael Bourne, Rob Brodribb, John Spencer, Craig Granquist, Wayne Bellette, Anna Bellette, Lyndon Cubbins, Malcolm Crosse, Denis Abbott, Peter Rasmussen, Scott Haslock, Mark Aspinall, Chris Hilton, Paul McCosh

Apologies: Doug Mosenthal, Doug Miller, Henry Edgell, Glenn Cannell, James Mackay, Peter Murphy, Ian Stokes, Bill Turner, Noel Wilson, Steve Luttrell, Martin Exel

Guests: Dave Tarbeth

Minutes GM 20 February 2023: John Spencer, Paul Markey

Correspondence In:

Malcolm, Jason – 2nd Bug Day and Pairs Comp, circulated.

DA Intensive Feed lot, Plenty above Salmon Ponds, circulated.

Financial: *per* Tim Lewis

Operating account	14090.71
Term 1	7159.54
Term 2	6267.72

Arising:

Insurance: the Committee continues to pursue some questions and explore alternatives.

Induction materials working group/subcommittee and IT systems: work in progress on induction materials and future-proofing our IT, including managing the ever-increasing volume of Zoom records. Paul Markey and Andrew Reed to work on initial introductory information.

Plenty DA intensive feed lot: we've organised to be informed when and if a new application is submitted. The relevant EPA report has been circulated and photos of the algal blooms below the existing/proposed site are concerning.

Wader safety: may be able to access heated pool over winter, Committee to discuss further. It's possible we may be able to charge entrance fees to cover our costs – elderlies leaping into pool in waders and having to be pulled out (Treasurer take note).

1st Aid training: Wayne has some prices which may vary with numbers, @ this point \$80 pp, St Johns, includes 6 hours of prac. Committee will discuss further and bring back to members. Specialised Wilderness \$400 pp not considered viable.

PFD maintenance: given the IFS/MAST crackdown on maintenance, the Committee will look to getting a speaker from one or the other on the requirements.

Webcam funding: Needs continuity, presently at risk due to AAT funding reduction. Some attempt to get individual camera sponsorship to date unsuccessful; some donations from clubs. General appreciation of their value to anglers and national/international touristic value. Questions as to

whether this should rely on clubs – another impost on anglers – or be directly funded by government, given their wider importance. Malcolm suggests the cost is approximately \$800 per camera per year, 11 cameras.

Deer cull app/citizen science survey: there was not a lot of new information available but Malcolm flagged a notification from Parks re a culling process, which has now been circulated. For discussion next meeting.

Double Lagoon, Kay track work: progressing, plus IFS notification significant improvement of the camping area at Tooms and heads-up as to it's potential for next season.

Stream access, bio-security: agreed to pursue our active involvement with these measures – they are necessary and inevitable.

Committee Strategic Review meeting 14th March 2023

Wide-ranging discussions which will be fully reported in the near future. There was some discussion re the impending Sorell work: issues of shack utilisation and the possible need for rationalisation; and alternative or additional events/activities which might generate more participation. Noted that the rate of utilisation of Miena is declining, newer and younger members are not utiising, questions as to why including rate of private shack ownership and the perennial question of widening access beyond club membership, with it's administrative and other implications. Out toward left field, perhaps exploration of the future of the Tiger Hut, perhaps in collaboration with another club or clubs.

With respect to Sorell: of immediate interest, we are seeking an indicative costing of David's slightly amended plans, with a view to doing this off-season. David and Ken Fisher are collaborating on this. There was some mention of the recent projections as to the carp nets – likely to come out – and the present state of the fishery – not many fish, but some decent ones. Related, Terry Byard had pointed me to the attached link, which I hadn't had time to access, but quoted him in part: see <https://www.facebook.com/valleyfishes/> See the entry for the 15th March. We appear to be slow learners..... An introduction to Sorell now scheduled for end of season – see the Activities calendar.

Activities reports and updates:

Bug Day, Penstock: more sampling, 6 club members, results to be collated and a report available probably early spring. These processes will be on-going and ultimately establish working scientific baselines. Of note, pleasingly no evidence of hydrocarbon pollution from the recent Hydro study.

Pairs Day: most fished Little Pine for not a lot of fish, smaller in good condition, larger definitely not. Some scurrilous suggestions 2nd place getters may have had insider information as to a recent release of smallish rainbows into Dee.....

Pedder w'end: Proceeding as scheduled

Late entry – Weasel camping w'end, 14-16 April: see the activities calendar. Bring yourself, food and camping gear. We may have access to some additional waters – watch this space.

Sorell, end of season: see above. An opportunity to get some hands-on guidance from some of those who can remember where some of the rocks are (often the same place as the fish).

Liawenee w'end 20-21 May and Miena working bee: Am clarifying whether IFS want some tying participants (it seems likely they do, watch this space) and details re the Miena activities/requirements will be forthcoming closer to the event. Now on the activities calendar.

Tiger Hut tying, late May: the weekend session is filling up, the second more slowly. Cubby suggests these sessions provide unparalleled access to literally top level tying skills and knowledge, which those who've attended over the years will wholeheartedly agree with. For newcomers and younger members, these shouldn't be missed. (Also a good place to learn quite a lot about wine). Put your name down on the activities calendar even if it seems full – there are invariably changes. Cub would also like to hear from volunteers to provide 1st night casseroles for either session.

Shack reports:

Miena: still questions re the toilet shed pump – diaphragm, pressure switch? Tim to pursue.

Sorell: All pretty much under control @ this point.

Round robin: a very variable range of activities and information. There seems to be a lot more river fishing happening, perhaps given none of Pine, Arthurs and Woods are fishing at their peak. On the other hand, Penstock fish are in absolutely excellent condition and there are still a lot of good reports from Great Lake.

Presentation and discussion of David's amended plans for Sorell extension

David has done detailed specs now providing a good basis for costing. The principal change is moving the previous central fireplace to the E outside wall – structurally and spatially more efficient and simpler re construction. Other key points: the plan remains free of the need for Council permissions; it makes provision for anticipated increased usage, including wrt water; at a pinch, there will be more sleeping area, if a tad chilly; and the design is such that components – eg the sliding screens – can be fabricated off-site and transported up. There was an extended and enthusiastic discussion which seemed very positive in all respects. As above, David and Kenny will collaborate on next steps. The revised plan will be made available on the website in the near future.

Meeting closed 9.15pm