

Bushwalking NSW

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016 MINUTES

Time & Date 6:30-9:00pm on Tuesday, 16th August 2016

Location: Redfern Town Hall, 73 Pitt St, Redfern NSW 2016

Attendees:

NAME	Club	Nominated Club Delegate
Alex Allchin	Sydney Bushwalkers	Yes
David Trinder	Sydney Bushwalkers	Yes
Ed Youds	Span Outdoors	Yes
Helen Smith	Sydney University Bushwalkers	Yes
Keith Maxwell	Cumberland Plain Walkers	Yes
Kirsten Mayer	Bushwalking NSW	No
Sierra Classen	Sydney University Bushwalkers	
Peter Stanfield	Coast & Mountain Walkers	No
David Bell	Sydney Bushwalkers	Proxy for JF if John not there
Tony O'Sullivan	WEA Ramblers	yes
George Quinn	Coast & Mountain Walkers	No
David Springthorpe	Coast & Mountain Walkers	Yes
Robert Simms	Catholic Bushwalking Club	Yes
Cheryl Fletcher	WEA Ramblers	Yes
Ute Foster	Coast & Mountain Walkers	Yes
Charles Bowden	All Nations Club	Yes
Dick Weston	Bush Club	Yes
Paul Jennings	NSW Nordic Ski Club	
Kate Minnett	NSW Nordic Ski Club	
Mike Welling		
Margaret St Hill	Catholic Bushwalking Club	
Maddy Miller	Sydney Bushwalkers	No
Bill Donoghoe	Wanderers Bushwalking Club	No
Jenny Donoghoe	Wanderers Bushwalking Club	No
Vince Muptagh	Catholic Bushwalking Club	
Ankit Thangasany	Sydney University Bushwalkers	Yes
Vanessa Hicks	Sutherland Bushwalkers	Yes
Peter Hart	Sydney Christian Bushwalkers	Yes
Matt McClelland	National Parks Association	Yes
Eliza Zitao	National Parks Association	

Apologies:

Mitchell Isaacs	Suboir United Bushwalkers
Margaret Covi	Watagan Wanderers

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Previous Minutes

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 18th August 2015 were accepted.

Introduction – Alex Allchin

- The more people involved, more things can be done.
- Ed Youds: Fee increase because BNSW is doing more things.

It's Sweet to walk Soft (ISWS) Project Introduction – Kirsten Mayer, Executive Officer:

- “It's Sweet to Walk Soft” aims to reach out to our club members and members of the public who are new to bushwalking to encourage both groups to:
 - interact with each other, and
 - engage in nature conservation and protection of biosecurity in NSW.
- The project seeks to achieve this by:
 - Reaching out to club members and new bushwalkers through an electronic campaign,
 - Sharing information with club members and new bushwalkers through an improved Bushwalking NSW newsletter, and
 - Facilitating training in Minimal Impact Bushwalking.
- Thanked BNSW committee members, volunteers and supporters, particularly Matt McClelland, for their contribution to project idea and development.
- Introduced BNSW's first intern, Madeleine Miller, whose position as BNSW's Campaign Officer will assist with ISWS.
- ISWS is an opportunity to refresh our own clubs practice of safety and impact on biosecurity, and pass this onto bushwalking newcomers.
- Request to all Clubs: please invite your members to these general meetings. All members are welcome – not just delegates.

Keynote speech – Mike Welling: WEJUGO

Executive officer introduced Mike Welling of WEJUGO.

- WEJUGO is a user generated adventures app that features shared mapping, tracking and administrative tools that will be useful for the Clubs of BNSW.
 - Response to the rise in adventure tourism, methodology to bring about education featuring info on biosecurity and safe travel, imparting/promoting Leave No Trace (LNT) principles
 - Fears the catastrophic impact of tourism growth on the environment. App is a preventative method attempting to educate and intervene in tourism growth at an early stage.
 - Features: planning tools, user generated maps, social sharing and tracking.
 - Designed to be an adventure tool kit for wilderness travel to make life safer and easier.

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- Biosecurity addressed through online geo-fencing, providing Parks with valuable data.
- Adventure messaging and awareness tools: demonstration of beacon, to be placed in visitor centres.
- Club members can sign up for prototype.

Question: How would standard Bushwalking Clubs use the app?

Answer: Via messaging features: assisting private club administrative efforts, managing members is important, ability to set groups.

Question: Is there a cost?

Answer: WEJUGO is free for everyone to search, to set trips you have to be a member, premium membership costs \$5 a month.

Question: How does the app operate without internet coverage?

Answer: Internet coverage is not an issue, the app utilises data from your smart phone in low reception areas automatically, allowing the user to access the information stored on your phone.

Question: Will content sharing impact 'private' or coveted locations?

Answer: It is up to the users and community to make decisions regarding information sharing.

- WEJUGO is useful for emergency services information and procedures: streamlining and uniforming required documentation. The app has the ability to notify your family and share your info.

Election of committee members

All positions declared vacant.

President

Alex Allchin (BW): (N) Sierra Classen (S) John Flint

There being no other nominations, Alex Allchin was declared President.

Vice-President

Mitchell Isaacs (Suboir): (N) Ed Youds (S) Peter Hart

There being no other nominations, Mitchell Isaacs was declared Vice-President

Secretary

Sierra Classen (SUBW): (N) Peter Hart (S) Ed Youds

There being no other nominations, Sierra Classen was declared Secretary

Treasurer

Ed Youds (SO): (N) Sierra Classen (S) David Trinder

There being no nominations, Ed Youds was declared Treasurer.

Ordinary Committee members:

George Quinn (CMW): (N) Alex Allchin (S) Sierra Classen

Margaret Covi (WW): (N) Alex Allchin (S) Sierra Classen

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Auditor:

Robert Simms (CBC) (N) Ed Youds (S) Sierra Classen

Additional Ordinary Committee members:

Matt McClelland proposed motion that the current committee members be empowered to appoint between 1-4 additional committee members.

(P) Matt McClelland (S) Ed Youds Vote **carried**.

- Kirsten Mayer is to send a call out to clubs for additional committee members.

Concluding statements – Alex Allchin

- Bushwalking NSW aims to link all bushwalkers to clubs. Whilst not all people like clubs, it is important that these people have the information stored in Clubs.
- BNSW has engaged with government bodies and had great success.
- Calls for interesting ideas that Clubs are engaging with.
 - 67 peaks in 1 day.
 - Chardon Award.
 - Young Bushwalker of the Year.
 - Awards that recognise the people who have contributed to Clubs.
 - Canberra Walkers: Who can walk on the most maps.

General Discussion:

- Recognition of the passing of Jeanine Edgecombe, who died at the age of 102 at the beginning of August, 2016.
- Sydney Bushwalkers:
 - Experiencing significant growth in membership. 800 members. 300 prospective members.
 - New members night every month, which serves to filter applicants and present an overview and info sharing of Club. Average New members night attendance = 25 (up from 12 attendees in 2014).
 - New membership resulting from updated Sydney Bushwalkers Facebook and web page. Google searches leading to increasing members.
 - Experiencing difficulty with leadership, currently struggling to find enough leaders to guide walks.
- Helen Smith, NPA of NSW update:
 - NPA conducted a PLB's recall and replacement of batteries and saw Technology improvement and price drop. Can now give leaders PLB's that will last 10yrs.
 - Providing new First Aid supplies for leaders, with new equipment
 - Huge influx of new members, large amount of South East Asian International students.

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- Matt McClelland, NPA of NSW:
 - Track Closures: It used to be that land managers did not engage, now they are closing down tracks. Jump on track closures. Write to your local members.
 - Achieved Calan Creek Bridge repair
 - Discussion of closure of section of Great North Walk due to Hornsby rifle range. Urges members to remain active, write letters, keep bushwalking in view of your local MP's.
- Lyn, Sutherland BW's:
 - Adopt a track, training co-ordinates with park ranger. Once every three months.
 - Alex will follow up regarding other Club's potential involvement.

Meeting closed: 9:30pm