

Agenda/ Minutes

2023/24 Annual General Meeting

The Wilderness Society Newcastle Inc would like to invite all members to the AGM

Date

Tuesday, 13 November 2024

Start time

18:00pm

Place

Online over zoom

1. Welcome, attendance and apologies
2. Acknowledgement of country
3. Approval of the minutes of 2023 AGM
4. Annual report All
5. Presentation of Financial Statements for the year to 30 June 2021
6. Appointment of auditors
7. Appointment of Board members and office bearers
8. Any other business
9. Close of meeting

Minutes	
Welcome, attendance and apologies	Noted
Present:	VJ, Michael Osborne, Tracy Champness, Katelijn Hullegie, Sophie Nichols, Mim Bucholm, Kathy Isherwood, Prue Bodsworth

	Apology, Kath
Acknowledgement of country	Acknowledgement, by Michael
Approval of the minutes of 2023 AGM:	Approved by Tracy, second by Kathy consensus
Annual summary 2023-24	It was another big year for TWS Newcastle! A big year for VJ our NSW Campaigns Manager and Mads our Community Organiser, a big year for us as part of the TWS federation and a big year for our local governance. Our campaign work for the year was guided by the federation-wide Organisational Campaign Plan (the OCP), which had been adopted by the Convenors Committee. VJ managed the vested interests campaign, the community rights campaign, the Wollemi campaign and also worked on the First Nations listening project, the First Nations conservation tenure project, the continental forests campaign just to name a few. We also contributed to the Pilliga campaign with funding for the North West Protection Advocacy group. A major piece of work was developing up a NSW Forest icons campaign, which has recently been agreed by the Campaign Pod and approved by the Convenors Committee. In a personal accolade, VJ was co-acting NCD over part of December and January. We continued to empower our local communities with the tools to advocate for better environmental policy, by investing in our community organising program managed by Mads. This included work on the PEP 11 campaign, the Great Koala National Park campaign, "Call your MP" week of action, the campaign to End NSW Native Forest logging. We worked to change the system with the Community Rights campaign mobilisation. A major piece of work was helping to organise the Hunter Community Alliance gathering at the Great Hall at the University of Newcastle. As you know, we've since said goodbye to Mads.

	A huge thank you to both VJ and Mads for a big year. As a local organisation, we continued to work within the TWS federation, attending Convenors Committee meetings, TWS Finance Group meetings and the Binna Burra gathering, providing oversight and adjustments to the Organisational Campaign Plan and as well as feedback on policies for the Federation. As a local organisation, we “lived within our means” managing our local budget (just under \$2K surplus for the year and a healthy balance sheet), undertaking our own risk management, ensuring that our staff have the tools they need, as well as keeping an eye on time-in-lieu to ensure the sustainability of our staff and that TWS Newcastle is seen as a great place to work. It was a big year for TWS Newcastle and our shift to become TWS NSW & ACT. And, as you know, we said “goodbye for now” to former Board members Prue and Ben. And, we moved offices to the INNX Hub, along with Birdlife Australia! Thanks everyone (staff and volunteers and Board members) for all your efforts and passion and input over the year. As we know, we’ve got lots of work to do... To protect, promote and restore wilderness and natural processes across Australia for the survival and ongoing evolution of species on earth. For the earth Michael
Presentation of Financial Statements for the year to 30 June 2024	Accepted by all, surplus of 200K Tracy second, Michael
Appointment of auditors	Auditors approved same as last year
Appointment of Board members and office bearers	Welcome new member Sophie Nichols Tracy Champness, treasurer Michael Osborne, convenor

	Katelijan Hullegie secretary, Katelijan, Public Officer All in favour
SPECIAL RESOLUTION	The Special Resolution as circulated and advertised was adopted. It was noted that the Special Resolution had been endorsed by the Convenors Committee at their recent meeting. All in favour
Close of meeting	6.25