CRVA AGM and General Meeting August 28 2018

Venue: School of Hospitality training room Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL

Meeting opened 7.10pm

Acknowledgement of Country: John Butcher

Attendance: J. Butcher, A. Leahy, B. Shaw, B. Solomon, C. Shanley, R. Evas, J. Newman, N. Wheatley, P. Munro, F. Munro, C. Brogan, M. Puchert, J. Murn, M.Aldridge, P. Tregillgas, Michele Moss, I. Tyrell, L. Millen, J. Corkery (minutes)

Apologies: Erica Lovelock

Adoption of minutes from 2017 AGM: Moved N.Wheatley; Seconded; J.Corkery. Carried

* Correspondence out:CRVA letter to Inner West Council re Pemulwuy Trail proposal
* “Australians for National Title and Reconciliation” have asked CRVA to auspice a $2000 grant

Adoption of CRVA Annual Report Moved: Ann Leahy; Seconded: John Butcher. Carried

Many thanks to Ann Leahy for such a good job compiling the Annual Report

Adoption of Financial Report: Moved: Peter Munro Seconded: Michael Aldridge. Thanks to Chris Shanley for his work as Treasurer. Chris spoke to the report and raised the idea of an increase in membership fees. The proposed increases were suggested: Single Membership- 1year $10 3years $25. Family Membership 1 year $20 3 years $50. Moved Chris Shanley; Seconded John Butcher. Carried.

Current financial statement: CBA: $2,370.56; ING Direct: $12, 449.90 Total funds: $14,820.46

Election of Officers for 2018-2019

John Murn acted as Returning Officer and declared all positions vacant. Nominations were called for and all members were encouraged to nominate for any roles that interested them. Election results are as follows:

**President: Jennifer Newman** (moved by John Butcher and seconded by Julie Corkery)

**Vice President: Ann Leahy** (moved by John Butcher and seconded by Nadia Wheatley)

**Secretary: Julie Corkery** (moved by John Butcher and seconded by Jennifer Newman)

**Treasurer and Public Officer**: Chris Shanley ( moved by John Butcher and seconded by Nadia Wheatley)

The following members were elected to the **Executive Committee: Ranjith Evas** (Peter Munro; Julie Corkery**) Gareth Wreford** (Chris Shanley: John Butcher**) Barney Solomon** (Nadia Wheatley; Jennifer Newman) **John Butcher** (Peter Munro: Ann Leahy)

A number of members then expressed their thanks, congratulations and commendations for previous office bearers. Nadia Wheatley congratulated outgoing President John Butcher on his past Presidency; Ian Tyrell commended John Butcher and Peter Munro. Peter Munro commended John Butcher for his passion and commitment including his use of the mantra, “We are all Cooks River People.” Brian Shaw thanked Peter Munro for all his assistance with matters related to Cooks River Catchment. As incoming President, Jennifer Newman thanked John, Peter and Nadia who have mentored her within the CRVA. John Murn reiterated the above statements and included Nadia. Outgoing President John Butcher welcomed Jennifer Newman and noted how appropriate it is that the incoming President as a Wiradjuri woman has such strong connections to Country and Cooks River.

A History of Cooks River Connections

Guest speaker: Jennifer Newman is a proud Wirajuri woman living on Gadigal land beside Cooks River

Jennifer acknowledged country.

She explained the origins of the following words as follows:

Natives (natus-be born);

Aborigine (ab origine-from the beginning)

Indigenous people (indu-within; gene-beget)

Jennifer then explained that until the arrival of white people in Australia there were no Aborigines as there was only one people. After the arrival of white people there were Aborigines and non-Aborigines.

For the many different Countries belonging to Aborigines, rivers form natural borders. Canterbury-Bankstown LGA is embraced by rivers.

* Woollarawarre Bennnelong was a Wangal Man. He was buried at Kissing Point a property own by James Squires. Jennifer is a descendant of James Squires through her maternal line.
* Joe Anderson- King Burraga- was filmed at Salt Pan Creek in 1933 demanding recognition of Aboriginal land stating, “there are plenty of fish in the river for us all and land to grow all we want”
* Gwegal Shield (possibly obtained by Captain Cook) is held by the British Museum. The traditional owners of the shield, with its puncture hole, demand the return of the Gwegal Sheild and have stated “It proves that the notion of terra nullius is wrong and it can teach so much history.”

**Thank You Jennifer!**

CRVA General Meeting commenced at 8.24pm

Cooks River Alliance

Sue Burton from Cooks River Alliance spoke about The Cooks River People’s Plan 2018-2021 which outlines eight goals as part of a strategic plan for united action on the Cooks River and its catchment. Details can be found on CRA website [www.cooksriver.org.au](http://www.cooksriver.org.au) Discussion followed with following points raised:

* Peter Munro commended Sue and CRA for the positive influence they are having engaging with community groups
* Sue suggested organizing a Cooks River Festival from 24th -27th October
* Ian Tyrell suggested a fun run along entire length of river and possible boating tours supported by Inner West Council
* Martin Puchert noted that catchment area is broader than just riverside
* Peter Munro noted there could be consultation with Cooks River Catchment Coastal Management Program

Ewen Park Community Building – Nadia Wheatley reported on the stalled progress of the implementation of the plan of management and suggested a community picnic be held at Ewen Park on Sunday 11th November. Dialogue between the Hurlstone Park Association and Friends of Ewen Park is open.

Bankstown Bushland Society – Chris Brogan alerted the meeting to plans by RMS to widen King Georges Rd at Canterbury Rd intersection which will impact Wiley Park taking out some of the parkland, endangering a large Grey Box and other eucalypts.

Cooks Cove Update- Brian Shaw reported that there has been some positive news. Planning committee have questioned the golf course development. Moving the golf course to Barton Park is not recommended.

Ann Leahy requested that a net lost by Paul Thomas, who regularly rescues sick or injured wildlife in around the river, be replaced by CRVA as an act of goodwill and appreciation. This proposal was supported by the meeting.

Meeting Closed 9.20pm

J.Corkery (minutes)