

REPORTS

from the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TARA SEPTEMBER 2023

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President's Report

Tara AGM 20/9/2023

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This AGM is a unique occasion for me as I wind down to hand over the Presidency to someone else. It would be remiss of me not to reflect on what the committee and myself have had the opportunity to be involved in many areas involving the administration of the Solos Network.

We have struggled through all the challenges that Covid threw at us and learnt to live with a different approach to Tagalongs and we worked our way through postponed and cancelled rallies to name just a few. I am gratified however, that despite those challenges the Solos Network has come through in good shape and has seen continual growth over recent years.

I should also mention that we successfully created and implemented a new and more robust website. The gradual implementation of more website features also meant that we recently moved to a paperless operation for all rally registrations and membership applications. All this is in line with moving with the times as technology continues to push us into new territories, some of which are on trial here at Tara.

Another initiative, driven more by Covid than anything else, was the use of the Zoom communication facility for committee meetings – so successful was this type of communication during Covid that we now hold committee Zoom meetings on a more regular basis rather than the twice yearly prior arrangement at rallies.

We have continued the good work done by previous committees in maintaining good understanding and working relations with the head office staff at CMCA, and I am comforted that our parent body recognises the part that the Solos Network plays in the future of the Club.

The successes of the committee I leave behind is in no small part due to the dedication and commitment of each member, not only in performing their own duties but engaging in the decision-making processes that comes with the size of this organisation. My personal view is that I could not have wished for a better group of Solos to work with over the last three years

I leave you with a sense of sadness after what has often been challenging times – but far outweighed though by the enjoyment and satisfaction I have had in steering the ship over the last three years.

My very best wishes go to the new committee who I know will move forward and continue to put your interests foremost in their minds over the coming years.

Thank you

Dave Applegate

Vice President's Report

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The major role of the Vice President of the Solos Network is that of Rally Liaison Officer (RLO) – liaising between the rally teams and your committee. Part of that role includes sourcing rally sites and rally managers and I need your help to do this. Unfortunately we were unable to source a Rally Manager for our Autumn rally this year and I'm sure, like me, you all missed that opportunity to get together and meet old friends and make new ones.

Our rally here at Tara came about in an ideal way. A member found a site that they were excited about and approached the committee to run a rally. That person is our rally manager Jerry Gwynne and the site was Tara. So here we are! Congratulations to Jerry and his team for this fabulous opportunity to gather here.

If you are excited about a venue you've seen, a town you've visited or perhaps where your home base is please let us know and consider running a rally there or at least nominating it as a possible venue.

For the immediate future our rallies are in good hands. Our next rally is in Macksville at the end of April 2024 and our retiring President, Dave Applegate, has volunteered to be Rally Manager. Thank you Dave.

In October 2024 we will have a rally in South Australia after the CMCA rally which is being held in Mt Gambier in September, and Sam Bryant has volunteered to be Rally Manager. Thanks Sam.

Rally Planning is ideally done 12 to 18 months out so we are now looking at 2025 and the who, when and where of those rallies. I rely on you, the members, to offer suggestions and your services to make our rallies happen and I offer all our resources to assist in determining rally sites, rally managers and rally teams.

If you would like to contribute towards this planning please come and see me here or contact me at any time after the rally. And when you register for a rally, don't forget to fill out your volunteer form.

I really enjoy working on your behalf and representing your interests within the Solos Network and the broader CMCA community. With this in mind I would like to flag my intention to retire from this position at the Macksville Rally next year. I have plans to travel overseas and I do not want to leave the Solos Network and future rally managers in the lurch without a Rally Liaison Officer. I'm hoping someone here will express an interest in this role so I can work with them over the next few months and leave the position in capable hands for the future.

I've enjoyed working with our current committee and thank our outgoing Committee Members, Treasurer, Sandy Hardman, Membership, Robyn Dodds, and our President Dave Applegate for their services to the Solos Network in these positions. As a committee we have a wonderful working relationship and I'm looking forward to working with our new committee moving into the near future.

I move that my report be accepted.

Rosemary Robinson Q79106

Seconded Diana Hanlon. Carried

PR-Media Report

Tara Rally, September 2023

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The following activities were carried out since our last AGM at Cohuna in March 2022:

- o 6 quarterly newsletters
 - May, August and November 2022
 - February, May and August 2023

- o Newsletters contain information about Committee activities, upcoming Solos Network events, any policy and procedure matters, as well as information about Solos Chapter events in the previous quarter. Thanks to Chapters for their great contributions

- o The newsletter prior to each rally focusses mainly on what members need to know about the upcoming rally. In this case, the August 2023 newsletter highlighted:
 - How to prepare your rig in terms of tanks, gas etc
 - Staging points
 - Onsite activities and competitions
 - Tours
 - Facilities in Tara
 - For this rally, no Covid requirements as there were for our 2 previous rallies

- o I prepare a media plan for each rally which lists all TV, print and radio media in the region. I send out a media release several weeks prior with early advice about our upcoming rally, as well as our Solos information brochure with our history and evolution since the network began in 1998. Our Cohuna rally last year had great media response, ie
 - WIN TV News, Bendigo
 - Barham Bridge Newspaper
 - Cohuna Happenings newsletter.

Unfortunately, to date we have had no response to media releases sent to 2 newspapers, 2 TV stations (7 News and ABC) and a radio station for the area.

Moved Dorian that her report be received. Seconded Geoff Phillips. Carried.

Dorian Marsland-Smith

PR-Media Officer

MEMBERSHIP REPORT AT AGM TARA

20TH SEPTEMBER 2023

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Thank you all for turning up here today, great to see so many new faces. I would like to thank all those members who make my job so much fun and for all the interesting characters I meet along the way.

Just to throw a few statistics your way

- o 740 current members
- o Only 219 of our members are male.
- o 587 members are on our Solos Facebook page and I encourage you all to join because that is where we share travel info, camping locations, photos, funny stories, bad jokes and advice.

Please feel free to pop onto our website solosnetwork.net for more comprehensive information.

Don't forget to use the CMCA Connect App for information which includes The Wanderer Magazine online and Geowiki, hope you have all taken advantage of their seminars whilst they are here.

Currently there are 12 Bird Chapters throughout Australia who are made up of predominantly Solos, they meet once a month for camping trips , details are on our website

I am stepping down from the committee after 5 years and I would like to thank the committee for being a friendly, respectful group of individuals. I got much more out of this job than I put into it, I would like to thank you for supporting me to do something I really love.

Hope to see you in Macksville

So that's it from me! Have a great rally & play up as much as you like as we need some items for our next newsletter??

Robyn Dodds

I move this report be received. Seconded Ros Edwards. Carried

Treasurer's Report

[TOP](#)

Well guys its finally happened, this will be my final Treasurers Report
So here goes

We're in a very good financial position right now and I would anticipate us still holding at least \$35,000 in cash at the bank at the end of this Rally

PROFIT AND LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023

Read from sheet

BALANCE SHEET for the same period

Read from sheet

LEEMAN RALLY PROFIT AND LOSS has had to be adjusted to included a late transaction in Nov 23 is now

Income **13,925** Less Costs **13,301** Net Profit **624**

All these reports have been printed and posted on the committee board

If a member would like their own copy to take away that can be provided at the committee office

That's it

On a personal note I would like to say a big thank you to all the current and past Committee Members I have served with

I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would recommend it to anyone.

Thank you

Sandy Hardman

Sandy moved that her report be adopted. Seconded Tina Morena. Carried

Secretary's Report

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Tara AGM 20 September 2023

During the year since the last AGM, there have been 9 committee meetings. I distributed the agenda and recorded and shared the minutes, initially through emails but, following a committee decision, through a folder in the Dropbox. The first two meetings were held face-to-face in Leeman but the remainder were via Zoom. The meetings were scheduled for 1st Tuesday of each month and the link was sent a few days before each meeting.

Most correspondence was routine committee issues conducted through email, and there are no outstanding issues to be dealt with.

I move my report be received.

Monica O'Rourke.

Seconded Mel Shoppee. Carried