

2023 AGM Minutes



ROYAL SOUTH STREET SOCIETY

Our Vision – To conduct Australia’s premier eisteddfod – promoting and encouraging participation, enjoyment and enrichment through the performing arts.

Meeting:	2023 Annual General Meeting
Date & Time:	Wednesday 17 April, 2024
Location:	BPAC – Ballarat Performing Arts Community (former Neill St Church)
Attendees:	Adam Miller, Andrea Brown, Annette Lawson, Barbara Stead, Barb Dunlop, Carolyn Bennett, Cherie Brown, Claire Thorpe, Collen Holloway, Danielle Coltman, Dawn Harrington, Ron Harrington, Doug McGregor, Heather Turner, Julie Hunneybell, Joylene Weckert, Judy-Ann Quilliam, Karen Daniell, Keith Murdoch, Kerry Watson, Leah Moneghetti, Lindsay Eaton, Karen Eaton, Louise Brooks, Marjorie Steinman, Neil Steinman, Narelle Carr, Nichola Sleight, Ronald Stead, Rick Dunlop, Sandra Fishwick, Tony Cole, Virginia Wise, Wayne Mitchell, David Callinan, Jessica Godfrey, Cathy Scrivenor, Robyn Gould, Elspeth Stevenson-Matthews, Bob Matthews, Lynda Grant, Jill Filmer, Lloyd Harvey, Lorraine Harvey
Apologies:	Peter Zala, Loretta Kaval, Rebecca Norris, Graham Paulin, Jason Hargreaves, Jennifer Searl, Kim Montgomery, Bernie Capicchiano Yvonne Smith, Noreen Daniell, Lexie Brown
Minutes:	Judy-Ann Quilliam

1. MEETING OPENING

- 1.1 **Meeting Opening at 6.00pm**
- 1.2 **Acknowledgment of Country**
- 1.3 **Welcome** - by Board Chair, Lindsay Eaton
- 1.4 **Attendees** – as listed
- 1.5 **Apologies** – as listed
- 1.6 **Life Members Present** – Lloyd and Lorraine Harvey, Ron and Dawn Harrington, Bob Matthews, Tony Cole.

2. GUEST SPEAKER

RSSS Alumna – Leah Moneghetti spoke about the profound influence of her participation in the Royal South Street Society Ballarat Eisteddfod in the early years of her life, and the impact that the performing arts continues to have on her life.

3. MINUTES of Previous AGM

3.1 Minutes of Previous AGM

Printed copies of the 2022 AGM Minutes were provided to all attendees on arrival.

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3.2 Confirmation of Minutes of the 2022 AGM held on 26 April 2023 at the Sebastopol Bowling Club

Motion: That the minutes of the 2022 AGM be accepted as presented

Moved: Annette Lawson Seconded: Andrea Brown

3.3 General questions from the 2022 AGM Minutes

No further questions in relation to the Minutes of the previous AGM.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Annual Report & Chair's Report – *Lindsay Eaton*

Printed copies of the 2023 Annual Report were provided to all attendees on arrival.

Lindsay highlighted that people are the most important aspect of our organisation. People must come first, and they are a key driver in terms of operations at RSSS.

Last year many people were shocked by the financial results presented at the 2022 AGM for RSSS. The subsequent questions and discussions resulted in some considerable changes to Board members, staff and volunteers. In an effort to turn these financial results around for 2023, special mention must be made of RSSS office staff member and Eisteddfod Coordinator, Louise Brooks. Without Louise's support and considerable efforts, the 2023 competition could not have happened. Our actions were to ensure the financial stability of the organisation before any next step. We then employed Carolyn Bennett to assist Louise before the start of the 2023 program.

Acknowledge we had the support of the City of Ballarat with a significant grant for operations. We recruited and employed our Business and Marketing Manager, Judy-Ann Quilliam in October 2023.

Furthermore, thanks to the members of the 2023 Board who all put in a significant effort for the 2023 eisteddfod, in particular Andrea Brown and Danielle Coltman with their respective disciplines, calisthenics and dance.

Acknowledged the work of our volunteers – extraordinary! In particular the Committee Chairs and the loyal volunteers who return year after year. Special thanks to Keith Murdoch and his ute!

The challenges post covid have been ongoing, including the ongoing closure of Her Majesty's Theatre which has been very frustrating for all involved. Has reiterated the need to put in place processes for a sustainable future, such as marketing, sponsorship, compliance etc.

Thanks to the Board, staff and volunteers and also wife Karen, for their support for 2023.

To receive and consider the 2023 Annual Report, comprising of the Chair's Report

Motion: That the Chair's Report be accepted

Moved: Lindsay Eaton Seconded: Bob Matthews

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4.2 Financial Statements & Reports – Lindsay Eaton

To receive and consider the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023, prepared and submitted by the Board in accordance with the Constitution.

Very pleased with the overall result for 2023. Acknowledging that the final figures are inflated by \$100,000 gift from our patron Lady Potter. There has been a big increase in financial sponsorship which has helped significantly. Interest also on income. The grant from the City of Ballarat for \$92,000 per year for three years for our operations. There is also a \$70,000 grant from the City of Ballarat set aside for the purchase of a CRM to assist our operations.

There has been an increase in venue hire, this is due to needing to source new venues for the disciplines that would have been in Her Majesty's Theatre, however, these costs will be there in the future as Her Maj costs will no doubt increase as well.

Overall we have managed to achieve a net profit of \$145,000 compared with a significant loss from 2022.

Motion: That the Financial Statements and 2023 Annual Report be accepted

Moved: Danielle Coltman Seconded: Sandra Fishwick

4.3 Business Managers Report – 2024 and beyond – Judy-Ann Quilliam

Judy-Ann spoke briefly about the vision of RSSS and the supporting strategic plan and the work that the staff and Board are doing to ensure a sustainable future for the RSSS, including the development of Marketing & Communications Plan, Volunteer Management Plan, Fundraising & Philanthropy Plan and Alumni Plan.

Sustainable future is the most important priority.

5. BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

5.1 Member Elected Directors

In accordance with the Constitution, to appoint Member Elected Directors for the period 2024-2026.

The Directors are elected every three years at the Annual General Meeting and hold office until the 3rd Anniversary following their election when they are eligible for re-election, as per Section 11.2 of the RSSS Constitution.

The nomination form must be completed and signed by the Nominee, signed by the Nominator and seconded by another RSSS member. Nominations must have been received on or before COB Wednesday 03 April, 2024.

With the formal resignation of Ron Harrington from the Board effective prior to the AGM, Board Chair, Lindsay Eaton declared 6 vacancies on the Board, and we have received 6 nominations.

No need for a vote, as the number of nominees do not exceed the positions vacant. He therefore declared all six nominees new Board members and welcomed them to the 2024 RSSS Board for three year term.

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Elected Board Members for 2024 – 2026:

- **Narelle Carr** - Proposed by Lindsay Eaton & seconded by Andrea Brown 27/03/24
- **Danielle Coltman** - Proposed by Lindsay Eaton & seconded by Andrea Brown 28/03/24 – *Danielle was previously ex-officio for 12 months*
- **Karen Daniell** – Proposed by Lindsay Eaton & seconded by Andrea Brown
- **Nichola Sleight** – Proposed by Lindsay Eaton & seconded by Andrea Brown 27/03/2024
- **Barbara Stead** - Proposed by Lindsay Eaton & seconded by Andrea Brown 27/03/24
- **Virgina Wise** – Proposed by Andrea Brown & seconded by Lindsay Eaton 02/04/24 – *re-elected for a further three year term having already served 6 years as a Board member*

First Board meeting for the new Board is scheduled for Wednesday 24/04/2024 at 7.00pm at the Countpro Board Room. All dates for future Board meetings to be decided at the first meeting.

6. VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS

Certificates of appreciation will be presented to those in attendance (others will be forwarded):

- **5 years** - Neil Steinman, Marjorie Steinman, Emma Quayle, Rosemary Sheludko, Wally Horsman
- **10 years** – Bev Squire, Joylene Weckert, Jennifer Searl, Lorinda Bolton, Karen Pengally, Verna Martin, Helen Brown, Yvonne Smith, Wayne Mitchell
- **15 years** – Kristen Rowlands
- **20 years** – Julie Hunneybell, Heather Turner
- **40 years** – Dawn Harrington, Ron Harrington OAM, Dr Anthony Cole, Peter Zala

7. SPECIAL BUSINESS

No further business

8. Meeting Close