

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, FOLK FEDERATION OF NSW INC
HELD AT 33 PINE STREET, CAMMERAY**

2.00 p.m., SUNDAY 16TH AUGUST 2015

1. Attendance, Apologies

Present : James Baxter, Dallas Baxter, Alex Bishop, Julie Bishop, Andy Busuttil, Bruce Cameron, Terry Clinton, Pam Davis, Brian Freeman, Max Gregory, Brian Gutkin, Kate Maclurcan, Margaret Walters, Danny & Jan Watson, Chris Wheeler, Anthony Woolcott, Malcolm Menzies

Apologies : Sandra Nixon

2. Minutes of the AGM held 27 July 2014 - approved

3. Reports

a) President's Report

President Pam Davis presented a verbal report, in which she noted highlights of the year including

- Successful events - Pete Seeger Memorial Concert, held in conjunction with 2014 AGM, and Christmas Concert at Gaelic Club
- NSW Featured State Concerts at National Folk Festival – thanks to Christina Mimmocchi for her work in this regard.
- MoFo – great initiative by former President Anthony; now sadly in recess.

Pam announced her intention to retire as President, thanked the Committee for their support over the past two years and paid tribute to the work of “unsung heroes” of the Folk Fed, Coral Vorbach (Cornstalk), Wayne Richmond (Membership Secretary; JAM) and Julie Bishop (Folkmail), and wrap team Dallas & Jim.

b) Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bruce Cameron tabled his Report, which showed a net operating deficit of \$342. However, the FF remains in a sound financial position with net assets of \$9,473.

The following points were noted in discussion :

- \$355 held in the “FF Fund”, which was established for tax deductible donations. The Fund needs further publicity via Cornstalk & elsewhere. Noted that there is not an easily accessible pathway for donations. Also noted that donations must be unencumbered (not aligned to a specific project) and that membership fees are not tax deductible.
- No Cornstalk advertising income was received in the past year
- The Lawson book, State of Play CD and Kempster CD together represent a liability of over \$5000. However as the costs of these items have been met and there is little expectation of future sales, it was agreed that they should be written off. This matter will be addressed by the Committee at a future meeting.
- Cost of printing & mailing Cornstalk is currently over \$5000 (ie more than has been received in membership income); however these costs will reduce as publication was reduced to bi-monthly from April.

c) Membership Report

Report from Membership Secretary Wayne Richmond was tabled. It was noted that membership has continued to decline from a maximum of 395 in 2002 (attributed to the attractive FF Insurance package offered at that time) to 206 in 2015. There was a general discussion on ways in which the FF can be made more relevant, particularly to young people. (see AGM – notes on general discussion).

4. Elections

The following were elected unopposed :

President – Andy Busuttil

Treasurer – Bruce Cameron

Vice-President – Anthony Woolcott

Secretary – Pam Davis

Committee – Dallas Baxter, Jim Baxter, Terry Clinton, Max Gregory, Kate Maclurcan, Sandra Nixon, Chris Wheeler

The following ex-officio appointments were confirmed :

Membership secretary – Wayne Richmond

Folkmail – Julie Bishop

Cornstalk editor – Coral Vorbach

Wrap team – Jim & Dallas Baxter

Appointment of bank signatories – the following were approved as bank signatories :
Andy Busuttil, Bruce Cameron, Pam Davis, Anthony Woolcott.

Appointment of auditor - David Weekes & Co were confirmed as auditors for 2015/16

5. Close of Meeting

The meeting was followed by a general discussion, notes of which are appended to these Minutes.

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