



PUFFING BILLY PRESERVATION SOCIETY
ACN 004 621 505
ABN 79 004 621 505

MINUTES OF 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER 2018
Puffing Billy Museum, School Road, MENZIES CREEK

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm with Jeff Goodwin (President) chairing the meeting, Jean Clowes (Vice President), Tim Heeks (Secretary) and Russell Bowen (Acting Treasurer) seated at the official table. The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked those present for attending.

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Members Present

Joan Aldridge, Alan Bailey, David Baker, Gary Baker, Jenny Baker, Ian Barkla, Alex Blinks, Russell Bowen, John Brady, Andrew Burns, Rob Burns, Rodney Charlton, Peter Charrett, Fraser Clayton, Ralph Cleary, Jean Clowes, Brenda Coathup, Iain Coathup, Andrea Coffey, John Conway, John Crisp, Rob Dawson OAM, David Eaton, Neal Elfick, Richard Elphick, Don English, Greg Finlay, Matthew Gardner, Jeff Gazzard, Ted Godwin, Jeff Goodwin, Greg Goold, Jim Gordon, Judy Gordon, Susan Ham, Peter Harcourt, Tim Heeks, David Hennell, Russell Hicks, Ted Hignett, Kelvin Hill, Bernie Holmes, Steve Holmes, Tony Howker, John Hoy, Gareth Hunter, Nadine Hutchins, Peter Hutchison, David John, Steven Kaye, Dianna Kidgell, Graeme Kidgell, Neil Kingswood, Roland Kirsch, Graham Knight, Maggie Lambert, Cliff Leigh, Neil Lewis, Jill Lockwood, Anne MacLeish, Ian Marks, Don Marshall, Phil Matthews, Alexander McCooke, John McDonald, Rob McUtchen, Peter Medlin, Philip Miller, Doug Newberry, Dan O'Connor, Roy Odgers, Kim Oldfield, Gary Pallister, Doug Parbery, Jeremy Paton, Ivor Peach, Ron Peach, Eric Platt, Bob Prewett, Karl Pydde, Chris Raggett, Michael Randall, Andrew Rayment, Max Raynor, Col Rogers, Adrian Rose, Brenda Saunders, John Scott, David Sheppee, Robert Smith, Kevin Stanes, Graeme Stapley, Andrew Stephens, Kevin Taig, Geoff Tasker, John Thompson, Michael Thornton, Mike Topp, Stuart Turnbull, Ben van der Linde, Geoff Wallace, Herb Warren, Bob Watson, Andrew Webster, Rob Webster, Andrew Wheatland, Roger Willsher, Deborah Woodward

Observers and Invited Guests

ETRB - Roger Clifton, Paul Lappin, Judy Maddigan, Tim North QC, Campbell Rose OAM
PBR Staff – Emma Hutchinson, Steve O'Brien
Auditor - Martin Fensome
Observers - Annette Goold, Frank O'Sullivan, George Pedrotti, Tony Zaia

Apologies Submitted

Richard Atkinson, David Barr, Matthew Batt, John Beckett, Ian Bowering, Nick Breach, Ian Britt, Coral Bush, Peter Butler, Max Cameron, Lachlan Campbell, Bill Chalmers, Mick Chaney, Gavin Clark, Patrick Clements-Cramp, Graeme Cliff, Bob Cochrane, Ross Connor, Thelma Cotter, Norman Crothers, Jill Dawson, Peter Donald, Gerard Doorackers, John Douglas, Keith Doyle, Alan Driscoll, Rex Dumbleton, Kevin Eisfelder, Christine Ellerton, Peter Ellerton, Rob Emmerson, Vicki Everett, Peter Farrell, Greg Finster, Jennifer Flemming, Anna Friedrich, John Frost, Daniel Gale, Graham George, Josiah Glasson, Charlie Gormley, Tony Harris, Graham Hayward, Fran Henderson, Andrew Hennell, Philip Holder, Bryan Homann, Don Horsburgh, Andrew Howlett, Terry Hurley, John Hutchinson, Neil Ingram, Brian Jones, Peter Kemp, Sharleen Killian, David Knuckey, Kevin Larkin, Roland Law, Keith Lierse, Don MacWhirter, Tony Marsden, Joshua Masters, Kevin Mathisen, Kevin May, Greg Michael, Frank Mitchell, Robyn Morris, Jens Neelsen, Paul Nicholson, Peter Norton, John Orr, Emma Pallister, James Park, Julie Park, Barrie Paul, Kevin Perry ESM, Michael Petrescu, Roy Platt, Adrian Ponton, Gordon Pratt, Louisa Preece, Peter Ralph, David Rashleigh, Roy Richens, Caitlin Roach, Barry Rogers, Darren Room, Rob Rossiter, Chris Rumble, Peter Shallard, Malcolm Simister, Kevin Southey, Bob Stack, Peter Stowell, Karen Streeter, John Usher, Hedwig van Haalen, Colin Wales, Susan Wales, Colin Walkerden, Melissa Walkerden, Rosemary Walkerden, Rod Watson, Andrea West, Bruce West, Russell Wheatland, Wayne Whitford, Bob Wilson, Helen Wilson, John Wolff, Paul Woodward

2. MINUTES OF 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the 2017 AGM were distributed to all members prior to the meeting.

It was moved Graham Knight, seconded Geoff Wallace that the Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting be adopted. CARRIED

3. PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Jeff Goodwin welcomed PBPS members to the museum and special guests Tim North QC and ETRB members, Steve O'Brien - Interim CEO and Martin Fensome - partner of McLean Delmo Bentleys Audit Pty Ltd.

The PBPS 2018 Annual Report was made available at the meeting and also available on the website prior to the meeting. Its publication was delayed due to concerns raised by the Auditors related to items reported in the Ombudsman's Report.

The Society has organised and run an evening Climax train event under the new management of Caleb Fielding and Terri Larke. The President thanked them for taking over. Other events during the year included events organised by the Social Committee, the volunteer 'Thank You' event, co-ordinated by John Crisp and 23 Footplate Experience Trains (one with the Climax loco and the rest with 861). There was an enjoyable 50 year badge event at the Museum not that long ago and an information night in May. Two Special General Meetings were held during the year, one to change the Constitution and one at the request of a Member Resolution. Other committees that worked hard during the year were the Membership Committee, Museum team and the Rolling Stock Committee.

The main fundraising events for the year saw close to \$90,000 being raised from Great Train Race in May and \$12,000 being raised from Santa Specials in November/December. These proceeds were directed to the Menzies Creek Museum.

Significant developments during the year related to the findings by the Ombudsman and there has been an effect on the Puffing Billy Preservation Society. Details on this are in the report. John Robinson resigned as ETRB CEO, replaced part time by Jonathan Clancy and subsequently by Steve O'Brien, Interim CEO. The Society has been served with Writs related to historical child sex abuse that occurred in the 1980s. There are expected to be significant legal and associated costs until resolved.

After the meeting today, the train is scheduled to depart at 4.45pm.

Questions arising from the President's Report included:

- John Thompson asked why the names of Life Members and Gold Pass holders were not included in the Annual Report as usual. The President explained that some of the names had been in the Ombudsman's Report and hence no list of previous recipients was provided. The President also explained that the PBPS Executive Committee had decided not to give any awards this year.
- Ted Hignett asked what plans are there to restore historical wooden vehicles. The President responded that there was a long term plan to build a workshop. Its purpose would include restoration and preservation of historic vehicles.

4. PRESENTATION OF BALANCE SHEET AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Russell Bowen presented Balance Sheet and Financial Statements. Apologies were made for its late inclusion into the Annual Report. Mr Bowen noted that some decisions were harder than usual due to matters arising from the Ombudsman's Report and the Auditors' Report refers to this matter, as it is not possible to quantify the impact.

As regards the rest of the financial reports, revenue was down marginally and there were high legal costs. The only grant to the ETRB was the proceeds of the 2017 Great Train Race for the Museum. Other grants to the ETRB have been delayed due to the events of May and June and are to occur in the next financial year. The liquid assets are higher than previously due to this.

Questions Arising

- Ted Godwin queried the proceeds from Speed Limit 20 PLUS not showing as going to Archives. The profit from this publication is under Sales of Merchandise. This is to be adjusted.

- Eric Platt queried no grant to G42. Costs of running G42 are met by the ETRB with a small amount from PBPS. This grant is to be made later.
- Peter Medlin queried the non-operational versus operational assets of PBPS. Non-operational assets means not for revenue purposes. It was taken on notice queries about G42 and NRT1 and their status.
- Jenny Baker queried whether there was an asset list for PBPS. There is not one. Work to start on this in future.
- Rob McUtchen queried the interest on 3A funds which has been asked frequently. No action on this from past Executive Committees.
- Steve Holmes queried the same matter and the importance of 3A to PBR's history. Unfortunately, 3A parts have been used on other locomotives in the past and much has gone. Taken on Notice that it is an ETRB matter whether they support 3A restoration in payment for parts on operational rolling stock.

It was moved Russ Bowen, seconded Neil Kingswood that the 2018 Financial Reports be accepted. CARRIED

5. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

The current auditor does the books for both the ETRB and PBPS, as separate, but in parallel audits.

It was moved by Russ Bowen, seconded Eric Platt that the auditor McLean Delmo Bentleys Audit Pty Ltd be reappointed for the 2018-2019 year. CARRIED

6. MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

After several years of no increase in fees, a small increase (about 5% or \$3-\$4) has been proposed for membership from July 1 2019. These are proposed as follows

Full Membership	\$78.00 to \$82.00
Concession/Student Membership	\$49.00 to \$52.00
Junior Membership	\$26.00 to \$27.00
Family Membership	\$135.00 to \$142.00
Life Membership	\$2,300.00 to \$2,400.00
Senior Life Membership (over 65)	\$1,370.00 to \$1,430.00

Questions arising as to why fees were going up

- Matt Gardner queried what the cost of services were for each member and how they were going up with inflation.
- Andrea Coffey queried whether increasing fees would encourage people to join and whether fees should be reduced or pegged.
- Steve Holmes queried whether this was the time to increase fees.

It was moved by Jean Clowes, seconded Russ Bowen that the proposed membership fees be adopted. 54 for, 23 against. CARRIED

7. SOCIETY AWARDS

This year, it was decided to not present Certificates of Appreciation and Gold Pass Awards. The following service awards were presented in 2018, with those present having their awards presented during the AGM.

50 year Badge Recipients – presented at earlier event, if possible

Pete Davey, Marc Fiddian, David Hall, Graeme Harding, Andrew Hennell, Richard Robinson, Darren Room, Graham Thomas, Bruce West, Bob Wilson

40 Year Badge Recipients

Richard Atkinson, Graeme Cliff, Hayden Hart, Bryan Homann, Peter Shallard

30 Year Badge Recipients

Fred Ackland, Fraser Clayton, Susan Ham, Neil Ingram, Phillip Milbourne, Stephen Paterson, Bob Prewett, Chris Raggett

20 Year Badge Recipients

John Bell, Bill Black, Don Bruce, Gary Bruce, Ian Bryant, John Burne, Colin Campbell, Graham Crichton, Norman Crothers, Peter Donald, Anne Downton, Alan Driscoll, Barry Eadie, Matthew Gardner, Jeff Goodwin, Graham Hayward, Brian Jones, Peter Kemp, Roland Law, Keith Lierse, Noel Marsh, Rod Oaten, John Pagett, John Petersen, Murray Porter, Gordon Pratt, Barry Rogers, Adrian Rose, Mike Schumann, Kevin Stanes, Roger Starr, Karen Streeter, Rosemary Walkerden, Rod Watson, Russell Wheatland, Damien Woodward

8. OUTGOING PRESIDENT STATEMENT

Jeff Goodwin indicated that it had been a tremendous honour and privilege to be President of the Society. When he first moved to Australia, Jeff joined the Railway as a member and volunteer and never thought he would be President. Jeff thanked the members for their support during his term and especially Jean Clowes for all her work this year. The new Executive Committee will have no staff on it and will need to build a relationship with the new railway. Jeff also thanked Larry James and Chris Raggett as returning officers, who are standing down from that role after this meeting. Jeff asked Tim North and Steve O'Brien to address the meeting and they are to address the meeting later. Jeff vacated the position of President and passed over to Chris Raggett as returning officer, who is also a member and volunteer.

9. OUTCOME OF THE ELECTION OF THE PBPS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

At the close for nominations on September 5, nominations were received for the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and for Committee members.

For the position of President, there was one nomination. Anne MacLeish is duly elected as President for a one year term.

For the position of Vice President, there were three nominations – Jenny Baker, Gareth Hunter and Ben van der Linde. The successful candidate is Ben van der Linde elected for a two year term.

For the position of Treasurer, there was one nomination. Andrew Stephens is duly elected as Treasurer for a two year term.

There were no nominations for Secretary.

There were 9 nominations for Committee Member. With the election of Ben van der Linde to Vice-President, there were 8 nominations. Elected for two year terms were Jenny Baker, Gareth Hunter, Graeme Kidgell and Robert McUtchen. Elected for one year terms were John Conway, Kevin Larkin, Phil Matthews and Max Raynor.

Chris passed the meeting to the new President, Anne MacLeish.

10. INCOMING PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

Anne MacLeish thanked the returning officers and the outgoing Executive Committee – Jeff Goodwin, Jean Clowes, Russ Bowen, Tim Heeks, Bob Cochrane, Neil Kingswood, Ben van der Linde and David Baker. She also thanked retired members of the Executive Committee – Ray Leivers, Kevin Stanes, Roy Richens. She also thanked all the members who voted and all the members present at the meeting. Anne MacLeish was joined at the table by the Vice President and Treasurer.

As the position of Secretary is vacant and is an important role, the incoming President sought the approval of the meeting to allow those appointed to other positions to stand for Secretary, and if successful, to vacate their Committee Member position. Seconded by Gary Pallister CARRIED.

Nominations for the position of Secretary were called and were received from Gareth Hunter (seconded Kevin Stanes) and Philip Miller (seconded Matt Gardner). Graham Knight called for each person to address the meeting. Each presented a short statement. A vote by show of hands was held.

Gareth Hunter was elected by the meeting to the position of Secretary for a one year term. This created a casual vacancy for the new Executive Committee to fill at a later stage.

All members of the new Executive Committee came to the table and were introduced. They represent the railway and bring a wide range of talent to the Executive Committee, with all agreed to do their best to represent the members of the Society and to work towards achievements of the objectives of PBPS. Support from the membership was requested from all present. The initial focus of the new Executive Committee will be to get our house in order, work on governance standards and working with ETRB and senior management.

Alex Blinks spoke to the meeting and challenged the new Executive Committee to include young people in the future of the organisation.

11. INTRODUCTION TO NEW ETRB and INTERIM CEO

Mr Tim North QC, Chair of the Emerald Tourist Railway Board, spoke to the meeting. The ETRB is an independent Board appointed by an Order in Council, after the resignation of the previous Board. This appointment was a consequence of recommendations of the Ombudsman's report. Other recommendations from the Ombudsman are to be undertaken by the ETRB and a review is to take place in the next 12 months. The Board is to work with the Executive Committee to progress matters. The changing of the guard has our full support and encouragement. The ETRB is a group of people, open and transparent, interested in rail and interested to assist.

The ETRB consists of Tim North QC as Chair, Cam Rose AM on rail operations and Discovery Centre, Paul Lappin on financial and governance, Judy Maddigan on people matters, Roger Clifton on change management and marketing, Jennifer Flemming assisting the Minister on volunteering and Justine Heazelwood on records keeping matters. Doug Parbery has preserved all records of the Board from the 1980s and supports the new ETRB until a new secretary is appointed. Steve O'Brien has been appointed as an Interim CEO.

Steve O'Brien spoke to the meeting. His father ran in the Great Train Race in its early years. He aims to work with the PBPS to stabilise the organisation.

Tim North QC and Steve O'Brien were thanked for speaking to the meeting and indicated a wish to speak informally with members after.

12. GENERAL BUSINESS

A member resolution in accordance with Clause 49 was presented to the meeting. This motion acknowledged and noted the long and dedicated service of the outgoing Executive Committee members, recognising that these roles are voluntary and involved sacrifice of significant personal time and energy to the benefit of the PBPS. The motion was proposed by John Crisp and seconded by John Hoy. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn, as the people who had served had been acknowledged.

Rob Smith presented a short report on the Wright Railway Station restoration, which is a joint project with the Heritage Advisory Committee and the PBPS. The aim is to rebuild the station that will reflect a point in time (1920s) which fits in with the Era of Significance. People involved include Andrew Rayment, Norman Mauer, Jean Clowes, Jenny Baker, Gary Baker, Gareth Hunter, Peter Donald, with the assistance of Jason Bell and the Way & Works Branch.

Phil Matthews spoke about two Publications projects – *Timeless Impressions*, a photographic exploration showcasing Puffing Billy and *VR History series – Lamps and Lighting Vol 1* – a extensive research into VR lamps and lighting. The books are to be available from early to mid-2019. Expressions of interest to purchase these two books are sought.

13. QUESTION TIME

Ben van der Linde noted that his name was misspelt in the Annual Report.

Ted Godwin reported that the new Council provided pathway at Clematis is not attractive and would like to know the ETRB position on future developments like this. Tim North QC agreed to investigate.

Ron Peach spoke about his long history on the railway and has seen many changes over that time. He felt that it was important that despite disagreements on matters, we gain agreement into the future.

Due to the short time available for questions, members were asked to submit queries in writing for follow up by the Executive Committee.

14. MEETING CLOSE

A note of appreciation was made to the following people for their support of the Annual General Meeting. Andrew Wheatland for the audio system, Brenda Saunders for the minute taking, Sue Ham and Jean Clowes for organising afternoon tea, Larry James and Chris Raggett for being returning officers, the previous Executive Committee for organising the AGM and David Baker and the team from the Museum for hosting the event in the Menzies Creek Museum.

The meeting closed at 3.47pm.

Following the meeting close, members enjoyed afternoon tea and departed at 4.30pm for the return train to Belgrave.