

Minutes of SC&T Regional Rover Council Annual General Meeting 2012

Meeting Opened; 8.05 pm 20/3/2012

Present: W. Waerner, R. Nightingale, G.Pearce, R.Manton, P.Hines, RChinchella, P Nichols, A Campbel, L.Green, K.Critcher, R.Hughes, M.Kusi-Appauh, T.Haider, B.Nichols, C.Bowie, C.Davis, G.Cottrell, C.Baker, and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted as a true and accurate record. Moved; ? , Seconded, ?

Crew Reports

Austinmer; The crew is active with 20 members

Figtree: An influx of new members from Keiraville. 15 members

Queanbeyan: Crew is active and aiming for 10 members

Shoalhaven: Meeting fortnightly 6 members

Oak Flats: 1 member

Warilla: 2 leaders, 2 rovers

4th Wollongong: Meeting twice per month 9 members

Albion Park: 10 members and lots of venturer contact

Far South Coast: First meeting scheduled for next week – 5 prospective members.

RCR Report: Attached

ARCR Report : Attached

Treasurer's report: Annual Income \$15123.27 Annual Expenditure \$15699.92. A loss of \$576.65

Service Co-ordinator's Report; We participated in Starlight Day, Hike 4 Hunger, and had two service camps

Election of Office Bearers for 2012/13:

The following were elected to the RRC officer positions for the 2012/13 year:

President : R Manton
Vice President: G Cotrell
Secretary: J. Nightingale
Treasurer: M. Kusi- Appauh
Service Coordinator: C. Baker
Webmaster: B. Nichols
Publicity Officer: R Hughes
Venturer Liason Officers: T.Haider, C.Davis
WWG Advisor: A Clark
BRC Reps: R.Manton, C.Baker, T.Haider, C.Bowie
RRC Treasurer Advisor: S.Thompson

Amotion was moved and passed to make the following changes to the bank account signatories;

Add G.Pearce, M.Kusi-Appauh, RManton

Retain; R.Nightingale, A.Clark,T.Haider

Remove: A.Collyer, S.Drayton

A vote of confidence in the RCR and ARCR was carried.

The meeting was closed at

South Coast and Tableland Regional Rover Council RC-R Report 2011/12

My personal circumstances have changed greatly in the past year. I am now travelling much more and a recent review of the year's calendar showed that I will be away from many RRC meetings and activities. After brief discussion with the Region Commissioner it was decided that an assistant should be sought. I am delighted that Greg Pearce has accepted the position. Greg holds a Rover Wood Badge and the Baden-Powell Scout Award. It would be quite impossible to find anyone better qualified. Thank you Greg!

Rover numbers across the Region continue to grow steadily. However, there have been some significant fluctuations in some crew sizes.

Notable increases have occurred at Austinmer, Figtree, Albion Park and now Queanbeyan. Some other crews have remained relatively stable and some are undeniably struggling at present. However, I need to point out that some of the strongest contributions to RRC moot and service activities have come from individuals in the weaker crews. A good RRC programme can go a long way to providing satisfying roving even for those in crews suffering in the short term. In the longer term, however, any crew's viability requires a good and continuing relationship with one or more venturer units. This is amply demonstrated by the fortunes demonstrated in the current year.

While the Albion Park crew has thrived in its first year and already invested its first knights, I am disappointed to report that we have placed the Oak Flats crew into recess. Greg and I aim to meet with the venturers there to discuss their future very soon. Within just the past month we have been coming under pressure for the formation of a crew in the far south of the region – probably centred about Bega/Cobargo. These people seem very keen and we are trying hard to help them but we do so in the knowledge that success will be a big and hard sought achievement.

While the numbers have grown well of late, we have lost many highly experienced people. We are a young and inexperienced region. We urgently need to get many, many people trained. The new e-learning system is easy to use and Greg and I are actively exploring ways to reduce the cost to crews and individuals - including the development of a proposal wherein RRC pays for the training of some rovers from each crew each year. The RRC accounts are strong and training is the best investment that we can make in our future.

The region is blessed with a large number of highly capable Rover Advisors. I thank them for their ongoing and valued support.

The RRC chairman resigned from roving completely last month. Her attendance record had been poor for some time and I would be lying if I pretended that this did not affect our combined performance. It is, however, a credit to the region that we are so many here tonight, that SC&T Moot ran well and that the calendar is fully stocked for the year ahead.

We have been very unfortunate with several of our activities this year. We were let down by the Venturer section on Roventure – thankfully, the challenge for a replacement event has already been taken up from our own numbers. The weather has caused the cancellation of all attempts for a canyoning weekend. However, Weekend Widegames have continued to be a raging success. It is absolutely fabulous to see the growth of numbers and enthusiasm in the Widegame Organising Committee. It is also great to see so many crews represented within that group. I simply must commend Andrew Clark for his ongoing leadership of that group. His receipt of the Stan Bales Service Award for 2011 was a fitting reward for well over a decade of commitment.

While we have not had a Baden-Powell Scout Award completion in the past year, there are two of very high quality nearing completion. I commend pursuit of this award to you all. I do so knowing that perhaps only a small fraction will actually achieve the award. However, I know very well that by having a real go, you as individuals and your crews at large will benefit mightily from the endeavours and challenges that must be involved.

On the service front, we participated in Hike For Hunger again and the Wesley mission was very thankful for our contribution. I hope that this will now become a fixture and that we can grow the effort.

Finally, I want to mention the RRC's Strategic plan. That plan was first assembled six and a half years ago by the then RRC executive. Since that time it has been reviewed by each incoming executive. The plan had a timeframe of five to ten years and foresaw the growth of Rover number in the regions from the then forty six to a target of one hundred. We are now at the point where that is becoming a realistic possibility – even perhaps in the coming year! However, that will not be “job done” because there will still be substantial work needing to be done to improve training front.

It is with that perspective that I again offer but do not tender my resignation this year. While I might not be able to get to every meeting or event I believe that I still have energy and experience sufficient that I still want to have a real go in this gig.

Thank you all for your support and fellowship in the past year. Lets elect a new executive that will give the Strategic Plan a thorough review and set about making it possible for us all to have that real go!

Bob Nightingale.

SCAT RRC AGM 20 February 2012

Report: Assistant Region Commissioner – Rovers

Well I have only been in this role for six weeks, but I have certainly hit the ground running! I've already managed to visit every Crew in the Region, including a couple of visits to our most remote Crew in 2nd Queanbeyan where I was honoured to be able to conduct their first new Knighting Ceremony in several years. However, with the way things are currently shaping up, the mantle of most remote Crew will soon be passed to a Crew forming on the Far South Coast.

In other 2nd Queanbeyan news just to hand, it appears that their search for a Rover Advisor has finally borne fruit. I will be travelling back to Queanbeyan next weekend to help the Crew interview Chun Morton, a former 2nd Queanbeyan Rover! Knowing the era of Rovering that he was involved with I am sure that he will be a fantastic asset to that growing Crew.

I have managed to meet a lot of new faces from the period that I have been out of Rovering, and caught up with everything that happened in my time away, not the least of which was the creation of a new, young and enthusiastic Crew at Albion Park. I also had the distinct honour and privilege to be present recently at the Knighting Ceremony of their first two Rover Knights. Congratulations! Certainly a lot can happen in Rovering circles in three years! I believe that our presence in the South of the Illawarra has been one of our weak links, so I am extremely happy to see this being strengthened! I have

also caught up with a lot of familiar faces. It goes to reinforce the fact that the people you meet and relationships you start in Rovering often carry on for the rest of your life. Whilst my report could to a certain extent mirror that of Nighty's, I will instead just lightly touch on the main issues that I envisage we will focus on in the coming year.

Training – We are a young and relatively inexperienced Region. This has both its advantages and disadvantages. But it does mean that getting as many Rovers as possible trained up to a minimum completion of their e-learning, and preferably onto a BST (Rovers) course is a high priority. From personal experience I can guarantee you that being a trained Rover not only helps you, but you become a greater asset to your Crew. This will be a familiar slogan of Nighty and I this year!

Membership – As the Region approaches a long-term goal of 100 Rovers it is as important as ever to maintain and strengthen our relationships with *all* Venturer Units. Never assume that a Venturer will come to your Crew, or, for that matter, will go to another Crew. We should all be out there actively promoting Rovers to all Venturers. We are strongly positioned to do this through the events that we run with, and for, the Venturers, including WWG, Caving and Canyoning. I especially look forward to the Region again running a Roventure this year. Again the lack of a strong Roventure has been to our own detriment, and we are very lucky that WWG has to an extent been filling that void. Hopefully we can once again make this an annual event that is a highlight of the Rover and Venturer calendar.

Activities – It is no secret that I lean towards the Adventurous side of Rovering. However, a full and well-rounded programme will make your Crew more attractive to prospective members. Recruiting to a Crew that does little is in itself difficult. Looking at the Region calendar, by simply attending all of these events Crews will be well on their way to having a full and balanced programme. However, I would like to encourage all Crews to get out into the Bush, away from a Moot, and go camping. After all, BP did envisage us as a “Brotherhood of the Outdoors.”

Baden-Powell Scout Award – I very much look forward to working with the Rovers of the Region to assist them in working towards their BPSAs to the highest possible standard. I know that there are at least two currently in the pipeline and close to being completed. I encourage every Rover to make an attempt on the Award. Whether you complete it or not, the process assists in maintaining a healthy balance in your Crew's programme. In fact some of the highest quality BPSAs that I have witnessed were never finished, but this does not detract from their quality and high standard.

It is with a certain degree of sadness that we have recently closed one Crew that never really got off the ground, 1st Jerrabomberra, and have had to place Central Oak Flats Crew into recess. Whilst on the surface this is disappointing, both Crews were extremely close to other Crews, meaning that this will hopefully strengthen the positions of 2nd Queanbeyan and 1st Albion Park Crews.

I look forward to working *for* the Rovers of the Region and *with* the Rover Advisors of the Region to ensure that the Rovering in SCAT is of the highest standard possible. As long as we all *have a real go* I foresee no issues in making this a reality.

With this in mind, and knowing that Rovers in Australia are a self-governing Section, I would request that the RRC AGM discusses and votes on my appointment into this position by the Region Commissioner.

Cheers,

Greg Pearce