



# VICTORIAN RIFLE ASSOCIATION INC

ESTABLISHED 1860

Registration Number A13641H

ABN 37 571 868 151

## Annual General Meeting

Saturday 09 December 2023, 12 midday  
Wangaratta Rifle Clubrooms

**Councillors:** Albert van Wyk, Garry Kay, Alan Wright, Frank Conner, James Corbett

**Attendees:** John Gullock, Dianne Clarke, Doug George, Matt Powell, Raymond Ross, David Black, Ken Dyason, Barry Wood, Jeremy Carson, Ross Aldridge, Joanne Corbett, Bob Pedersen, Trevor Diffey, Bradley Goodman, Gloria Cara, Geoff Doig

**Apologies:** Ken Reither, Markus Gaebel, Brodie Dare, Morrie Jackman, Robyn Jackman, Stephen Marovitch, Len Hayes, Marty Kelly, Phil Jonker, Di Jonker, Greg Cavanagh, Colleen Morgan, Susie Morgan, Peter Turner, Peter O'Dwyer, Joan Kay, Jason Kay

The meeting did not proceed due a quorum not been met. We require  $940 \times 2.5\% = 24$  members (22 Attendees in total)

## Reconvened Annual General Meeting

Saturday 16 December 2023, 12 midday  
Lilydale Rifle Clubrooms

**Councillors:** Albert van Wyk, Garry Kay, Alan Wight, Markus Gaebele

**Attendees:** Owen Henry, Liana Gaebel, Grant Delahoy, Ian Kerker, Andy Williamson, Blade Williamson, Peter Maher, Rod Gray, Steve Tredrea, Andy Proctor

**1. Deceased Members:** One minutes silence was observed for Kevin Armstrong, Gary Brosche, John Collinson, Graham Doig, Keith Lucas, Malcolm Scott, Ken Worthing

**2. Apologies:** Frank Conner, James Corbett, Jeremy Carson, Brodie Dare, Bruce Drane, David Brewster, Tim Sunderland, Morrie Jackman, Robyn Jackman, Michale Evans, Nick Mah, Vla Maher, Richard Tapps, Peter Farley, Paul Murphy, Cliff Abbott, Phil Jonker, Di Jonker, Brett Hartnett

The meeting was delayed 30 minutes and proceeded with 14 Attendees (10 required for a quorum)

**3. Confirm minutes of 2022 AGM:** Moved Garry Kay, Seconded Peter Maher that the 2022 minutes were are true and accurate record of the meeting.

**4. Chairmans Report:** Albert van Wyk spoke on the Chairmans Reports (attached). Retiring from Council after 6 years service. Moved Liana Gaebele, Seconded Peter Maher that the Chairmans Report be received.



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**5. Treasurers Report:** Alan Wright spoke on the Treasurers Report (attached). Retiring from Council after 10 years service. Moved Albert van Wyk, Seconded Peter Maher that the Treasurers report be adopted.

**6. Election of Auditors:** Moved Albert van Wyk, Seconded Peter Maher that the Auditors report be passed.

**7. Election of Patrons:** None

**8. Special business on Notice:** None

**9. Closing Address:** None

Meeting closed at 12.57pm



Dear Members,

As my term as councillor and Chairman of the Victorian Rifle Association draws to a close, I am overwhelmed with pride and gratitude. Reflecting on our journey over the past six years, I am particularly proud of the accomplishments we've achieved as a council, made possible by your support and commitment. A heartfelt thank you to each member who has shared and embraced our vision of strengthening our association through unity, with a common goal of enriching our sport.

### **Membership Growth**

In these six years, our membership has grown from 650 to over 900 dedicated women and men. This significant increase is a testament to our shared passion and the inviting environment we have collectively nurtured. The growth in membership reflects the vitality of our clubs and the dedication of the volunteers within them, who are the driving force behind our voice and purpose.

### **Adapting to Challenges**

Faced with the disruptions of Covid and other macro challenges that impacted our members financially, we adapted by introducing several supportive measures:

- Concession Fees for Veterans: Acknowledging their long-term contributions to the Association.
- Family Discounts: To foster family involvement in the sport and provide reduced financial burdens.
- Reduced Fees for New Club Members: Aiding clubs in attracting new members by taking cost off the table and offering a competitive product.

### **Supporting the Next Generation**

Our juniors' programme has been a beacon of encouragement for young talent. By providing equipment, components, and development opportunities, we have nurtured a new generation of shooters. A notable initiative has been waiving entry fees for participants under 25 at the King's Prize, leading to a substantial increase in youth participation.

### **Hosting Prestigious Events**

Our commitment to excellence was prominently displayed in 2021 when we hosted one of the most well-attended Kings and National State Championships. These events elevated our standing in the shooting community and cultivated a spirit of camaraderie and sportsmanship.

### **Technological Advancements**

In our pursuit of modernisation and efficiency, we have made significant strides in enhancing our technology infrastructure:

*New Online Shop:* We introduced an online shop, making it easier for members to access and purchase their needed equipment and supplies.

*Membership Management System:* The implementation of a new membership management system streamlined our administrative processes, improving overall efficiency.

*Revamped Website:* Our website has been modernized, offering a more user-friendly and informative platform for both current and prospective members.

*Instantaneous Membership Cards:* Perhaps most notably, we have transformed the issuance of membership cards. What used to take weeks, if not months, can now be done instantaneously, providing immediate value to our members.

These technological advancements not only reflect our commitment to keeping pace with the times but also significantly enhance the experience of our members, reflecting our dedication to their needs and convenience.

### **Overcoming Challenges**

The past 18 months presented some of our greatest challenges, but we emerged stronger. A pivotal achievement has been the finalization of the tri-party contract between the VRA, Parks Victoria, and Djaara, securing the use of our range for the next 21 years. I extend my gratitude to everyone involved in this landmark achievement for our members and the future of our sport.

As I pass the baton, I am confident that the Victorian Rifle Association will continue to thrive and uphold the values that have steered us to this point. I extend my heartfelt thanks to each one of you for your contributions to our community and for making my tenure as Chairman both fulfilling and memorable.

Warm regards,

Albert van Wyk

Chairman, Victorian Rifle Association



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## Treasurers Report – FY 2022 - 2023

Good afternoon to all our members, Chairman, Executive Officer, and fellow councillors,  
You should all have a copy of the financials for the 2022-23 year.

It has been a difficult financial year, with revenue affected by the prolonged closure of the Wellsford range resulting in a lack of activities with revenue opportunities.

The kings did not attract the expected number of participants, I believe partly because of the uncertainty of the range availability leading up to the kings, and the Australia wide shortage of reloading components, as a result revenue for the king's week was down by **\$24,706** on last year.

Revenue for the year was down **\$83,189** in real terms if you ignore the once off covid payment received in the previous financial year.

Wages were up **\$19,072** following a review of wages early in the year, and some increased hours during the EO transition periods.

All the above factors have contributed to us returning a loss of **(\$58,593)**

Our current **Net Assets** sit at **\$ 1,311,166** and we have **\$ 460,055 in cash**.

**The VRA is financially stable and able to service any of its current commitments.**

### The End of the Journey for me.

Today marks the completion of my 10 years on council, the rules voted in a few years back state that I must now step down. I have enjoyed my time on council, some of the highlights for me are:

Being part of the Wellsford facilities upgrade.

Event manager for the Queens/Kings over the last five years.

Treasurer for the last year.

I am proud of what we have achieved as a council in the ten years, for my part I have always done the job to the best of my ability, hopefully that has been good enough.

I would like to thank all that have help me on the journey, Chairmen's, Executive Officers, and councillors past and present. And a big thank you to the membership for your support.

I wish the new Council all the best for the future, and pledge my support, as you mould the future of the VRA and our sport.

Regards,

Alan Wright