



**SCOTTISH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL Inc. (SAHC)
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023**

21 May 2023 via Zoom

The meeting opened at 6.05 pm.

1. Attendance and apologies

Members present: Geoff Davidson, Malcolm & Judy Buchanan, Mal Nicolson, Carol Budlong, Stephen Hope, Nea MacCulloch, Sybil Jack, Barbara Gurney, Chris Lindsay, Susan Cooke, Linda McLaren, Lorna Barrow

Apologies: Malcolm Murray, Frank Davidson

2. Minutes of previous Meeting (19th June 2022)

Motion: That the minutes of the 19 June 2022 AGM be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Geoff Davidson, **Seconded:** Carol Budlong, **Carried**

3. Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising.

4. President's Report (attached)

Malcolm Buchanan presented the President's Report for 2023 which had been emailed to members prior to the meeting which he read out again.

Motion: That the President's report be accepted.

Moved: Barbara Gurney **Seconded:** Mal Nicolson **Carried**

5. Life Memberships

Motion: That the following persons be awarded Life Memberships of the SAHC:

(1) Malcolm Murray, The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Dunmore, Patron of the SAHC

Moved: Malcolm Buchanan, **Seconded:** Nea MacCulloch, **Carried**

(2) Pauline Finlay and Bruce Finlay

Moved: Nea MacCulloch, **Seconded:** Malcom Buchanan, **Carried**

6. Presentation of accounts

Nea MacCulloch presented the Treasurers Report. The Treasurer reported on the state of the SAHC accounts. The working account current balance is \$10,258.73 (28 December 2022) and cash reserve account \$16,000.46 (30 December 2023).

We have to note as we are receiving interest Westpac said we must keep the money moving. So, a minimum amount of \$50 to the working account to satisfy banking operations. We are making approx. \$17 per month in interest.

Two amounts were paid for insurance this year totalling \$14,082.60 (being for 2022, \$6,869.55 and 2023, \$7,215.05). Rates were kept the same. The income from organisations will pay for this in the subsequent year. It is anticipated that the SAHC will break even. The insurance program is being supported by 37 clans.

Geoff Davidson questioned the Westpac's banking requirements as his organisation banks with St George and he does not have any problem with a requirement to move funds. **Nea** advised us that the reason the rules are different is that Westpac has never been able to incorporate St George into their system.

Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted

Moved: Sybil Jack, Seconded: Chris Lindesay, Carried

7. Membership Fees

Motion: That membership fees for 2023 as recommended by the SAHC Committee be:

Individuals: \$20, Families: \$25, Students: \$10, Clan & Family Societies /Other Organizations: \$25.

Moved: Judy Buchanan, Seconded: Barbara Gurney, Carried

8. Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members

The **President** declared all positions vacant and moved out of the Chair. **Susan Cooke** moved into the Chair and conducted the election for the President.

Position	Nominee	Moved & Seconded
President	Malcolm Buchanan	Nea MacCulloch and Judy Buchanan

Malcolm Buchanan returned to the Chair and read out nominations he had receive in writing.

Position	Nominee	Moved & Seconded
Vice President	Susan Cooke	Malcolm Buchanan & Judy Buchanan
Vice President – History	Sybil Jack	Malcolm Buchanan & Judy Buchanan
Vice President – Clans	Geoff Davidson	Malcolm Buchanan & Judy Buchanan
Membership Secretary	Judy Buchanan	Malcolm Buchanan & Susan Cooke
Director Publicity	Carol Budlong	Nea MacCulloch & Susan Cooke
Heraldry Consultant North Queensland	Mal Edmiston	Malcolm Buchanan & Judy Buchanan
Liaison Officer	Mal Edmiston	Malcolm Buchanan & Judy Buchanan
Treasurer	Nea MacCulloch	Malcolm Buchanan & Judy Buchanan
Deputy President	Nea MacCulloch	Malcolm Buchanan & Judy Buchanan

The Committee then proceeded to elect the remaining positions vacant:

Position	Nominee	Moved & Seconded
Secretary	Carol Budlong	Susan Cooke & Barbara Gurney
Public Officer	Nea MacCulloch	Mal Nicolson & Stephen Hope

Director Sponsorship & Fundraising	remains vacant	Malcolm Buchanan & Judy Buchanan
Director Media Production	Stephen Hope	Barbara Gurney & Judy Buchanan
Newsletter Editor		<u>remains vacant</u>
Genealogy Consultant	Barbara Gurney	Stephen Hope & Carol Budlong
History Consultant	Lorna Barrow	Sybil Jack & Susan Cooke
Scottish Week Manager		<u>remains vacant</u>
Position	Nominee	Moved & Seconded
Annual Program Editor	Barbara Gurney	Mal Nicolson & Chris Lindesay
Tartan Officer	Susan Cooke	Lorna Barrow & Mal Nicolson
General Committee Member	Mal Nicolson	Lorna Barrow & Geoff Davidson
General Committee Member (subject to acceptance by Nominee)	Susan Wanless	Barbara Gurney & Susan Cooke
General Committee Member (subject to acceptance by Nominee)	Ian Young	Mal Nicolson & Lorna Barrow

All the above nominations were carried unanimously.

Liaison Officer's roles to be discussed at next Committee Meeting.

9. Declaration of Election

The President declared the election result as recorded. All Committee vacancies will be considered and filled by the SAHC Committee in due course. We are to continue to promote our organisation and build up the Committee membership vacancies.

10. General Business

No items were received.

11. Next General Meeting

Feb/March 2024, date to be advised.

12. Meeting closed at 7.04 pm.

Minutes accepted as true copy.

I certify that these minutes are a true and accurate record of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council's AGM held on 21st May, 2023.

Secretary

Date:

President's Report 2023 AGM

2023 appears to be a year that we can emerge from under restrictions from covid-19. We hope to see the revival of many of the events we have been missing and more opportunities to enjoy the personal interaction with friends and our Scottish heritage and culture once again.

I wish to encourage our members to return to join us at events throughout the year. It has been challenging in many ways for our community. We look forward to a better future when we can all enjoy being together safely to celebrate our heritage and culture.

We have maintained stable membership numbers, despite Covid, and our finances are in good shape.

We held a well attended and interesting Scottish Week in 2022.

In recent times we have seen clans planning and actually hosting events. Judy and I and Helen McMaster had the great privilege of participating in the inauguration of the Chief of the Clan Buchanan in Scotland in October 2022. We toured some of the great locations and sights while we were there.

While in Scotland sampling the whisky in the Speyside town of Aberlour, Judy and I called in to meet a representative of Walker's, one of our important product sponsors. This was a most opportune meeting as it appears that they have changed their supplier here in Australia. It was good to re-establish a more personal relationship and the biscuits are awesome too.

I wish to thank the Committee for their continued contribution to the SAHC throughout the past couple of years. In particular, we note the retirement of Susan Cooke as Hon. Secretary. Susan joined the committee in 2012 as the Hon. Secretary. Not only did she undertake the role of Secretary for 10 years, Susan organised many events throughout the years as well. I am delighted that Susan is staying on as a Vice President to continue to contribute to the Council's program.

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of several stalwarts in the Australian-Scottish community. Val Smith, Lachie MacDonald, Robin MacKenzie-Hunter, Dr Bob Cameron, and Margaret Kerr. We miss their passion, friendship and participation.

We hear that clans are planning their international gatherings in 2023 and upcoming years. We would like to hear when, where and what these clans are arranging, along with local events throughout Australia.

We need to increase our representation on the committee for key skill/interest areas so that the workload is not falling on the few. I encourage you all to consider encouraging those you know with an interest in newsletter, website, sponsorship and marketing, event management to step up to participate in an interesting cultural organisation.

Malcolm Buchanan
President