



**SCOUTS AUSTRALIA
MINUTES FOR THE 473RD MEETING OF THE
VICTORIAN ROVER COUNCIL
HELD AT VICTORIAN ROVER CENTRE
WEDNESDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER 2020, AT 7:30pm**

1 Welcome		
1.1	Flag Break	Michelle Saffin
1.2	Attendance & Apologies Apologies – Grace Archer, Andrew Strachan, Peter Wotherspoon, Bob Bramley	Maddy Packer
1.3	Acknowledgement of Country Scouts Victoria respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the country throughout Victoria where our activities take place. We pay our respects to Elders, both past, present and emerging and continue to recognise and embrace the important continuous history and connection to land & community of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.	
1.4	Conflict of Interest Any conflicts of interest that become apparent in the meeting are to be raised.	
2 Congratulations, Guest Speakers, Presentations and Formal Thanks		
Good on Ya Mate – Council acknowledges and thanks the exceptional contributions to Roving over the past month.		
Guest Speakers		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bob Bramley – <i>Surviving Turbulence (unfortunately was unable to attend)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Check out <i>Surviving Turbulence</i> on Facebook ◆ Members of the SLT – <i>Youth Roles</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/about-us/news/keeping-our-promise/ ○ Roles include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deputy Chief Commissioner – Youth ▪ Youth Commissioner – Program ▪ Youth Commissioner – Adventure 		
Guests		
◆ Thomas Milham, <i>Branch Rover Council Chairman, South Australia Branch</i>		
3 Items for Consent		
3.1	Minutes of the previous VRC Meeting	Michelle Saffin
Motioned: Bays Seconded: Melbourne Passed.		
3.2	Correspondence	Maddy Packer
Nil.		
3.3	VRC Financial Report	Jody Freeman
Attached is the financial Treasurer’s report for the year ended 30 June 2020 on page 4 of the Appendix document.		
3.4	Decisions of the VRC Chairman to be ratified	Michelle Saffin
Environmental Patrol Leader		

That Hugh Anderson will be ratified as the Environmental Patrol Leader

Motioned: Plenty Valley

Seconded: Bays

Passed.

3.5 Nominations for the Baden-Powell Scout Award

Regions

Sarah White, *Patanga Park Rover Unit, South West Rover Region*

Cassandra Lia, *Lasseter Rover Unit, Mount Dandenong Rover Region*

Kathryn Crisp, *Port Phillip Rover Unit, Lerderderg Rover Region*

4 Office Bearers Reports

4.1 Chairman

Michelle Saffin

Firstly, a huge congratulations to those who participated in the Black Dog fundraiser over October - Our Rover team raised \$3652 to support Black Dogs mental health programs, which is incredible, and 3 times our original fundraising goal! Thanks to those too who contributed funds to our walkers, helping to raise the profile of mental health.

Additionally, in October the National Plasma Challenge wound up, seeing Victorian Rovers save 254 lives through their challenge donations. Thank you to those who donated and those who supported the challenge in other ways. If you are able to donate there is a shortage of donors at the moment so please do not forget to keep booking in throughout the year.

This month I was lucky enough to attend the National Operations Committee meeting as a youth observer. It was great to hear what is happening for Scouting nationally, and to ensure the youth perspective was factored into all decisions and discussions. A big thanks to Zac for being a minute taker for these meetings- it is no easy task!

Lastly, a reminder to look out for each other. I do not have to tell you that this year has been tough, but it is also far from over. Please be kind and considerate when communicating with each other. And, if you need a break from Rovers in one way or another, please let the relevant people know and take a break - your mental health must be your top priority, especially as we all try to adjust to the new normal.

Email at:

chairman@vicrovers.com.au

4.2 Deputy Chairman

Kieron Younger

Firstly, I would like to congratulate any newly elected Unit Leaders over the last month and send my best of luck to their year ahead.

November has come too quickly.

OPERATION ROVER RECOVERY:

I am proud to announced Rover Scout Victoria will be launching Operation Rover Recovery.

Operation Rover Recovery will be the response to recover our section leading out of the COVID 19 pandemic. The response plan is set to retain and recruit as many Rover Scouts into the section leading up to census for 2021.

To summarise the plan:

Our membership stands at 1,613 as of the 22/11/20. The likelihood of our membership decreasing rapidly is high due to census fees that are due at 31/03/2021 leaving only around 80-90 days for Unit Leaders to try and get our Units back to operating an existing and meaningful program face to face.

Resources:

The Victorian Rover Council office bearers will be releasing Unit packs for formations to start from scratch next year, these packs will be called R.O.V.E.R.S

1. **Recover** - 1 of 1 on technique – information, COVID-safety, getting back out there having fun and emotional reactions support.
2. **Outdoor activities** - Activities such as hiking, bushcraft, camping, canoeing, bike riding and many outdoor adventure skills can be very easy achieved with COVID-safe measures. These types of activities have been missing in lockdown and will take serious encouragement to get members back out where they belong, in the outdoors.
3. **Venturer recruitment & retention** - Engaging in small outdoor based activities and support the venturer section as they will be the hardest section hit with membership loss. Breaking the ice to Venturer units and leaders' tips and tricks.
4. **Equipment and Logistics** – Fundraising, big picture ideas, and goal planning tips and tricks.
5. **Re-train new program** - Provide the information we already have and just keep promoting, and a basic step-by-step video on how to start your training in Rovers, a fresh start for when they return back to face to face.
6. **Service/ Community** - When steps 1-5 are complete, have a large discussion with the Unit about what the Unit or Project Patrol could do to provide service in the community.

There will also be a YouTube playlist included on each of the steps for Rover Scouts to watch over in their free time that compliments the packs.

For more information or if you have any questions, please email oproverrecovery@vicrovers.com.au.

SWORD AUDITS:

To maintain our obligation under the Control of Weapons Act 1990 we, the Victorian Rover Council, must maintain a valid log of swords within our Unit's that carry/ hold a sword. In 2021 we will be holding a sword census to gather information and to update our data base.

In Victoria, swords are classed as a 'prohibited' weapon under the *Control of Weapons Act 1990* (Vic). Possession or use of swords in contravention of the Act in Victoria could result in a \$12,000 fine or six months in jail.

The Scouts Association of Australia was granted an exemption by the Governor in Council to bring into Victoria, display, advertise, purchase, sell, possess, use or carry a sword for the purposes of keeping and displaying a sword or participating in ceremonial activities. This exemption applies to any active member of the Scouts Association of Australia who is 18 years or older. An active member is a member who has been a member for at least 6 months.

There are strict storage requirements imposed upon the exemption, requiring the sword to be "stored safely and securely". This means that the sword is stored in a way that ensures it is not readily accessible to persons other than those covered by the exemption.

When being transported between its usual place of storage and places it is being used for legitimate purposes under the exemption, it must still be stored in a way that ensures it is not readily accessible to persons other than those covered by the exemption and is concealed from plain sight during any such transportation.

The exemption also requires a record of possession, which is held by the Victorian Rover Council as well as the Unit in direct possession of the sword.

What this means for Units is that when possessing and using a sword for Unit ceremonies, there are important regulations and responsibilities to be adhered to. When looking to acquire a sword the Unit should consider the following:

Storage:

The sword will need to be stored in a safe manner, in a locked storage box that is secure in your den or hall. It also needs to have a means to be transported to where you will be using the sword and remain safe and secured.

Who will have access?

With the sword locked away, there should be a key that can provide access to only those that should have access. This means that no one under 18 should have access. It is also a good rule to have that Squires are not to handle the sword. This falls in line with the 'active member' rule, which requires a 6-month period within the movement before being covered by the exemption, which is the length that it should ordinarily take someone to complete their Squire training after joining the Unit.

When will it be used?

We have a sword we do not want anymore, what do we do?

When a Unit becomes defunct or does not want to hold onto a sword anymore, someone still needs to be responsible for the sword. If this happens, please get in contact with the Deputy Chairman and organise for the sword to be handed over. The VRC can hold the sword on trust for future incarnations of your Unit or if you do not want the responsibility anymore, we can find a Unit to adopt your sword and keep it within the movement.

If you do not hand the sword off to the VRC to accept responsibility for the sword, it needs to be disposed of in a responsible manner. This generally means surrendering the sword to the police.

Email at:

deputy.chair@vicrovers.com.au

4.3 Assistant Chairman

Matthew Barnes

Over the last 2 weekends Mafeking have run successful working bees. Would be really good to see more rovers attending their coming ones if the opportunity is there.

A reminder of how we should be acting in meetings should be no different to if we were meeting face to face. Please be respectful to others. Not long now to go (hopefully) till we can be having all our meetings in person. As restrictions start to get eased please be respectful of the freedoms given to us and make sure we are meeting safely and responsibly.

I am currently working on a review of how we oversee / approach risk management within the rover section. If anyone is interested in learning more about risk management or wants to be involved please let me know.

Email at:

assistant.chair@vicrovers.com.au

4.4 Membership Development

A nomination has been received for the Membership Development role. To fast track the voting and have the role filled before January 2021 a vote will be conducted to forgo the nomination being tabled for a month.

Membership Development role to be voted on this month.

Motioned: Bays

Seconded: South West

Passed.

Nomination:

Adam Kaplan, *Carlton Rover Unit*

Passed.

Congratulations to Adam Kaplan and good luck in the role.

Email at:

membership.development@vicrovers.com.au

4.5 Program**Zac Geddes**

In the past month I have been doing more work into SDGs and how to encourage people to add these projects into their 2021 program. So, a quick recap of what SDGs are.

“[The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.”

- Quote from the [UN website](#)

So, what is Scouts view, another quote off the world scout website

Scouts for SDGs is not a new World programme or award, but rather a systematic effort to leverage the Youth Programme and initiatives under the Better World Framework, including the Messengers of Peace initiative, to raise awareness and take actions for the SDGs.

So, what are we actually doing?

Goal setting is the short answer here. For 2021, it is my challenge for every Unit to try and develop a project around these SDGs. As of writing this, Australian Scouts have 489 projects submitted. These can be done individually also, so can be good for a community development badge, or SIA towards the end of next year. There is a longer answer, but we can probably make some fact sheets for Rovers and publish a few more things at the start of next year to make sure everyone is properly informed. Many of the goals also link directly to Earth Tribe, and things you can do in that space. I have included a couple of links if you want to look into this further.

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

<https://www.scout.org/scouts4sdgs>

<https://sdgs.scout.org/>

The calendar has now been updated, so have a look to keep up with all the upcoming meetings and events. If you notice anything is incorrect, please contact me or Michael (IT).

Email at:

program@vicrovers.com.au

4.6 Our Program**Jacinta Swift**

This month has been fairly quiet on the Our Program front as we prepare for the Outdoor Adventure Skills implementation in the new year. We have been working on resources and examples to support the next stage of our implementation, as well as FAQ resources around Our Program and the Program Essentials.

A reminder that Regions need to be supporting the implementation on a Region level, and while this will look different in every Region, it is essential. Each Region should have a Program Implementation Officer, or have the responsibilities built into another role, depending on what works best for their Region.

Prior to the next stage of implementation in the new year we will have a meeting with representatives from all Regions to support the implementation.

As always, please refer to the Vic Rovers Website, the Scouts Victoria Website and the National Program Resources Website for presentations and resources on Our Program, including Terrain.

<https://www.vicrovers.com.au/resources/program-transition-resources>

<https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/age-sections-adults/member-resources/our-program/>

<https://pr.scouts.com.au/>

If you require extra support feel free to email me at any time.

Email at:

program.transition@vicrovers.com.au

4.7 Training

Hamish Beshara

This month the Training Team is gearing up for November 2020. Unfortunately, Rover Advanced had to be cancelled due to low participant registrations, but thankfully there has been a large number of registrations for Rover Basic. While the Training Team appreciates that the cancellation of Rover Advanced has been disappointing for a few Rovers, we will be running this course face-to-face next year at May Madness, which will be more engaging and memorable than a course facilitated online. In January, a training calendar will be published with all dates of training courses for Rovers in 2021 and registration cut-off dates.

Email at:

training@vicrovers.com.au

4.8 BPSA

Hamish Beshara

A reminder to all Regions that if you require support reviewing badge proposal forms and arranging interviews, please get in contact. I am happy to supply resources for Regions with fresh BPSA Support Teams and sit on interview panels to mentor inexperienced teams.

Email at:

bpsa@vicrovers.com.au

4.9 NRC

Andrew Strachan

This month has been mostly preparation for the NRC conference and the December remote meeting (which I didn't realise was a thing until this month).

I haven't received any feedback on the proposed NRC conference papers tabled last meeting, so once tonight's vote determines if those papers will be taken to the conference, I will work with the conference delegation to plan our approach to the meeting.

The NOC (national operations committee) meeting this month saw two rover related things approved.

Firstly, they unanimously supported the WSM2029 feasibility study, which means we now need to put together a bid team so that we can make our case to other countries of why we should be chosen to run the 2029 world scout moot. Applications to join this team are open now and will close on December 15th. More information on the available roles and application process is attached on page 8 of the appendix document.

Secondly, the final changes to the green rover shoulder badge, the rover knots, and the service bar were approved. The shoulder badges will be discontinued, any members currently with these badges can continue to wear them, however new shoulder badges cannot be awarded after 1 January 2021.

The rover knots are being kept, but they must be given in full upon investiture (ie the red one must be given at the same time as the rest of them).

The service bar is being replaced with a similar bar that has the word 'Rovers' instead of 'Service'. The service bar can continue to be worn by anyone that currently has one, and old service bars cannot be given out after 1 May 2021.

More information on these changes can be found attached on page 9 of the appendix document.

As always, if anyone has questions, ideas, or suggestions about NRC or national Rovering in general, feel free to contact me.

Email at:

nrc.delegate@vicrovers.com.au

4.10 Finance

Cameron Phillips

Nothing to report.

Email at:

finance@vicrovers.com.au

4.11 Secretary

Maddy Packer

As we continue to meet in an online format, it is imperative that your reports are submitted prior to the meeting commencing. Please also ensure that all voting parties are included in report emails.

All reports **not** provided will not be typed up in their entirety; only key points will be listed. If you have a general business item to present, please ensure you send through a short summary to me.

Email at:

secretary@vicrovers.com.au.

4.12 Resources

Emily Kinross-Smith

This month we had the carpet steam cleaned and successfully moved everything back into VRC, so it is in a functioning state! There are room capacity limits in all rooms as well as sanitiser and a sign in sheet. Going forward we are clearing out the shed and underneath the building this weekend and CAS van are moving in. If you or someone you know can help please fill out this form <https://forms.gle/12t6A2HbwypY5Csv6> and if you are part of a subcommittee with junk at VRC that you don't know how to get rid of now is the time to do it (we have the skip Thursday to Monday).

Email at:

resources@vicrovers.com.au

4.13 Strategic Planning

Lily Twyford

Hello !! My report this month is more in the form of an end of year review, just having a closer look at what goals we have achieved so far and what we can look at particularly going into next year.

Logistics - the training team have created a new training session about committee finances with the potential of creating a region finance training session also. This is perfectly in line with our 'Wider range of training' and 'Increase financial literacy training' goals. With the extra zoom account and virtual meetings, we have increased 'Accessibility to meetings and events' so another tick! Looking into next year, we could focus on 'Increase opportunities for outdoor adventure skills' considering the easing of restrictions.

Governance - our NRC delegate has done an excellent job of discussing and reiterating NRC papers, leading to better and more informed decisions about NRC from VicRovers. This leads to better transparency and better understanding of NRC procedures. We have had a lot of policies passed this year, especially regarding reviews and updates to policy books, so this ticks the 'Review and address, keeping everything relevant' aim. The virtual VRC meetings has also allowed an 'Increase accessibility to governance' as more people are able to easily attend meetings and join in. Looking into next year, VRC could work on the goal 'Ensure decisions making processes and decisions are understood' as there has been some trouble with papers about understandings and definitions.

Behaviour - There has been a lot of great diversity and inclusion marketing, plus an additional patrol leader for this. We have seen an official acknowledgement of country statement, plus many units and regions are incorporating their own acknowledgements and an increased awareness of beneficial pronoun use. These progressive tactics and diversity inclusion lead to our goal, to 'Ensure new members feel welcome', so tick! We can always improve on this goal, but there has been excellent progress. Looking into next year, there should be a big push to look at our goals to 'Re-define alcohol consumption' and 'Reduce the focus of alcohol at major events' especially considering that there haven't been any events this year so it's a great opportunity to almost start fresh and encourage responsible and safe drinking habits.

Communication - Many rovers were hosts for the scout quest, alongside other section activities. Involving rovers throughout the scouting movement creates a better and more inclusive perception of rovers, hence we can tick 'Actively seek ways to improve our reputation and perception of Rovers'. The VRC team and Marketing group have done a great job in encouraging many outlets for information including social media, emails and even a new

Instagram page! This can tick the 'Provide appropriate channels and outlets for information'. Looking into next year, we could try to 'Enhance our relationship with the Venturer section' as this year has been tough for recruitment and retention so looking for venturers is a great way to not only boost your own unit numbers but build a strong relationship and foundation for future recruitment.

I have not addressed every dot point, as there would just be too much to cover but hopefully this summary gives everyone enough ideas to work on for next year. Also, whilst I may say that we have ticked the box, there is always room for improvement, and we can always be continually trying to improve in these areas. If you want any more information about anything I have not or have covered or just general ideas, please do not hesitate to email me.

Email at:

strategicplan@vicrovers.com.au

4.14 PR and Marketing

Grace Archer

Staying on top of the latest COVID-19 news and information has been a main priority for Marketing and Comms, and making sure information provided by Scouts Victoria is distributed to Rovers via the newsletter and shared on our social media platforms.

As always, if you have anything you would like included in the newsletter, we would love to hear from you! Please email communications@vicrovers.com.au with your article, a title and an image, and we'll be sure to include it! Also feel free to contact that email if you would like something included but need some help writing an article/creating an image/formatting etc.

If you have anything you'd like shared on our social media (the Rovers Victoria Facebook Page or @vicrovers on Instagram), please email or direct message the pages, otherwise feel free to contact Grace via Facebook messenger too! We are also always on the lookout for new content so let us know if you have an awesome idea and we would love to have a chat!

Thank-you everyone!

Email at:

communications@vicrovers.com.au

4.15 Visual Communications

Catherine Marley

If any units need assistance updating policy books to the new program and branding, feel free to contact me.

As always, Subcommittees, Regions and Units – if you need any flyers/logos/graphics made, do not hesitate to contact me.

Email at:

visual.communications@vicrovers.com.au.

4.16 IT

Michael Watts

This month the main PC has been set up at VRC, and the Office has been organised. The new websites are coming along well, with the Mafeking one almost ready to roll out. Reminders for modules are still being sent out, and zoom meetings are still available if your region needs them, please let me know if your region will not be using your zoom meetings (even if it's just one week).

Thank you to all the Regions for filling out the Google Doc for the voting parties.

Standing Reminders:

WWCC/e-learning reminder emails are being sent once a month. Please let me know if you would like this information to go directly to unit leaders in your region, or if you would like an ad-hoc report.

You can contact the IT Team at it@vicrovers.com.au, and the online store team at store@vicrovers.com.au. Please reach out if there is anything we can assist with.

4.17 Diversity and Inclusion

Fi Freyr

For the last 6 months there has been a mix of finding my footing in this new role and starting a few projects.

I have been designing some pronoun uniform badges, that I will be putting forward to VRC in the future. If this project is successful, it will make Scout uniformed events more inclusive and open to the conversation about pronouns.

I have also been creating and searching for a few resources. I have been on the search for new program resources that provide examples

for people with various disabilities. I have also created a program guide for units wanting to run a mental health night and provided a talking points sheet regarding the history of scouting that is not discussed within the movement.

My goals for the next 6 months include:

- Having the pronouns badge proposal at NRC with the badge design completed.
- Having more Disability and Inclusion training and programs for both leaders and youth.
- Creating a Disability and Inclusion Resource Bank for the next person in this role. It will include a contact list for specific enquiries, and information sheets regarding certain issues, like how to make events more inclusive and safe spaces.

4.18 Australian Rover Plasma Challenge 2020

Georgie Wild

The Australian Rover Plasma Challenge 2020 had one ultimate goal: 500 donations in 3 months. From the outset, it certainly felt like a challenge to mobilise Rovers across the nation to roll up their sleeves and donate plasma. But as a testament to the passion and service of Rovers Aus-wide, the live tallies got off to a roaring start in the first few weeks of August.

With a big smile and a virtual high-five to all involved, I'm so glad to say that in the final week of October, we hit 500 donations! To capture the final results in a few quick statistics, the challenge involved 272 total donors, 50 of which were new donors. In terms of age, 25% of donors were over 30 showing the wonderful support of ex-Rovers, Rover Advisor's, family and friends throughout the challenge. Victorian donations made up 47% of the total donations, with a final donation total of 254.

A special mention must also be made to the supporters of the challenge, who kicked into gear by helping to book group donations, transporting people to the centres and cheering our donors on every step of the way.

As for the leader board, only the preliminary results are in from Lifeblood at the present. However, special mentions go out to Mullumbimba Rover Unit, Raisbeck Rover Unit and Kurlls Own Rover Unit for all getting in the top ten units Aus-wide. Hold tight for all award winners and badges in the near future!

Each and every donor and supporter should be incredibly proud of drastically exceeding our plasma challenge goal, with the final tally hitting 533. That equates to 1599 lives saved. You are all bloody lifesavers.

4.19 Commissioner Group

Peter Wotherspoon, Regi Caesar, Stephen Carter

Life Membership

At the State Council meeting on Thursday 19 November, Giff Hatfield, Rover Adviser at Hatfield Rover Unit was awarded Life Membership of Scouts Victoria in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Movement over 60+ years. An extraordinary achievement. I have passed on congratulations to Giff.

BPSA Presentations

BPSAs finalised at tonight's meeting will be the last to be included in Government House presentations scheduled for early next year. Those BPSA completed after tonight will be included in the next round of presentations.

Unit Service Award

Nominations for the Baden-Powell Freemasons Lodge Unit Service award will close at the end of this month. Nominations should be forwarded to me.

W F Waters Award (Rover Service Award)

Although I have yet to receive formal notification, nominations for the W F Waters awards usually close with Branch in mid-February. It is now time to consider those members of the Rovering community, and others if applicable, who have provided outstanding service to the section. Full details of eligibility criteria and the nomination form are on the Rover website. Nominations should be addressed to me and be received by, at this stage, mid-February. If there is a change to the deadline I will notify everyone through the newsletter.

Rover Centre

I was in the Rover Centre on Friday for the first time in over 6 months. What a transformation! My thanks to Matty Barnes and Emily Kinross-Smith as Resources Officers and everyone who has been involved in making the Centre a much better place for all our uses. Thank you.

World Moot Bid

At the recent National Operations Committee (NOC) meeting there was unanimous support for a proposal from the National Rover Council for Australia to enter a bid to stage a World Moot in 2029. The NRC is looking for interested Rovers and others to become in developing a bid. Details are attached to page 8 of the appendix document.

MPAC

Following the confirmation of MPAC proceeding at our last meeting, I have been in contact with the Executive Manager in regard to the original proposal endorsed by the Branch Executive Committee (BEC) for a loan to complete construction. I have been advised that the matter will need to be re-considered. Accordingly, I have re-applied for financial assistance which is currently under consideration by the BEC and the Property Group.

Emails:

Pete: sc.rovers@vicrovers.com.au

Regi: regi.caesar@vicrovers.com.au

Stephen: stephen.carter@vicrovers.com.au

5 Items for action by OB's, Region and Subcommittee Teams

5.1 Action Items from July

Nil.

6 Sub-Committee Reporting

6.1 Mafeking Rover Park

Ben Barraclough

With the easing of restrictions Over the past 2 weeks we have been working hard to get Mafeking up to a state to

reopen and I'm happy to say we are well on the way to open we have reopen our bookings and are starting to lock in dates for the 2021 year.

We will be running working bee up to Christmas to catch up with what we have missed over the lock down there working bee have no number cap for day work but are capped at 20 people over night at this stage following all COVID safe rules it would be good to see all of you guys up at the park at some point and I think it would go a long way to encourage rovers to come up and help out at the park if we could get all of the VRC office bearers at the park for a working bee.

6.2 Surfmoor

Megan Rogers

Tickets are still on sale, although we are not selling gate tickets due to number capping and making sure that we can run a safe event for all rovers and service members. We are currently working on our COVID application to the state government for the go ahead.

Come down for the first event of the year and start 2021 off right.

6.3 Mudbash

Lucy Hubbard

Tonight, we are presenting our budget. Please provide any feedback to myself (chair@mudbash.com) or Andrew Hilditch.

Working bee dates for 2021

Pre-Mudbash working bees are the April and May Mafeking working bees.

26th to 28th March 2021

16th to 18th April 2021

21st to 23rd May 2021

Post-Mudbash working bees are the June and July Mafeking working bees.

2nd to 4th July 2021

30th July to 1st August 2021

We have also released all our tender's canteen, pub tour, general and Bar.

6.4 Rover Scout Motorsport (RSM)

Simon Nuccio

Not a lot happening in the Motorsport world. Though restriction have eased we are now facing fire restrictions.

We are working on applying government grants and just getting the final details sorted.

6.5 Bogong Rover Chalet

Jesse Lang

As the current restrictions still limit our ability to stay overnight at the Bogong Rover Chalet and to meet in numbers, we have not been able to do much in the last month. We had a local who was able to get in and send us photos of the current state of the place, and we plan to visit and begin the necessary clean up and repairs of the Chalet that are required to open it for use again once restrictions allow. At the moment we are waiting for Scouts Victoria to announce how the Scouting Movement will proceed under the new restrictions announced on Sunday before we make any concrete plans.

Our current cash balance is \$205,302.17.

6.6 W.F. Waters Lodge

Todd Henderson

This month has been a standard month which is normal for this time of year as it is the off-peak. I had a meeting with people from Baw Baw last week about being prepared for the fires this Summer. The committee is aiming to get up to the chalet in the next fortnight or so to prepare and tidy the area.

As restrictions ease, we are looking forward to having people return to the chalet.

6.7 MARB

Madeline Ancill

This month the team has been focusing on getting quotes and preparing our budget which is being tabled for tonight and will be voted on in January. Members of my team are available to attend your region meetings if you wish to have someone speak to our budget. Please sent all feedback to chairman@marb.com.au by the 10TH OF

JANUARY 2021, as this allows us time to make any adjustment that may be required. Any feedback received after this date may not be included due to time constraints.

We will also be making a payment of \$1,194 for a bond on a venue. This expenditure is coming out of the MARB reserve funds, we would like to have that noted by the table.

MARB 2020 - Online

The online event is happening on the 12/12/2020.

As the restriction are easing, get your friends together and go host your own MARB. A party pack will be posted in the Facebook event and you will be able to find a playlist, photo props and some other goodies. All the things you will need to create your own MARB with friends. Click attending on the Facebook event to get all the latest info for the event: <https://fb.me/e/3gdGXTICm>

Make sure to take photos and send them through to the Facebook and Instagram pages.
Have fun and stay safe.

6.8 Rover Dinner Melbourne Region

Rover Dinner ran successfully with around 40 people attending online. The guest speaker was great. Shout out to Melbourne Region for organising this event, as well as all the support from Michelle and Pete.

6.9 Yearbook Catherine Marley

Reports are now overdue; I will be contacting people individually about these. A template will be sent out soon to assist with writing reports.

7 Region Reporting

7.1 Bays Rachael Osborne

This month has again been pretty quiet in Bays with nothing much out of the ordinary going on, however in exciting news we are hoping to have our final meeting for the year in person!

It has been really great to have a few units invite myself and Drew down to their AGMs, we love to hear all the effort they have put in to keeping their roving alive this year!

We are looking forward to being able to truly get back into face to face scouting through December and the New Year.

Stay safe everyone!

7.2 Gippsland Justin Porter

In the last month, the Gippsland Region has been doing more face to face scouting and will be doing a lot more now that the dens are opening up. We held our first face to face GRRC meeting down at Eagle Point reserve and our next one is going to be in Traralgon.

7.3 Lerderderg Hamish Beshara

We've been getting some really solid numbers from our units at our region meetings, obviously everyone is getting more than a little tired of doing everything online, but despite this we still maintain some relative enthusiasm.

Many of the units have been very active in discussions regarding policy discussions which has been really good getting a feel for every unit's opinions on the matters.

Many of our units have now started meeting face to face, which has boosted their respective attendances. Each taking an approach to be COVID safe and stay within the latest rules and restrictions.

We're going to be wrapping up the year in our region with our first face to face night with a Christmas breakup/ finally we can hang out BBQ, already that has peaked quite the interest as it has buzzed around the different units.

7.4 Melbourne Tiffanie Thomas

- ◆ The region held Online Rover Dinner this month, which was a success
- ◆ Jacinta gave a presentation on the New Program
- ◆ We are working hard on engaging the Region more and are looking to hold a Christmas Break up
- ◆ Congratulations to Hugh and Adam tonight for securing their roles.
- ◆ Fun Facts
 - Australia is the only continent without an active volcano
 - Australia has 60 separate wine regions

7.5 Mount Dandenong**Gemma Park**

We are loving the face-to-face life! It has been great to see units start running in person again with lots of outdoor nights.

At a region level we have been quiet, which has been fab for letting our exec members focus on their home units and new program stuff.

7.6 Murray Midlands**Bella Condello**

Due to COVID it has been a slow month again. The easing of restrictions is exciting but a bit late in the year. Hopefully, we can all start fresh next year and have less interruptions to roving.

7.7 Plenty Valley**Catherine Marley**

We have run our first unit leader's meeting this month, those who attended were able to ask any questions they had about their roles/units/anything that was missed in handover. It was also great for us to see how the units are going with the transition back to in-person Rovers. We are planning on running another one in a few months to touch base with everyone. Our December meeting is going to be held in person, which is exciting. We are planning on keeping zoom as part of our meetings to allow people to call in, so the first meeting back should be a good test run.

7.8 South West**Lily Twyford**

Hello !! This past month we have enjoyed the easing of restrictions, and some of our metro rovers who were previously stuck have now been allowed and able to come down and participate! It was a very wholesome reunion. Otherwise not much else has occurred, but we will be having a Christmas break up in December including some meeting business, probably pizza and camping! An excellent combination in my opinion. We will be having a great time obviously, but also having a discussion about our goals and aims for next year and how we can achieve them at a unit and region level.

8 Other Reports**8.1 MPAC Report****Mafeking****9 Interstate, National and International Events and Contingents****9.1 Ireland 2022**

WOSM officially announced the postponement of the 16th World Scout Moot until July 2022. The most current and reliable information can be found here: <https://www.worldscoutmoot.ie/covid-19-faqs/>.

- ◆ Dates for the 16th World Scout Moot are 18th July – 28th July 2022
- ◆ The age range of participants has been extended to include those born between 19th July 1995 to 18th July 2004 (both inclusive)

10 Tabled Items**10.1 Respectful Consultation Period****Gippsland**

This item will be decided upon at the January 2021 VRC meeting

Paper can be found on page 12 of appendix document.

KEY POINTS

- ◆ Provide a mechanism to ensure Units are more directly involved in decision being made at the VRC.
- ◆ To ensure Units that meet fortnightly have adequate time and opportunity to participate in the decision-making process.
- ◆ The GRRC has moved from bi-monthly meetings to monthly meeting in order facilitate more effective consultation for VRC items.
- ◆ This will clear the backlog of items that have been discussed for several years.
- ◆ To enable a process which allows for adequate time for deliberation prior to a decision being made.
- ◆ Restores the integrity of Rover Units in the decision-making processes by allowing them to have an adequate timeframe in which to discuss items for discussion and resolution by the VRC.
- ◆ Ensures that voting rights holders from the Regions on the VRC can provide a vote which has authenticity as it will now reflect a considered position by their Regions and Units.

Send any questions and comments to Justin

gippsland.chair@vicrovers.com.au

10.2 Mudbash Budget

Mudbash

Budget cover letter can be found on page 15 of the appendix document.

Budget can be found on page 16 of the appendix document.

Send any questions and comments to Lucy

chair@mudbash.com

10.3 MARB Budget

MARB

Budget cover letter can be found on page 18 of the appendix document.

Budget can be found on page 21 of the appendix document.

Send any questions and comments to Maddy

chair@marb.com.au

11 Items for the Information of the Victorian Rover Council

11.1 Requirements for Child Safety and WHS Modules for All Adults in Scouting

Please periodically remind the Rovers in your Regions, Subcommittees and Units that these modules may have expired without their knowledge, and that they need to re-complete them when this occurs.

12 Voting Items

12.1 W F Waters Ski Lodge 2021-2022 Budget

W F Waters Ski Lodge

Budget can be found on page 24 of the appendix document.

Send any questions and comments to Todd

chair@bawbawrovers.com

Passed.

12.2 Victorian papers for the 2021 NRC conference

Andrew Strachan

Paper can be found on page 25 of the appendix document.

KEY POINTS

- ◆ If papers are going to be tabled to the 2021 NRC conference by Victoria, they should be approved by VRC by the November meeting, in order to follow VRC standing orders
- ◆ Two papers have been suggested by Michelle (VRC Chair)
- ◆ If these papers, or any amendments to them, are supported by the VRC they will be tabled for the conference

Papers included:

12.2.1 Frequency of NRC Meetings (page 27)**Key Points:**

- ◆ There is a lack of time for Branches to discuss papers that are presented at the NRC meetings
- ◆ The remote meetings only occur three times per year, and therefore have lately been conducted for around 3 hours
- ◆ As a result of the amount of content in the meetings, there often is not time for robust discussions during the meetings

12.2.2 Training Prerequisites for NRC roles (page 30)**Key Points:**

- ◆ The training requirements for the NRC roles were adjusted for COVID-19, to allow for the lack of training that has occurred in 2020
- ◆ Beyond 2021, the training requirements need to be reviewed

Send any questions and comments to Andrew

nrc.delegate@vicrovers.com.au

Passed.

12.3 Active Rover Policy

Paper can be found on page 33 of the appendix document.

KEY POINTS FROM ITEM:

- ◆ For multiple years the VRC has been ensuring that VRC Office Bearers are confirmed to be active Rovers by their unit leaders
- ◆ This procedure has not been formalised in policy, so we aim to implement in policy, and do so consistently across VRC leadership roles

Passed.

13 Standing Items**13.1 Unit Names and Scarves****Regions****13.2 Workplace Health & Safety Items**

The Victorian Rover Centre remains closed to all members until further notice. Access cards for all members are disabled. If you have secure access (e.g. if you are a contact for the alarm company), you will continue to have access. In the unlikely circumstance that you need access to the building, please get in contact with both the IT Officer and the Resource Officer.

14 General Business**14.1 Anything Goes****Jess Hay**

Rovers wanted! Attend the event, join the committee, improve Venturer-Rover relations.

Any questions, contact Jess via email at jessica.hay@iinet.net.au

14.2 Speaker series review

Use the link below to provide feedback on the recent Speaker Series at VRC.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TTC7S3S>

14.3 Other Business

Closing Parade: Flag Down & Rover Prayer

Meeting Closed at: 09:27pm