



**SCOUTS AUSTRALIA**  
**MINUTES FOR THE 490<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE**  
**VICTORIAN ROVER COUNCIL**  
**HELD AT VICTORIAN ROVER CENTER**  
**WEDNESDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2022, AT 7:30PM**

<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Flag Break</b>	<b>Kieron Younger</b>
<b>1.2</b>	<b>Attendance &amp; Apologies</b> <b>Apologies</b> – Sunny Aguilar, Regi Caesar, Matthew Barnes, Stephen Carter	<b>Maddy Packer</b>
<b>1.3</b>	<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b> Scouts Victoria acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which this event takes place. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present. We are committed to honouring Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.	
<b>1.4</b>	<b>Conflict of Interest</b> –	

<b>2</b>	<b>Congratulations, Guest Speakers, Presentations and Formal Thanks</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	Good on Ya Mate – Council acknowledges and thanks the exceptional contributions to Rovering over the past month. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Mudbash on a job well done for running Mudbash 2022 – feedback has been glowing</li> <li>♦ Mudbash Committee for assisting with setting up the VRC tent during Open Day at Mudbash</li> </ul>	
<b>2.2</b>	Guest Speakers & Presentations:	

<b>3</b>	<b>Items for Consent</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous VRC Meeting</b>	<b>Kieron Younger</b>
	<b>Motioned:</b> Bays <b>Seconded:</b> Mt Dandenong	
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	<b>Maddy Packer</b>
	Nil	
<b>3.3</b>	<b>VRC Financial Report</b>	<b>Jody Freeman</b>
<b>3.4</b>	<b>Decisions of the VRC Chair to be ratified</b>	<b>Kieron Younger</b>
<b>3.5</b>	<b>Nominations for the Baden-Powell Scout Award</b>	<b>Regions</b>

<b>4</b>	<b>Office Bearers Reports</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Kieron Younger</b>
	What an amazing month for Rover Scouts Victoria, a big congratulations to the Mudbash committee on a job well done. I had the pleasure to show off Mafeking Rover Park to the Chief Commissioner, ACC Program, DCC youth, the Executive Manager of Scouts Victoria, and who could forget our BEC chair as well. Thank you Lucy for all your hard work, I am proud of the work you have put into the team on a very short notice before the event.	

Another highlight for this month is the show season. Great job to all rovers in Melbourne and Albury Gang Show, not to mention Camberwell Showtime earlier last month.

This time last year was a very strange time for all of us. The COVID lifestyle was in full swing, our day-to-day operations of the VRC was dictated by the restrictions we were forced to obey. We couldn't tell whether or not we could safely have a VRC meeting in person or not. Was MARB going to run? Could we afford to pay our Rover Levy? Was Mafeking going to become an uneconomical asset? Was our membership going to determine the councils? Morale was quite low with the first potential vote of no confidence. Everything was on the table to lose, but if there is one thing I know about this council, we kept moving forward. Tonight, I would like to point out what my team has delivered over the last 12 months.

I had a few things on my agenda, some went well, some didn't work at all, and stuff just fell into our laps. To summarise a few of our accomplishments.

- Asking the Regions gather membership numbers, represented by units
- Running Your Opportunities are unlimited day ( YOU DAY )
- The VRC fully supporting the Rover Plasma Challenge.
- Running our very own Vaccination Challenge.
- Supporting changes to the recommendations from the report and findings of the vote of no confidence.
- Reports made to the Victorian public via the state ARAP and Rover Yearbook 21-22.
- Attended the National Rover Council conference, held online over three days.
- VRC supporting Vic-Jam with the support of over 180- 200 rovers.
- Providing a much-needed leadership support to the Surfmoot team and convincing the SLT to let us run Surfmoot.
- A new Marquee was commissioned at a very small cost providing Mafeking Rover Park and our events new capabilities
- Creating a new Certificate IV (4) in Project Management in the hope to attract new Rovers to support and help running events.
- New online Welcome Centre and new Venturer birthday cards to promote better retention.
- Updating the Policy Book.
- Brought back the fixture cards and program Calendar updates.
- Updates towards the current program transition with monthly Region to Region data.
- Marketing and prompting to the venturer sections at VG and AG.
- Updates with our event and membership records system .
- A new, fairer Rover Levy.
- Upgrades to the Vic Rover Centre.
- New Regional maps and updates to contacts of Rover Units.
- Transitioning Rovers into the new training cycle whilst maintaining Rover knowledge through on demand specific Rover modules
- Working with the state team on tightening policy around bad behaviours

An emergency NRC meeting was called in October to work on our commitment to the National Rover Council. We all knew our financial income stream was not fair, nor was the structure going to continue to operate within such challenging conditions. We didn't wait until the alarm bells rang; we did something about it. My Assistant Chair taking the helm on creating a new Rover Levy paper and with the thanks to this council the new Rover Levy was adopted back in May. I would like to have on the record this was a very hard task as accomplish purely because our SLT, mainly the BEC, were very much of the attitude " solve it yourself", which we did.

After a successful and wet Surfmoot, receiving feedback from our members, it was clear a large force and change was needed to carve the direction of anti-social behaviour. The day I was made aware of this feedback I acted quickly. Luckily that day landed on an exec meeting night. Since then, we have communicated to our members for Rovers to reach out and my exec listened. Sometimes people reached out in open environments, some in private. With a lot of help from SC Peter W, we created a new document that's on the table tonight with the support of SLT. I believe we can make our program a safer and enjoyable place for all, but there is much more work

that's needs to be done and I hope Peter's & my actions were noticeable at Mudbash behind the scenes.

The National Rover Council was a major topic in my term. The successful advocating would not have happened without the hard work of Region Chair, Gemma Park spending a huge amount of time and effort put towards our collective belief behind the value in which the NRC operates. This has caused me personally a lot of stress as the views of the council were not always the way I wanted to approach the NRC. I am personally aware of leaked conversation via Facebook Messenger to keep Victoria out of some conversation at a National level and what support Victoria is given by the NRC. To publicly note, I have never had issues with any NRC Executive Project Officers or my fellow BRC chairs and further pass homage towards the NRC chair Eleanor Hewitt who has had to deal with the council's views over the last year and a half and wish her all the successes moving forward.

None of this work would have been completed without a strong team. I was only a conductor of this crazy orchestra. I had a strong knowable co-pilot who I think we can all agree upon would have made a better chairman than I. Hamish, your dedication and loyal service to the section wasn't unnoticed, thank you for holding Region elections, Courts of Honours, and supporting our region chairs to a high standard.

This orchestra definitely had lights and audio sorted. A kind friend and great wingman in more ways than one 😊 Matt's knowledge in all thing's assets, major events, and not to mention when something was broken lost or "I can't get into the rover centre", Matthew Barnes knew how to solve it. The VRC is in indebted to you and with us three going into the sunset leaving this section behind you have left big shoes to fill.

Thank you thank you thank you to my Office bearers. Maddy Packer is the true MVP, without Maddy VRC meetings would not have run smoothly. To Catherine, your work in the training space has left me with high confidence that your new term in office will definitely be a constructive year ahead. Where do I start with Rachael, absolute champ on socials and graphics. Gemma on the drums I can't speak highly enough of you. Sunny, a quiet soldier behind the scenes working tirelessly for rovers. Harrison, your presentations were the highlight of these meetings, people look forward to seeing your work. Jeff needs a hotline allocated in the new budget because Jeff helped a lot of my IT problem. Our online communications have never been better all thanks to you and your small team.

A lot of things I can't share with you tonight is all the moments Peter and I have worked together behind the scenes. Peter, your relevant expertise and knowledge helped me minimise a lot potential bad mistakes. Your enthusiasm at any hour of the day or night, a respectful attitude even on the hardest of subjects, your eagerness to invest in myself and others, your ability to give honest and direct feedback when needed. Reflecting upon the damage that some duties may affected me in more ways than one, having to tell Peter "NO, I have this, you have my back I can accomplish this", empathy when I needed it the most. Having to tell my own friends "you're no longer welcome in this movement" is not what I expected to do in my term. Peter, you and I protected the values of this section and its interest, I could not have done this without you. To quote 16<sup>th</sup> Australian jamboree theme "Welcome stranger, farewell friend" would be an understatement. You were a mentor, a friend, someone I could always reply on, a father figure, and now after two years of working together Peter can now say he has spider senses because as soon as he sits down to enjoy his evening I'll call him. Thank you and Jen for your support over the last year.

Tram King Stephen, Selfie Queen Regi and Wise Prince Jody made the experience of leading the section all the better.

I know I have forgotten a few people to thank tonight, but we all worked as a team, we can tap our mates on the back on a job well done.

I leave you tonight with this:

"It is an important and popular fact that things are not always how they seem. For instance, on the planet Earth, man has always assumed that he was more intelligent than dolphins, because he had achieved so much - the wheel, New York, wars, and so on - whilst all the dolphins had ever done was muck about in the water having a good time. But conversely, the dolphins had always believed that they were far more intelligent than man - for precisely the same reasons." ~Douglas Adams

So long, thanks for all the fish.

Email at:

[chairman@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:chairman@vicrovers.com.au)

#### 4.2 Deputy Chair

**Hamish Beshara**

In preparing my final report, I looked over the past year's minutes and would like to reflect on how much we have accomplished over the past year. Our Regions' have done a fantastic job navigating the end of lockdowns and resuming face-to-face Rovering. Shoutout to Melbourne, Mount Dandenong, and Murray Midlands for running Region camps this year (yes I'm counting Damp Camp, cheers booted Rovers). It was fantastic seeing so many Rovers at Mudbash this month; hopefully, this signals the beginning of greater numbers returning to our major events post-COVID.

One highlight for Region Chairs' this year was the Region Chairs' Retreat, which I had the pleasure of arranging. VRC operates most effectively with all members cooperating and setting similar goals, so I cannot stress the importance of continuing this event for future teams. My recommendation for the future is to hold this event early in the term - around August - as an icebreaker as new Chair's begin their terms. Similar events would be beneficial for Region Committee teams and the Office Bearers.

Kieron has done an excellent job thanking almost everyone around the table, with the exception of himself. I won't repeat Kieron's praises, but I would like to take the opportunity to thank Kieron for his relentless dedication to his position over the past year. I'm aware that for the majority of Rovers, what Kieron may seem a little invisible, but the fact that we have come out of lockdowns and are operating as efficiently as we are can be attributed to his leadership and vision. I argue that Kieron has over-committed himself to his role by going to more meetings than anyone else, providing individual direction and guidance to our Office Bearers and Subcommittee teams, taking a leading role at our major events to resolve issues that crop up, and spending far too many evenings typing out emails and papers. The VRC Chairman is certainly a full-time job, which is proven by the fact that Kieron has taken days off his paid job to finish up Rover work. He has a strong vision for our movement and has done an incredible job steering this 1,200-Rover ship. I wish you all the best in your next Scouting role, we all know you will be successful regardless of what you choose to do. The incoming team have very large boots to fill.

Email at:

[deputy.chair@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:deputy.chair@vicrovers.com.au)

#### 4.3 Assistant Chair

**Matthew Barnes**

No report submitted.

Email at:

[assistant.chair@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:assistant.chair@vicrovers.com.au)

#### 4.4 Membership Development

**Adam Kaplan**

No report submitted.

Email at:

[membership.development@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:membership.development@vicrovers.com.au)

#### 4.5 Program

**VACANT**

No report submitted.

Email at:

[program@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:program@vicrovers.com.au)

#### 4.6 Program Transition Officer

**Harrison Feldman**

Over the past year I have placed focus on 4 major areas in transitioning to the new program. These areas are:

- Amount of people working on the new system
- Physical badges bought on the new system

- Units connected to Terrain
- Units using Terrain

At the beginning of my term, I sent out a survey to all the units in the state. After two and a half months the initial results came in.

- 37.28% of members were still working on the award scheme.
- 34.92% of units were not connected to Terrain at all.
- 24.89% of units were only connected to Terrain.
- 40.19% of units were using Terrain.
- 18.84% of units had bought achievement pathways badges.
- 32 units had requested a workshop.

I also created two metrics to track the overall progress on transitioning. The first metric is the transition percentage. This metric shows how much the state has moved over to the achievement pathways as a whole. In reverse, this metric shows how much of the old award scheme system is still left to convert. The actual formula used for this is:

$$\text{Transition \%} = \frac{2}{5} \% \text{Using pathways} + \frac{1}{2} \% \text{using Terrain} + \frac{1}{10} \% \text{Bought pathway badges}$$

However, this metric is mostly based on the personal choices of each unit. Members still have leeway to work towards their BP on the award scheme and the only way to truly improve the transition % is to wait for members to age out or complete their award scheme progression.

Transition ready % is therefore aimed to be a metric that can be directly improved upon and represents the ability for the state to move to the new system if they so wish.

**Transition Ready %**

$$= \frac{1}{3} \% \text{Pathways understanding} + \frac{1}{3} \% \text{Units can use Terrain} + \frac{1}{3} \% \text{Units who dont need workshops}$$

Throughout this term we've seen a maximum of 75% transition ready, however, with newer and better data we've seen units once again become unsure of Terrain usage and require more workshops.

Finally, here are the stats that we've all been looking for. As of the 19<sup>th</sup> of June 2022, the current stats are:

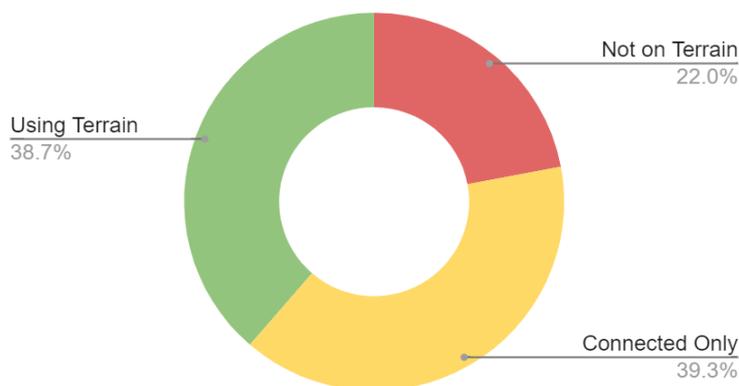
Pathways Status



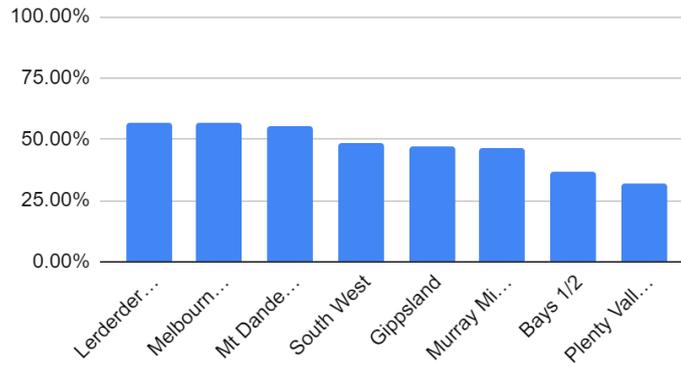
Badge Status



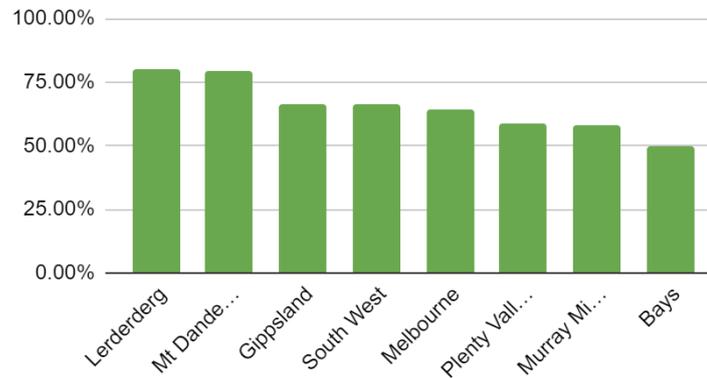
Terrain Status



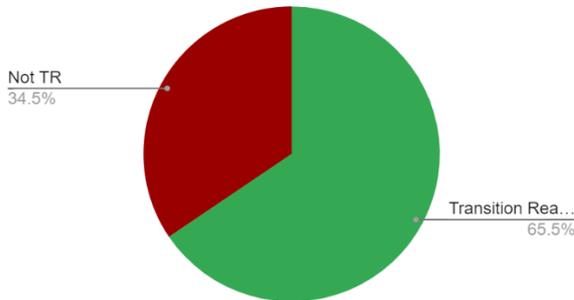
### Regions Transition %



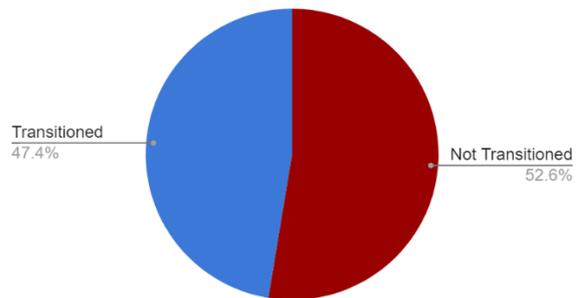
### Transition Ready



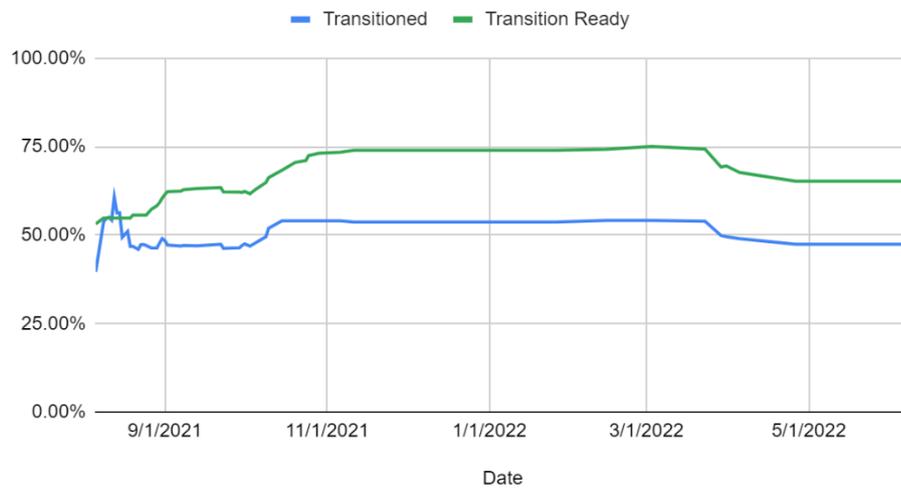
### Transition Ready



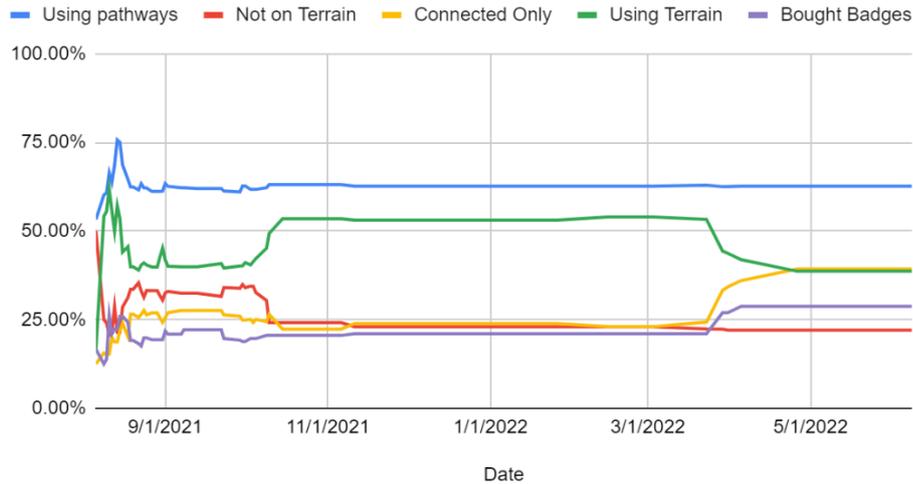
### % Transitioned



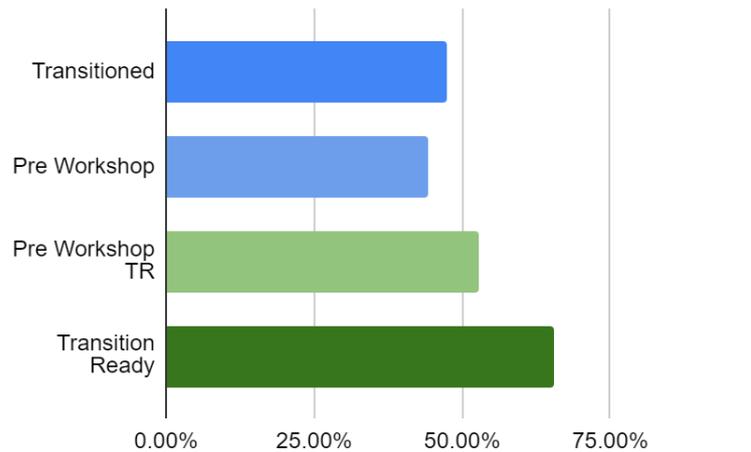
### Transitioned and Transition Ready



Progress over time



As we can see, the Rovers Victoria has certainly progressed throughout the past year. Unsurprisingly, the number of rovers using the award scheme hasn't changed too much, however, the number of Rovers who are using Terrain has increased by 10%. The number of Rovers now connected to Terrain is also 20% more than a year ago. Of the 45 workshops needed, 24 have been personally undertaken. While I do believe these workshops have had a direct positive outcome on these units, I propose that this isn't the most efficient nor effective manner for transitioning the state. Over the next year I aim to create a better method for helping the state on a general level. Providing support for all units without spending major amounts of time at a minimally effective unit level.



In summary, since July 2021, Rovers Victoria have increased their Transition % from 44% to 47%. Transition Ready % has also increased from 52% to 66%.

Email at:  
[program.transition@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:program.transition@vicrovers.com.au)

**4.7 Training**

**Catherine Marley**

It's been an exciting year for training, and we have a lot to be proud of. We have created and delivered new courses to align with the national training program. We have created our training module system, which will continue to grow in coming years. We have assisted with writing new curriculums for the Scouting Management and Leadership courses. Most importantly, we have trained rovers and leaders across the state through our five Rover-led courses and supported multiple other courses state-wide. A total of 11 Rovers and Rover Advisors have been awarded wood badges during the last year, with more on the way.

I'd like to thank the training team for all of their work and support throughout the year. They are responsible for making all of this happen and I couldn't have done it without them. Sue, Regi and Jody get a special mention for their guidance over the last twelve months. They have kept us on track and kept courses running through tough

times. I'm looking forward to seeing what the new year will bring with Zac and Breanne at the helm.

Email at:

[training@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:training@vicrovers.com.au)

#### 4.8 BPSA

Catherine Marley

I'd like to congratulate everyone who earned their BPSA this year. It has been a difficult year and it's been wonderful to see people finding the time to personally develop and grow their communities. We have had a total of 10 BPSA awards earned this year with more coming in the next year.

I'd like to thank Andrew for his support in this role, and Regi for always being there to answer the tough questions.

Email at:

[bpsa@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:bpsa@vicrovers.com.au)

#### 4.9 NRC

Gemma Park

##### Vacancy:

To my knowledge as I write this report, the incoming NRC delegate position remains vacant. I would like to take this opportunity to highly recommend giving this role a go to anybody who is interested. Unique to the NRC delegate role are clearly defined expectations of the role and very achievable outcomes; you simply need to attend NRC meetings (or organise someone to go in your place), discuss topics with Catherine and Pete, and report back to VRC in your monthly report. Things happen slowly at NRC and you often will have 2-3 months off at any given time between meetings. A minimum requirement of the role would be basic Secretary-like skills of listening to what is being said, consolidating that information and taking some notes to bring back. There is room for growth in this role if you choose to take up the challenge of engaging in discussion/debates at the NRC table and consequently developing your ability to use persuasive techniques to help the other Branches see the Victorian side of things. No doubt debate can be disappointing; however, it is a unique experience to sit at the NRC table and I don't think you'd hear conversations like the NRC ones at any other VRC/Region/Subcommittee table!

A google drive of documentation from the last few months will be provided.

##### Strategic Plan update:

NRC have released a draft of the Vision, Focus and Strategies areas of the 2026 Strategic plan for the NRC.

Catherine, Kieron and I have already attended a workshop and provided feedback which has been incorporated into this draft. This Strat Plan appears to be very well thought out and addresses key issues all branches are facing. I have attached the draft to the minutes. Please provide feedback to Catherine at [chairman@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:chairman@vicrovers.com.au) by 1st August.

Please note - the draft is not yet up to the stage of developing Actions. This will be the most important part of the strategic plan for Victorian Rovers as it describes what goals are set and achieving these goals contributes to the value of NRC. When the time comes to develop these Actions, I implore you all to provide ample feedback to ensure these goals benefit your fellow Rovers, and in time hold NRC as a whole accountable for achieving those Actions.

##### Where we stand:

We become non-financial as of the 1st July, and consequently lose our voting rights at the next NRC meeting. We have notified NRC (Exec and Branch Chairs) and Victorian SLT; additionally, we made a request that SLT recommend to NOC that they do not request us to pay the bill. We have not heard back from SLT on this specific request; however, we have also not received a request for payment either.

It's abundantly clear that Victorian Rovers do not accept an NRC budget with the income from NRC levies as it stands. What is not perfectly clear is exactly what Victorian grassroots Rovers propose to do to reduce that levy. The VRC NRC delegate team developed 7 different methods of reducing the budget and proposed these to the NRC, and all were voted down. We have exhausted this avenue for change. My recommendation for the incoming NRC delegate and others helping out in this area is to consult to determine the most favoured way to reduce the NRC budget and attempt to gain a majority vote at the NRC table again (even though this potentially is a repeat of what we attempted a few months ago), and continue to ask for external expert opinions/endorsement/help. Good luck as we continue on an 8+ year journey of having these conversations!

What I've learned:

As someone with a general dislike of political culture, who does not enjoy debate for the sake of debate, and believes policies are just the creation of 'red tape', this role did not appeal to me at all. However, I agreed to do some admin-type work when asked to help out temporarily with the role - oh boy I did not know what I had got myself into! Alas these few months later I feel like I've given it my best to be true to the wishes of our grassroots rovers. Through this role I wrote my first ever paper (and then wrote a few more), I learned to debate topics under a formal structure (and hold back our frustration when other parties could not understand the points we were trying to raise), and to accept consistent failure of our ideas/proposals to gain traction and then find the motivation to overcome the disappointment and try again. It's been the biggest challenge of my Rovering in a long time and a completely unique experience for me; it was worth giving it a go however I don't think I'll be going near any organisational politics anytime soon.

Email at:

[nrc.delegate@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:nrc.delegate@vicrovers.com.au)

**4.10 Finance****Cameron Phillips**

No report submitted.

Email at:

[finance@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:finance@vicrovers.com.au)

**4.11 Secretary****Maddy Packer**

Feels like an end to an era, writing my last secretary report, preparing my last agenda, and soon to be sending out my last set of minutes. The last 2 years in what seems like such a straight forward role, has taught me so much. Sad to leave it behind, happy to be stepping up to support Catherine for the next year.

This year has mostly been focused on regular tasks of preparing agendas and minutes for various meetings. On top of this, I have updated the all the Policy books with the updated Scouting terminology, as well as adding and amending the Rover Scouts Victoria Policy Book, Victorian Rover Council Standing Orders, and the Subcommittee Policy Book with any VRC approved changes that were made.

I look forward to handing ALL the documents over to Rachael at the end of the month, and look forward to whatever fun things that will be added to this role, I am sure we will see many more emojis. Make sure you get all your reports to Rachael on time, include all your lovely messages, and make the secretary job an easy one!

And for regularly scheduled content:

The nomination form for any empty OB positions remains open. Use the link below, position descriptions have been provided on the form.

<https://forms.gle/C8x9re5eF8Ye63Hg6>

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](mailto:secretary@vicrovers.com.au)

**4.12 Resources****Sunny Aguilar**

Over my term as Resource Officer for the Victorian Rover Centre has been honestly short but quietly active.

I'd like to thank everyone on the Victorian Rover Council team for firstly welcoming me then helping me with anything I may need.

I'd especially like to thank Kieron Y for leading the successful year for Victorian Rovers, Matty B for introducing me in to the roll and always willing to lend a hand with anything I might need with the position and Pete W for always contacting people and getting on top of things when I didn't or want able to.

And the three of them for openly and honestly answering any questions or concerns what I may ever have with it, no matter how silly.

From starting with a supposed possum in the roof and a list of other things that needed to be done.

As I slowly went through what needed to and could be done in the time.

From

- Sharing the resources to events to promote Rovers (Signage)
- Getting as updated push for the accessibility ramp
- Planned professional cleaning for the centre regularly

Then ending the year with half the centre losing power for over a week

What I hope for my successor to take on is:

- Obtaining new

I am still looking at tables to replace these in the main room, that are the same size and can collapse.

Email at:

[resources@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:resources@vicrovers.com.au)

#### 4.13 Strategic Planning

VACANT

No report submitted.

Email at:

[strategicplan@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:strategicplan@vicrovers.com.au)

#### 4.14 Marketing & Communications

Rachael Osborne

Okay SO

Over the last 12 months I've hidden many soups, and it really came down to two final contenders for the soupy crown. The final standings are as follows:

5th: Harrison Feldman, Tristan Knight & Sunny Aguilar - 2 points

4th: Hamish Beshara - 10 points

3rd: Breanne Simmons - 16 points

2nd: Zoe Cooper - 64 points

1st: Catherine Marley - 75 points

To all of you who ever searched for a soup, I appreciate you looking! I enjoyed hiding them for a laugh and I love how seriously a couple of you 🤖 took it.

In regard to our socials, overall, we've been on the up in the last 12 months. Our Facebook reach is slightly down, but our Instagram reach is way up! Page visits for Facebook are up quite a bit and Instagram is down a little, just to keep the balance I guess. 🙄

I'm really excited for Molly to take over the accounts, she's an absolute social media gun and I'm keen to see the results!

Email at:

[communications@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:communications@vicrovers.com.au)

#### 4.15 Visual Communications

Rachael Osborne

It has been a full year of my Photoshop subscription, aw 🙄

Over the last 12 months I've made all sorts of things, but none were quite as useful or fun to make as the region maps. I figured I could fill a gap, and so while recovering from wisdom teeth surgery I gave to a go, and we now have a super fun resource! Jeff and I have added them to the website, under Resources > Region Boundary Maps, where anybody can download them if they'd like them. I plan to work with Madeleine, our new Vis Com Officer, on establishing a schedule for refreshing any necessary information on the maps.

Thank you to anybody who was happy to look over something before I posted it, I appreciate all of you! 🤗

Email at:

[visual.communications@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:visual.communications@vicrovers.com.au).

#### 4.16 IT

Michael Watts

- ◆ Not going anywhere, still here, still keeping the role
- ◆ Power & internet has been restored to the centre
- ◆ Mudbash went well IT wise
- ◆ Throughout the past year IT work has been steady, including work to the website
- ◆ Event check in and event IT has progressed and improved
- ◆ Rovers going in and out of lockdown and online meetings starting and stopping, this has started Hybrid meetings. This will be continuing into the foreseeable future
- ◆ Will be working on the infrastructure of the VRC centre, as well as working on the long list of projects

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

#### 4.17 Commissioner Group

Peter Wotherspoon, Regi Caesar, Stephen Carter

##### Thank You

Another Rover year has now passed. For the first five months, we continued to meet virtually, something we have become accustomed to over the past few years.

Having adapted to meeting via "Zoom" for some time, meetings have continued to operate in a hybrid format – in person and "Zoom". This arrangement has enhanced our ability to communicate with our members and enable maximum participation in all activities. This has also greatly facilitated the opportunities for country Region's personnel to be fully engaged without travel difficulties.

We have seen a return to some sense of normality in our operations. Whilst our ski lodges did not operate in the 2021 ski season, the 2022 season, which officially began last weekend, looks like being a bumper season. It has certainly started well! My thanks to the Bogong team for all their work in having the chalet open for the season given the damage caused by the leaking hot water service. A great effort in a short time.

Mafeking has had limited use and it was encouraging to see Mudbash running again. The continued developments have been appreciated and the work on the main arena has been particularly welcomed by motorsport participants.

Mudbash has just concluded after not running for the past two years. Although all motorsport activities were suspended by Branch as a result of issues elsewhere, we "audited" our processes and were able to demonstrate that Rovers are capable of running a safe event that meets all the prescribed requirements, and more. It was wonderful that we could celebrate 50 years of the event with a successful weekend. Special thanks to all involved in the weekend and to those who made a major contribution beforehand to ensure that the event ran. Informal feedback from Branch personnel is that they were very satisfied with how the event ran.

We again had Surfmoort, the only event which has run over the last 3 years. Our other events MARB and Rover Dinner, also operated for the first time in some years and it was great to see all the planning which had taken place come to fruition with successful events. Whilst there have been some disappointment and frustration with cancellations, the events ran and were well attended.

None of the above would have happened without the continued determination and perseverance of all committee members and the support of the relevant Rover Advisors. Thank you all.

The Executive team, chaired by Kieron and ably supported by Deputy Chair, Hamish, and Assistant Chair, Matty, have achieved much over the past year. Kieron will provide more details in his report, but the contribution has been outstanding. Kieron has represented the Section in a variety of forums and his contribution must be singled out.

I am somewhat overwhelmed by Kieron's very kind comments in his report. We have worked well as a team, sharing some ups and downs, and spending much time together in person, on the phone and by email. In fact, Jen often refers to Kieron as our third child! We have indeed worked on a variety of issues, most good, some challenging, but all for the benefit of Rovers. That the Section is where it is today is testament to Kieron's determination and hard work.

One of the positives of Rovers is our ability to develop friendships. Over the past two years, and the last one in particular, Kieron has become a close friend.

The Office Bearers team has been incredibly supportive over the year and the achievements within the portfolios has been substantial. Again, I must single out Maddy for her role as Secretary over the past two years. Gemma in her role of NRC Delegate has also been particularly effective, Difficult roles handled well.

This year, and last year, the Region Chairs and members of their teams have come together to ensure that the Section is well represented locally. You have operated superbly as a team with constructive input to debate and the enhancement of Rovers.

All of our Units have continued to operate and successfully deliver exciting programs. This speaks volumes for the enthusiasm of all members and the support given to Units by Rover Advisors.

Thank you to the Commissioner team, Regi and Stephen, and each of the Region Support Commissioners, for all that you have done, and continue to do, supporting your teams.

Behavioural issues have been a major topic for the year and various matters have been raised. A paper outlining what is, and is not, acceptable has been developed and is currently under consideration/discussion. A number of individual issues have been, or are in the process of being, addressed. I am sure that with the input of the Rover community, we will all have a better understanding of unacceptable behaviour.

I commented last year on our ability to be resilient, to operate as a team and to support each other. We have demonstrated, yet again, our ability to do so. This in part goes to demonstrate the success of the Section.

At census, we had lost 76 Rovers. This is not as bad as may first appear. Extranet records members as Rovers on their eighteenth birthday. In many cases, those "lost" to Rovers, were in fact Venturers, who had turned eighteen but not advanced to Rovers.

### **Congratulations**

At our last meeting we elected a new team of Office Bearers for the forthcoming year with Catherine Marley as the incoming Chair of the Victorian Rover Council. I look forward to working with the new team and with new Region Chairs who have been, or will shortly be, elected.

### **State Commissioner's Award**

Nominations for the State Commissioners Award close with Peter on 30 June. Please refer to the website for further details.

**CAS Terras**

I would like to acknowledge the generosity of the CAS Terras team in donating \$1000 to the Victorian Moot Buddies fund. This donation is greatly appreciated and will assist Rovers to attend AIM. Details of the fund appear elsewhere in the agenda and this donation will add significantly to the corpus of funds available.

**Emails:**

*Pete:* [sc.rovers@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:sc.rovers@vicrovers.com.au)

*Regi:* [regi.caesar@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:regi.caesar@vicrovers.com.au)

*Stephen:* [stephen.carter@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:stephen.carter@vicrovers.com.au)

**5 Sub-Committee Reporting****5.1 Mafeking Rover Park****Charmaine Beggs**

This has been a busy month of works at Mafeking. Mudbash have been sent their campsite bill (with minor changes to be made once confirmation of official numbers are sent through) they will also receive a separate invoice for extra damages that occurred over their booking.

Although the bore pump arrived before Mudbash the other parts required to install the bore did not show up in time for Mudbash 2022. Instead MRP trucked in 7 loads of water totalling 133,000L (\$2,800) to ensure we did not run out of water!!

A big Thank-you to Halpin Haulage for being able to deliver the water over the weekend with short notice.

MRP currently have a draft EMP that is being edited currently and we hope to have it completed before our elections in August for use of all bookings and working bees going forward.

Testing and Tagging is being completed on 1st-3rd of July 2022 (while STEM is on-site) This will be completed by Peter Bates.

All fire extinguishers are now compliant. This was done by Ex-MRP Chair Brod Helmers. This costed \$1928.30, we still need to purchase new cabinets to store the extinguishers in for the Bunk Rooms and Training Centre, they were on back order, and unable to purchase before Mudbash 2022.

The freezer behind the kitchen is being looked at by the local Alexandra Aircon & Refrigeration company and are awaiting a diagnosis on it.

The Mafeking Bar at Mudbash 2022 made \$1,603 of sales this includes Drinks, Snacks and Merchandise. Left over slabs were sold at the end of the event to make back the money we spend on them so MRP is not out of pocket.

MRP Committee has done a run of hoodies, you may have seen us wearing them at Mudbash. We plan to launch these hoodies online next month when we do our merchandise order, Hoodies and T-Shirts will be available to order online once this is all set up.

I would like to confirm tonight on the dollar amount we (MRP) are able to spend as an asset on Merch as it does not change it's the same logo and Merch since the start, the only difference will be the drink bottles will change from plastic to metal to be more environmentally friendly.

As stated in the Finance Policy: (7.2 refers to corporate Merch, all others refer to event or committee Merch)

1. 7.2 All corporate merchandise may be purchased and sold on an ongoing basis with due consideration for previous sales. If in doubt consult the Finance Team.

## **7. MERCHANDISE**

- 7.1. The majority of activity specific merchandise must be pre-paid and pre-ordered via the online store.
  - 7.1.1. For activity specific merchandise there is an allowance of up to 10% on pre-ordered merchandise for its sale at the activity, this should be a consideration in the entities budget.
  - 7.1.2. If minimum quantities are not achieved, the order does not proceed, and the funds are refunded.
- 7.2. All corporate merchandise may be purchased and sold on an ongoing basis with due consideration for previous sales. If in doubt consult the Finance Team.
- 7.3. Committee merchandise must be paid for before it is ordered.

MRP has been donated a 6m x 4m shed which will be delivered to site this weekend, it will be set up in July once the MRP committee decides on what we will utilise the shed for.

The cage on the Branch Tandem has broken, this has been reported to Kieron and Peter. The cage has since been removed from the trailer and they cage and trailer will be returned to MRP this weekend at the working bee. The trailer will require a new cage to be built as current one is no longer usable.

Discussions with Stradbroke Cup regarding their bill have been had and the outcome has been successful for Mafeking and they have acknowledged that they have sent through the money (awaiting a second signature of approval). Going forward MRP will work with Stradbroke to create an MOU for their future events.

MRP has purchased new archery equipment and once the weather is good we will complete the archery upgrades by concreting in the flag poles. Hopefully, this might be able to be done at the June or July working bee.

We have started advertising our AGM, Elections and Positions online using social media. We also used Mudbash to advertise our AGM.

We are hopeful to fill all of our committee positions once again for the 2022-23 term.

Our Elections will be held on Monday 1st August 2022 at VRC and on Zoom (Link to come out closer to the event). More posts are scheduled for next week to go into detail of our patrol teams, all positions, descriptions and nominations can be found and made using this link: <https://www.mafekingroverpark.com/management-group/join-our-management-group/>

Big Red is currently Out of Action, RSM have organised with MRP to get the tractor fixed this weekend at the working bee to allow RSM to repair the race tracks post Mudbash.

Mafeking Christmas in July Dinner SATURDAY 16TH JULY is an opportunity for ALL ROVERS to have their say in how we as rovers can develop Mafeking Rover Park over the next 5-10 years.

I have attached the invitation. Please RSVP for dinner by Friday July 1st!



Now that Mudbash has been and gone MRP Team are working hard on creating a wonderful 30th Event Celebrations in November. We would love to have a display from all other sub committees and VRC to show off what rovers is all about, so please get your teams and regions together to help us make this celebration one to remember.

## 5.2 Surfmoort

**Matthew Barnes**

- ◆ Cannot confidently appoint a Surfmoort chair at this point in time
- ◆ Behind schedule greatly for normal planning
- ◆ Not confident that Surfmoort will run in 2023
- ◆ Normally Surfmoort after national moot is bigger, would be disappointing to see this not happen

## 5.3 Mudbash

**Lucy Hubbard**

Mudbash 2022 was a huge success!!!!!! We hope everyone had a great time. Please keep an eye on our social for our upcoming AGM that we hope to hold a month early in July.

First post working be this weekend has been cancelled and the second one will be on the 15th to 17th of July.

We are also coming up with a plan to help support current Rover committees with a mentoring program. We will have more details regarding this in the next few weeks on our social media pages and we will also get some information out about it in the weekly newsletter.

Please keep an eye out for our feedback survey which will be out in the next few days also.

## 5.4 Rover Scout Motorsport (RSM)

**Mitchell Hanger**

No report submitted.

## 5.5 Bogong Rover Chalet

**Jesse Lang**

We have had lots of correspondence with the Alpine team over the last month to work out how we are going to go moving forward with complying with the new required adventurous activities qualifications, and so we've been making progress with that. NOBs, the leaders for each of the ski weeks, have been organised and are almost all confirmed. We had our annual Ski Expo at EMC at the start of June which had a great turnout and was good for both us and EMC. Our first winter party heads off this Friday, so we're looking forward to getting some skiing in this season!

## 5.6 W.F. Waters Lodge

**Todd Henderson**

Working on more promotional posters to recruit members for the crew.

## 5.7 MARB

**Breanne Simmons**

- ◆ Meeting regularly, MARB is coming up quick
- ◆ Found someone for PR but still looking for someone for entertainment

## 5.8 Yearbook

**Catherine Marley**

We are in the process of getting quotes for the yearbook. It will have more pages than last year's book because we will have more photos of rovers doing stuff!

Now is the time to start sending through reports and photos. If you don't have time to write a new report, send through your AGM report. We want to focus on the achievements and highlights of Vic Rovers from 2021-2022.

#### 5.9 Rover Dinner

Plenty Valley

We have secured our venue and caterer, and we are in the process of putting our tickets on the Rover Store. We'll see you in Eltham on the 8th of October!

### 6 Region Reporting

#### 6.1 Bays

Rachael Osborne

Bays had a fantastic turnout at our elections this month, where we were able to vote in a fantastic new team for 2022-23!! Introducing..

Molly Hastings as Chairman

Anthony Lamb as Deputy Chairman

Breanne Simmons as Secretary

Tyler Mason as Treasurer

Grace Hood as Training Officer

Kieren Martin as BPSA Officer

David Brackenridge as Development Officer

and last but not least

Drew Lazenby as Region RA 

I'm absolutely stoked at the team we've got for the next 12 months in Bays, with every single person being from a different unit and having so much potential between them all.

I've been very lucky to have two years taking care of Bays and it's been a very interesting time to do it.

Thanks to everybody for supporting me, but especially to Drew and Regi, the best region parents we could ask for.

Good luck to the incoming exec, I know you'll be amazing!

#### 6.2 Gippsland

Justin Porter

Gippsland have had their elections and the new team are as follows:

- ◆ Zoe Cooper – Chair
- ◆ Jack Ballantyne – Deputy Chair, VRC Rep
- ◆ Hamish McMillan – Secretary, VRC Rep
- ◆ Scott Mackey – Treasurer
- ◆ Harvey Williams – Assets Manager
- ◆ Gemma Burke – Development Officer for Training
- ◆ Wish everyone who has been on VRC and Gippsland team and is leaving the best

#### 6.3 Lerderderg

Wil Sumbler

We are getting back into encouraging units to attend region meetings, after a few hiccups transitioning from online to face-to-face. Next month is our AGM and elections, hoping to see a great turn out, everyone is invited with refreshments after the meeting.

Big thanks to the outgoing team, you have all done a brilliant job! We are excited to see what the new year and team brings!

#### 6.4 Melbourne

Tiffanie Thomas

First of all, I would like to give a big thanks to the Melbourne team and the VRC team over the past 12 months we've all worked extremely hard to keep rovers running smoothly and you've all done an amazing job.



We had an amazing AGM this month with delicious hot jam donuts, kindly cooked for us by the Cas team. However, a cheeky RA thought it was okay to steal one of the region chairs donuts. We came out with a full team!

Region chair - Lily Stephens  
 Deputy region chair - Lilith Stewart  
 Secretary/ treasurer - Rowina Nathan  
 Communications officer - Angelina Dax  
 Development officer - Aodren Knight  
 BPSA & training officer - Kent Bennett  
 Program officer - Harrison Feldman

We had several units attend Mudbash and would like to give a big thank you and congratulations to Lucy and the rest of the Mudbash committee.

A farewell fun fact from Tiff  
 Tigers have striped skin, not striped fur  
 Tiff is going to miss everyone

## 6.5 Mt Dandenong

**Gemma Park**

RoVenture Rollerblading night was a massive success and has gone a long way in rebuilding the relationship between the two sections within the Region. With over 170 Rovers and Venturers putting on roller-skates and an additional uncounted number of venturer leaders who attended (but refrained from giving it a go on the rink) I strongly feel this type of event will go a long way increasing Venturer retention and has reassured us that the Venturers are indeed keen to learn more about Rovers. We plan to run a play centre RoVenture in Spring, followed by Rollerblading in May again next year.

Well done to the Mudbash committee on a fantastic event, by far the best Mudbash I have been to. We loved the band (and we're a little bit broken-hearted by the lack of a band on Sunday night but understand it was outside of anybody's control), but jumping into the hot tub was a pretty good alternative. I was blown away by the number of units from my region who brought a buggy to race - especially those smaller quiet units who gave it a go for the first time in a long time; I'm incredibly proud of them! It was absolutely lovely to catch up with everyone in a purely social context and I wouldn't have changed a single thing about my final Mudbash experience.

I'd like to introduce the new Mt Dandenong dream team, who are enthusiastic and willing to take up the tasks of strengthening inter-unit networking, building Region to Unit communication, and increasing Venturer retention.

Chair: Izaak Kitching  
 Deputy Chair: Brit Oakley  
 Secretary: Gillian O'Connor  
 Treasurer: Pat McCaffrey

BPSA Support (Old program): Madeline Ancill

Development Officers: Laura Ryan (New Program), Alex Andrews (Rover-Venturer Activities/Liaison), Mark Morey, Cassie Mullens, Claire Noonan, Ben Ceravolo & Cairo Levett.

I'm looking forward to my retirement and relaxing into my last few months of Rovers: see you all when I gate crash all the cool events as a service leader to make up for the moots I missed due to Covid.

Everyone is invited to Mt Dandenong's annual ARAP Wednesday 6th July 8pm at Heathmont, refreshments provided. <https://fb.me/e/1IPCi6XHL>

## 6.6 Murray Midlands

Travis Elliot

- ◆ Murray Midlands has had a productive month
- ◆ Ran the region camp – went really well
- ◆ A majority of the region attended Mudbash so the AGM was able to run
- ◆ Filled most of the exec
- ◆ Chair – Michael Hardwicke
- ◆ Dep – Charmaine Beggs
- ◆ Treasurer – Maddy Crichton
- ◆ Secretary – Maxine Campbell
- ◆ I would like to thank my region exec for all their hard work during my term

## 6.7 Plenty Valley

Nathan Box

- ◆ Meeting was held at Mudbash
- ◆ Held an impromptu game of volley ball against South Australian Rovers
- ◆ Nominations for incoming exec are now open
- ◆ Big well done to Mudbash for putting on a great event

## 6.8 South West

Lily Twyford

Our Mudbash AGM was a success, and we have a new incoming exec! All current members except myself are staying on but with some position changes and we have two new, wonderful rovers joining us.

Chair - David Pattinson, Boss Hurst

Deputy Chair - Matthew Pannan, Buandik

Treasurer - Bonni Jane-Lion McLaren, Boss Hurst

Assets Manager - Juliana Long, Boss Hurst

Development Officer - Kira Miles, Boss Hurst

A big special welcome to Matthew who is for starters NOT a boss hurst member, but it also from our newly integrated western scout region! I truly believe this incoming team will do great things and I look forward to watching them grow and achieve.

In regard to events of the last month, we are official all set and good to go with our new region Bendigo bank accounts and will be signing on the new incoming exec as signatories and for online banking adventures.

Otherwise, this is my lucky last meeting at VRC as region chair - it's been a wonderful past two years. Don't worry, you'll still have to see me here for AIM for a little while longer.

## 7 Other Reports

### 7.1 MPAC Report

Nothing to report.

## 8 Interstate, National and International Events and Contingents

### 8.1 Apple Isle Moot - Tasmania

Lily Twyford

Contingent fee and travel fee will very very soon be available on the VicRovers store (sorry that's a delay of paperwork on my behalf, I'm getting onto it I promise!) - please ensure you have paid this if you are attending the moot.

We have finalised out T&Cs for travel so please ensure you read them when purchasing.

There was a welcome email sent out to all those who have started an application for AIM with some helpful information, please check your junk! Otherwise, sadly I forgot the merchandise for Mudbash Imao but I have some today to give out - please take these back to your region to distribute the goodies,

Lastly, the final day for registrations is November 1st so make sure to get in before that!

As always, you can check out their website - <https://www.appleislemoot.com.au/home> and don't forget to check out on Facebook and Instagram the Victorian contingent info - 'Victorian Contingent to AIM 2023' <https://www.facebook.com/VicconAIM2023> & @vicconaim2023 <https://www.instagram.com/vicconaim2023/?hl=en>

## 9 Voting Items

### 9.1 Bogon Chalet Management Group Budget 2022/23

Bogon Treasurer

Please find the budget at page 6 of the minute attachments.

**Motion: Increase budget allowance for fuel by \$750**

**Motioned:** Gippsland

**Second:** Plenty Valley

**Passed.**

**Motion: Voting on amended budget**

**Motioned:** Bays

**Second:** Mt Dandenong

**Passed.**

Please send any questions and comments to the BCMG Treasurer

[treasurer@bogongroverchalet.org.au](mailto:treasurer@bogongroverchalet.org.au)

## 10 Items for the Information of the Victorian Rover Council

### 10.1 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.

## 11 Tabled Items

### 11.1 VRC to facilitate a Vic Moot buddies System for AIM 2023

Kieron Younger

This paper can be found on page 12 of the minute attachment.

#### KEY POINTS

- Victorian Moot Buddies is a financial assistance program, run by the Victorian Rover Council (VRC) to provide help to Rover Scouts who under other circumstances would not be able to attend a National Rover Scout Moot due to financial restrictions.

- The VRC and Moot committees realise that National Rover Scout Moots can be expensive for attendees, and as such, allocate some funds to potentially help Rover Scouts attend this great event. THIS HOWEVER IS NOT A FREE RIDE. Applicants need to demonstrate they are eligible to receive the assistance and consequently the most suitable applicants will be selected. As such, the following form has been developed to help the Victorian Moot Buddies Committee assess your application for funding to attend the Apple Isle Moot (or AIM), the National Rover Moot of 2022/2023.
- In line with scouts Vic privacy policy.
- Rovers supporting other rovers to create life long memories A financial assistance package for rovers' scouts attending the next national rover moot in Tasmania based on individual financial circumstances and merit with in Scouting and the wider community.

Please send any questions or comments to Kieron Younger.

[Kieron.younger@scoutsvictoria.com.au](mailto:Kieron.younger@scoutsvictoria.com.au)

## 11.2 Code of Behaviour Document

This document can be found on page 14 of the minute attachment.

### KEY POINTS

- ♦ The Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics provide details of behaviours and actions which apply to all adult (including young adult) members of Scouting within Victoria. The Codes are designed to protect members who participate in Scouting.
- ♦ The Code also provides details of unacceptable behaviour within Scouting and indicates that departures from what are regarded as acceptable behaviours may have consequences.
- ♦ Within this context, these guidelines expand on the contents and application of the Code, detail how departures from the Code and reportable incidents will be dealt with in the Rover Section.

Please send any questions and comments to Pete Wotherspoon.

[sc.rovers@vicrovers.com.au](mailto:sc.rovers@vicrovers.com.au)

## 12 Standing Items

### 12.1 Unit Names and Scarves

Regions

### 12.2 Workplace Health & Safety Items

If you are using the VRC please ensure you check-in using the QR code on the front door, use sanitiser frequently and wash down all frequently touched surfaces before departure.

### 12.3 WWCC/e-Learning Reminders

Details of members with outstanding membership requirements are sent to Unit Leaders and Region Teams every month. Please ensure these are actioned in a timely manner.

If you'd like an ad-hoc report please contact Jeff

### 12.4 Operoo

Any event you run should be registered with Operoo. Contact the State Operoo team @ [Operoo@scoutsvictoria.com.au](mailto:Operoo@scoutsvictoria.com.au) to inform them of your event, they will help you with the process around that

### 12.5 ScOUT & ABOUT

Register your event through the link here. Anything from Working Bees to weekend camps.

<https://myrecord.scoutsvictoria.com.au/memberportal/scouting-activity/vic>

### 12.6 Terrain

More to come.

### 12.7 Active Rover Policy

You can find a summary sheet and optional approval form for this policy at  
<https://www.vicrovers.com.au/resources/policies>

## **13 General Business**

### **13.1 Other Business**

#### ***Office Bearer Positions***

- ◆ OB elections did not happen tonight as appointments will be made in July. Positions are being filled behind the scenes to be approved in July. Anyone interest, contact Catherine.

#### ***Mafeking Merchandise***

- ◆ Mafeking Rover Park have been given the go ahead to purchase the Merchandise needed to replenish stock for upcoming events and bookings

**Closing Parade: Flag Down & Rover Prayer**

**Meeting Closed at: 09:20 pm**