

Huon Valley Tourism Network Inc.

Annual General Meeting and General Meeting Minutes

Monday 30th September 2024, 5.30pm Willie Smiths Apple Shed

Attendees: Gary Ashdown, Stephen Cronin, Damian Mather, Larni Davies, Sarah Bradley, Darryl Murray, Kate Marsden, Naomie Port-Clark, Michelle Crawford, Aurélien Gouny, Anita Harrison, Michael Smith, Ben Hunter, Rossy Roberts-Thompson, Roger Lowe, Ken Stronach, Diana Leeder, Warren Leeder, William Wright and Sirpa Loevendie.

Meeting Items:	Lead:
<p>1. Welcome to Country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DST – Come Down for Air – Off Season was launched and preparations are 2025 Season are now underway.• ATEC – Inclusive Training Program – Huon Valley pilot program has 4 spaces still available for enrolments. The program is fully subsidised.• Tips and Tipples – Next event to be held at the Wooden Boat Centre. 23 October 2024 @ 4.00pm.• Acknowledgment given to the committee members responsible for the preparation by the HVTN Studio Art Trail 2024.	<p>Damian Mather (Destination Southern Tasmania)</p>
<p>2. President’s Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New and existing members welcomed.• Thanks, given to DST and TICT representatives for their presentations.• Attendance numbers down due to the postponement of last week’s AGM.	<p>Gary Ashdown (HVTN President)</p>
<p>3. Attendance/Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Simon Gledhill• Sharon Island• Sally Doyle• Alice Toner• Toby Thorpe• Melita Hickling• Alex Heroys• Amy Hills• Cassie Faux	
<p>4. Confirmation of previous AGM Minutes – 13th September 2023 Acceptance of minutes moved by Gary Ashdown, 2nd by Kate Marsden. Motion carried.</p>	

<p>President's Report (See attachment #1)</p> <p>Gary Ashdown tabled President's 2023-2024 report.</p> <p>Acceptance of minutes moved by Gary Ashdown, 2nd by Naomie Clark-Port. Motion carried.</p>	
<p>5. Treasurer's Report (See attachment #2)</p> <p>Stephen Cronin tabled Treasure's 2023-2024 report with comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 'Wayfinder' map is still in development – Follow up and confirmation is required on current and potential businesses inclusions on this year's map. The annual fee of \$60 allows businesses a listing on our HVTN touring map. • HVTN Studio Art Trail – Event is on the 26-27th October. We have a good number of art studios, local food and beverage, and accommodation business represented in this year's event. Sponsors of this year's event include local businesses including: The Bowmont, Franks Cider, Kate Hill Wines, Fullers and Dashwu Steading, Huon Valley Council and Bendigo Bank. <p>Acceptance of report moved by Stephen Cronin, 2nd by Ken Stronach. Motion carried</p>	<p>Stephen Cronin (HVTN Treasure)</p>
<p>6. Stand Down of Committee 2023/24</p>	<p>Gary Ashdown (HVTN President)</p>
<p>7. Election of Office Bearers/Committee</p> <p>Nominations received for Committee members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ President - HVTN nom. Gary Ashdown 2nd Sarah Bradley. Elected unopposed. ○ Vice President – HVTN nom. Cassie Faux 2nd Sarah Bradley. Elected unopposed. ○ Treasurer – HVTN nom. Stephen Cronin 2nd Darryl Murray. Elected unopposed. ○ Co-Secretary – HVTN nom. Darryl Murray 2nd Sarah Bradley. Elected unopposed. Co-Secretary – HVTN nom. Sarah Bradley 2nd Darryl Murray. Elected unopposed. 	<p>Damian Mather (Chair - DST)</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HVTN nom. Kate Marsden 2nd Darryl Murray. Elected unopposed. ● HVTN nom. Sharon Ireland 2nd Darryl Murray. Elected unopposed. ● HVTN nom. Carolyn Holmes 2nd Darryl Murray. Elected unopposed. ● HVTN nom. Naomie Clarke-Port 2nd Sarah Bradley. Elected unopposed. ● HVTN nom. Ken Stronach 2nd Sarah Bradley. Elected unopposed. ● HVTN nom. Aurélien Gouny 2nd Sarah Bradley. Elected unopposed. ● HVTN nom from the floor. Michael Smith 2nd Kate Marsden. Elected unopposed. 	
<p>8. General Business of AGM Special resolution: request for audit exemption Acceptance of motion moved by Gary Ashdown 2nd Michael Smith. Motion carried</p>	<p>Gary Ashdown (HVTN President)</p>
<p>9. AGM Closed at - 6.15pm</p>	
<p>10. TICT presentation- Tassie Tourism Ambassador Program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Large sign ups of Ambassador Program in the past 12 months. ● Module 4 of the program “Know your Destination” now includes Huon Valley and the Far South. Launched this month and includes members from HVTN. ● King and Flinders Island to be included in next year’s program. 	<p>Larni Davies (Tassie Tourism Ambassador Program Coordinator & Industry Advisor)</p>

Attachment #1.

Presidents Welcome & Report 2023-2024 - AGM 23rd September 2024

Thank you for everyone's attendance at this year's Huon Valley Tourism Network's AGM and for everyone's work over the past year in promoting and protecting our region of Tasmania.

I acknowledge and pay respect to the "Melukerdee and Lylequonny" people as the traditional and original owners, and continuing custodians of this land on which we gather today and acknowledge Elders – past, present and emerging.

As an overview and I had to sum up the last financial year, I think it could be considered a mixed bag, with some good points and some not so good.

Having spoken with a good number of tourism operators in the Huon and surrounds, I would say visitor numbers started quite well with January, February and March quite busy, a little down on the previous year but OK. But sadly, the remainder of the season has been quieter state-wide, maybe due the cost-of-living situation?

Sadly, in June Huon Valley Council cut several positions in order to balance their budget, I would like to thank Michelle Gledhill for all her work over the years in promoting tourism throughout the Huon and wish her well for the future.

On a lighter note, it was good news that the state budget included funding for the Cygnet Folk Festival, Taste of the Huon, improved facilities at Hastings Caves and for a full economic feasibility study for Huon Valley Mountain Bike study in Dover.

Our Huon Valley touring map is back from the designer for final checking, before heading off to the printers. Thank you to then Liberal MP Dean Young, Huon Valley Council, Destination Southern Tasmania, Huon Valley Community Bank and our members for the around \$9,000 of funding.

Transformer, the long-promised bush fire recovery project, has now passed every hurdle to being built, but requires additional funding. I have again written to every Franklin MP, upper house MP's, Premier and Prime minister, asking for funding for the Transformer art project.

Interestingly, Leonine Hiscutt, Liberal member of the Legislative Council based in Ulverstone was the first to reply in just 4 days, eight others replied within three weeks, Anthony Albanese took four weeks, sadly our tourism minister and premier hasn't replied as yet. I don't know when he last ventured into the Huon and sometimes wonder if he can see past Macquarie Point!

My hope is that Transformer will be allocated federal government funding at the next federal election due to be held before September 2025. My guess is within the next 6 months and I have another meeting with Federal member for Franklin, Julie Collins later this week.

On behalf of the whole valley, I would also like to say a huge thank you to our hosts at the apple shed today for running the Huon Valley Mid-Winter Festival over the past 11 years, amazing events that have both entertained and drawn thousands of visitors into our region.

Recently internationally known Conde Nast traveller named the Huon Valley in the top ten best places to go in Australia, New Zealand and South Pacific. The Australian Traveller's magazine also did a wonderful article on the Huon Valley.

Thank you for everyone involved with our stand at the Destination Southern Tasmania Showcase in early August, again another wonderful event.

On behalf of HVTN I say thank you to our members, Mayor Sally Doyle, Michelle Gledhill and other current staff at Huon Valley Council, Alex, Damian and the team at Destination Southern Tasmania, everyone at Tourism Tasmania, State Growth, State and Federal government who have all helped us through this year and continue to promote the Huon Valley.

President: Gary Ashdown.

Attachment #2.

Treasurer's report for Annual General Meeting September 23, 2024

Report for the financial year 2023-2024

1. Balance brought forward 1 July 2023: **\$1101.15**

At the end of the financial year 30 June 2024, the remaining balance was **\$13420.24**

The principal income for the year was support for the Art and Studio Trail and for the Huon Valley Touring Map.

HVC community grant \$1000

HVC \$3300 towards the Wayfinder map and DST Tourism Tasmanian Showcase

DPAC (Dept of Premier and Cabinet) \$4000 towards the Wayfinder map

Map and membership renewals to 30 June 2024: \$780

Art and Studio Art Trail 2023

Income: \$4780.00

Artists, Food businesses, Accommodation/Attractions, Dual listings

Bendigo Bank support: \$1320

Huon Valley Council grant \$1000.00

Outgoings: \$3004.072

Advertising, Art trail maps and Bollards/flags

Management of the trail was shared between HVTN volunteers and a contracted council employee. From an initial position with a budget balanced by the HVTN volunteers, considerable costs were incurred which could have left HVTN with a sizeable deficit. However, HVC management stepped in and covered those unforeseen costs.

For 2024, management of the trail has again reverted to volunteers under the auspices of HVTN.

Currently the trail accounts are in the black: **\$5206.11** with current liabilities **\$3583.83**

2. The current balance for this financial year 1 July 2024 - 22 September 2024: **\$20336.98**

Treasurer: Stephen Cronin