



AGM and GM minutes 2 March 2023

Annual General Meeting

Chair: Bert Brown

Acknowledgement of Country

Welcome and apologies

Apologies: Amy Beardsley, Jim Douglas, Mayor Angela Evans, Alan Goldsmith, Chris Newby, Chrissy Schultz, Richard Smith, Lynn Walsh, Geoff Woods, Jackie Wurm

Present: Paul Acfield, Sandy Baer, Fran Baum, Bert Brown, Deb Cashel, Marty Cielens, Rina Cohen, Theo Ellenbroek, Bruce Foster, Steve Fuller, Shelley Harington, Deirdre Knight, Lara Lamnek, Becky Llewellyn, Andrea Rankin, Peter Schultz, Julie Whitehead, Geoff Short, Anne Wheaton

Acceptance of AGM minutes

AGM minutes 2022 <https://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>

Moved: Bruce Foster

Seconded: Paul Laris

Acceptance of GM minutes

GM minutes December 22

Moved: Julie Whitehead

Seconded: Pedro Schultz

Carried

Guest speaker

Paul Laris: 'Social movements and health impacts of climate change'

Presentation is on the WACRA website: <https://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>

Treasurer's report

Theo Ellenbroek reporting

Report is on the WACRA website: <https://wacra.org.au/news-events/meetings/>

Move that report be accepted until sent to the auditor in July.

Moved: Julie Whitehead

Seconded: Lara Lamnek

Carried

Chairperson's report

Bert Brown reporting on behalf of Jim Douglas (Acting Chair in 2022)

Report is available as **Appendix 1** at the end of these minutes.

Jim Douglas has done a wonderful job as chair of WACRA. The History Book outlines all the work he has done: <http://wacra.org.au/listen-to-the-people/>

Moved: Paul Laris

Seconded: Fran Baum

Carried

Life membership presentations

WACRA wishes to honour Alan Goldsmith with a life membership.

Moved: Bert Brown

Seconded: By acclamation

Carried

WACRA wishes to honour Paul Laris with a life membership.

Moved: Bert Brown

Seconded: By acclamation

Carried

See **Appendix 2** at the end of these minutes for details about Alan and Paul's contributions.

Proposed changes to WACRA Rules

Geoff Short reporting

The main issue is that our current rules refer to any person residing in the City of Charles Sturt. We want to substitute that the person must support the objectives of the association and agree to be bound by its rules (Rule 5.1).

Rule 5.2 – new membership applications need to be formally approved by the committee who will then notify the applicant.

Rule 3.1 – 'for residents' will be deleted consistent with Rule 5 change. Also we want to make sure that the interests and issues we focus on relate to the City of Charles Sturt, hence 'in the coastal neighbourhood'.

Rule 16 – potential expulsion of a member refers to 'misconduct' which will be replaced with 'conduct' that goes against the objectives of the association.

Q: My Tree Project – we wanted to include West Beach Primary School – is focusing just on Charles Sturt counter productive?

A: The Rule won't be prescriptive but will allow case-by-case considerations. The MTP has its origins in the CSS and has expanded to other areas and will not be affected by the Rule change.

NOTE: The intention of the Rule change is to prevent non-CCS members using WACRA to promote issues in locations outside of CCS.

Q: One issue related to this question, it is possible that we may apply for a grant to West Torrens Council. Is this OK?

A: There won't be any problem with that.

Q: Should this detail be mentioned in the clause?

A: 'City' is defined in the Rules as the City of Charles Sturt.

It is moved that the association's rules be amended as follows:

Rule 3(1):

Delete: 'To encourage, represent and advocate for residents to build a healthy, safe, joyous, equitable and sustainable community.'

Substitute: 'To encourage, represent and advocate to build a healthy, safe, joyous, equitable and sustainable community in the coastal neighbourhoods of the City.'

Rule 5:

Delete:

- '1) Any person who
- i. resides in the City area; and
 - ii. applies in writing for membership of the Association; and
 - iii. pays the subscription fee set in accordance with these rules;
- shall be a member; except that where a person, in addition to satisfying the above requirements, shall require acceptance for membership by a general meeting of the Association before becoming a member.
- 2) The names and addresses of members shall be recorded in a register of members.'

Substitute:

- '1) Subject to sub-rule 2), any person who
- i. agrees to support the Objectives of the Association and to be bound by its Rules; and
 - ii. applies in writing for membership of the Association; and
 - iii. pays the subscription fee set in accordance with these Rules,
- may be a member.
- 2) Each application for membership shall be considered by the Committee at the next meeting of the Committee and the applicant shall be notified as to whether the application has been accepted or rejected.
- 3) The names and addresses of members shall be recorded in a register of members.'

Rule 16(1)

Delete 'misconduct', substitute 'conduct'.

Moved: Marty Cielens

Seconded: Theo Ellenbroek

Carried

Election of officers

Paul Laris (Returning Officer)

First we will confirm the membership of the Committee, then look at specific positions.

An en masse vote of all nominations is proposed. Unless there is any further discussion, it is suggested these people be appointed.

Moved: Becky Llewellyn

Seconded: Paul Laris

Carried

A further 3 positions are available. Do we have any other nominations?

No.

Action: Everyone clapped for the wonderful committee (suggested by Becky Llewellyn).

Marty Cielens has self-nominated as chairperson

Carried by acclamation

Bert Brown has self-nominated as vice chairperson

Carried by acclamation

Theo Ellenbroek (Treasurer)

Carried by acclamation

Andrea Rankin (Secretary/Minutes)

Carried by acclamation

Appointments to the Committee:

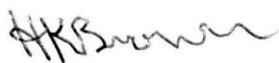
Deb Cashel, Kate Denton, Jim Douglas, Shelley Harington, Paul Laris, Richard Smith, Julie Whitehead

Don Lewis (Public Officer) has self-nominated as public officer.

Geoff Short has been appointed by the Committee as WACRA's policy advisor.

NOTE: People can be co-opted without holding a position on the committee. There are also some people who are 'go-tos' for information and support.

Refer to the WACRA website for the list of officers: <http://wacra.org.au/about/who-we-are/>



Bert Brown (Chair)

General Meeting

Marty Cielens, as the new Chairperson, says it is a privilege. Thanks to everyone for being here and we look forward to a productive year for the group. New people means new energy, more hands on board.

Presentations by groups

1. COASTAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

Geoff Short reporting

WACRA's goals

Coastal Management's mission: Advocate on issues affecting the coast in order to preserve, protect and enhance the environment for current and future generations of residents.

Actions taken/developments since last report

In November 2022, DEW announced formation of Independent Advisory Panel to oversee Adelaide Beach Management Review.

- Mark Searle, former chief executive officer for the City of Marion
- Kurna representatives Les Wanganeen and Sarah Smith
- Professor Beverley Clarke, social science expert from Flinders University
- Professor Emeritus Nicholas Harvey, coastal science expert from the University of Adelaide
- Professor Emeritus Michael Young, environmental science expert from the University of Adelaide.

IAP has appointed SA-based URPS to manage community engagement and Bluecoast Consulting Engineers (NSW) to undertake the scientific review.

The 12-month review commenced Jan 2023 and will include consideration of:

1. How to manage sand on Adelaide's beaches to achieve the following goals:
 1. Minimise disruption for all communities
 2. Avoid environmental harm
 3. Maximise sand staying on beaches.
2. The Adelaide community's views on sand management options and on the impact of the current sand management approaches including trucking and pipelines.
3. Lessons from international examples of sand management on metropolitan beaches.
4. What can be learned from the most up to date analysis of climate science about future management of Adelaide's beaches.

The timeline for the review is:

- December-January 2023 – Preparation of Community Engagement Plan
- January-February 2023 – Review of relevant data and literature on Adelaide coastal management. Meetings with key stakeholders to discuss coastal management options.
- February-March 2023 – Systematic review of constraints and opportunities. Undertake baseline geomorphic assessment. Develop long list of management options.
- March-April 2023 – Scientific review of potential sand sources.
- April-May 2023 – Broad community consultation on options.
- May-June 2023 – Prepare engagement report. Undertake option development and evaluation.

- July-August 2023 – Prepare draft scientific report on management options. Prepare engagement materials on options.
- September-October 2023 – Community consultation.
- November-December 2023 – Complete scientific and engagement reports and provide advice to government.
- Externally sourced sand will continue to be brought into West Beach while the review is completed.

The Coastal Management Group met with DEW Project Manager Chris Newby and URPS Principal Consultant Zoe Hambour on 15 February 2023 to be briefed on the progress of the Review and to provide further WACRA input.

Late breaking news

Sand to Semaphore South, Henley and West Beach. Jim Douglas wrote to Susan Close last week to highlight the problem, which was also reported in InDaily:

<https://indaily.com.au/news/2023/02/23/popular-adelaide-beach-disappearing-under-review-tide/>

NOTE (from the floor): At Jim’s request, the state government has responded that any submissions to the review will be publicly disclosed on their website.

It was moved that the Coastal Management Group report be accepted.

Moved: Deirdre Knight

Seconded: Paul Laris

Carried

Q: It seems to me that most residents wherever they live value the beach, but there seems to be a lot of ignorance about the coast – where sand comes from and how it is replenished. If there is going to be an engineering/biological assessment of the coast, what might that look like in 100 years? Re quarry-based sand, what are the greenhouse implications?

A: That’s a good point. One of the motivating forces for us is the DHI report which said they did not take into report the social, economic and environmental implications of their recommendations. It was recommended that this be taken into account. Part of our role will be to make sure the review addresses these issues – be vigilant.

Q: Is plastic pollution included?

A: Yes it will be, and microplastics are also an issue on which we’ve repeatedly pressed for consideration.

Bruce Foster requested to make a statement at the end of these reports.

2. CLIMATE MATTERS GROUP

Julie Whitehead reporting

MY TREE PROJECT

Awards

An exhibition of primary students’ work was held at the Civic Centre for SALA in August 2022. This event won two awards:

- Charles Sturt Council Community Event of 2023
- Australia Day Council SA South Australian Community Event of the Year 2023

Thanks to members Lara, Steve, Deidre, Andrea, Marty, Richard and Marg for their contribution. Marty remains as a mentor/helper but Richard and Marg will not continue in the team this year.

2023-24

We will be looking at funding possibilities for 2023-24. Green Adelaide Grassroots Grants look promising.

We want to invite other (disadvantaged) schools to participate – eg Ngutu College and Pennington Primary – and to expand the Kurna connection. As well, West Beach Primary and Kilkenny want to continue with the project.

CANOPY/URBAN FOREST

CMG presented 2 deputations to council in 2022 about **canopy loss**.

Kate and Marty presented another deputation to council Monday 27 February 2023 about the new development on Lot 100/101 Frederick Road, Seaton, where there will be further tree loss. This is a serious ongoing issue if council is to meet its 2045 Growing Green target of 25% increase in tree coverage.

The State Government has set up an **Inquiry into the urban forest**. Applications closed 24 February and several members of WACRA individually made high-standard well researched submissions as well as official submissions from WACRA and the CMG. We may be invited to present oral evidence to the Environment, Resources and Development Committee.

<https://www.parliament.sa.gov.au/en/News/2022/12/13/04/04/SUBMISSIONS-OPEN---Inquiry-into-the-Urban-Forest>

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Julie and Kate:

Julie and Kate have been chosen to participate in a community-led project to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Charles Sturt. The next step is to set a target and prepare a community-led action plan.

Steve and Deirdre:

Bringing Back the Butterflies (BBB) is a project of the Australian Association for Environmental Education (AAEE) South Australian Chapter and is an exciting and amazing project linking communities in South Australia.

Deidre was awarded a Premier's SA Climate Leader Award 2022 for her contribution to the community.

Steve and Deirdre, the BBB coordinators, are running a 2023 propagation program over the next month and need volunteers to help get new season seedlings ready for winter planting. Anyone interested?

If you volunteer, you will be rewarded with free seedlings for your garden. 😊

Andrea:

Andrea has enrolled in a 3-month course with the organisation Climate for Change. The aim is to learn how to have conversations about climate change so that the energy for action spreads.

Climate for Change seeks to create that social and political will - the social climate in Australia in which our political leaders can and must do what it takes to stop, and ultimately reverse, global warming.

It was moved that the Climate Matters Group report be accepted.

Moved: Marty Cielens

Seconded: Bert Brown

Carried

3. COUNCIL CONNECT GROUP

Paul Laris reporting

Henley Hub/Ngutungka

WACRA has been closely involved on community consultation on the design of the library/community centre to go on the site of the old Henley Town Hall and Library. The concept plan was approved by Council last year and the project is now in the final design development stage. We are pleased with progress to date and look forward to the next stage. We expect the final design to be revealed shortly and a contractor appointed to do the build later this year.

City of Charles Sturt Councils Business Plan 2022-2023

WACRA noted that making Charles Sturt a liveable city was a priority for council's plan, but the actual allocation of budget did not reflect a full appreciation of the importance of acting on climate change mitigation and adaptation to meet that goal. We highlighted the lack of an adequate strategy to monitor and build tree canopy or to address the loss of trees through urban infill. This issue has recently been highlighted by the proposal for redevelopment of Lot1-00-101 Frederick Rd West lakes. Becky Llewellyn did a wonderful job of putting in a submission to the council's business plan.

City of Charles Sturt Draft Economic Development Strategy 2022-2026

WACRA's submission noted and supported the importance of climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies and the focus on economic, social and environmental outcomes. However, we called for more attention to issues including risks of flooding and sea level rise, extreme heat events, management and reduction of waste, increased use of photovoltaics and public transport. We again raised concerns re urban infill development and tree canopy loss and highlighted the need stronger acknowledgement of and engagement with Aboriginal culture and community.

Liaison re coastal management

WACRA has made sure Council is 'in the loop' with all our advocacy on coastal management. We have sought Council support for a 'whole of coast' approach. Recently we have called upon Council to support an immediate injection of sand for Henley South.

Submission to SA Parliamentary Inquiry into Metropolitan Adelaide Urban Forest 2023

Many problems with establishing an Adelaide urban forest stem from the reformed Planning and Design Code. Tree canopy has gone backwards since it came into being. Our submission noted the importance of revising the code, monitoring tree cover, providing incentives for developers to preserve and plant trees and for the state government to implement the LGA's plan: *The Urban Tree Canopy - Local Government Leading the Greening of Adelaide* (December 2019). Lot 100/101 Frederick Road does not reflect council's commitment to liveable cities.

Q: Doggy food bags are biodegradable which means that they break down into microplastics. They need to replace these with compostable bags as others are doing.

A: That is a good point. We will take this back to council.

Q: Liaise with AdaptWest? Would we like to make contact with Jeremy Miller to make him aware of what we are doing. We can see if there is alignment.

A: Good idea

It was moved that the Council Connect Group report be accepted.

Moved: Deirdre Knight

Seconded: Steve Fuller

Carried

4. ADMINISTRATION GROUP

Marty Cielens reporting

WACRA Messenger newsletters:

Last year we shifted the focus of our newsletter to make them more pictorial and story based. The aim is to develop a series of newsletters that align with our agenda and issues that affect our membership. Also we want try to engage our membership with issues as they come up.

We would like people to contribute to the newsletter and we have a 'board' to help this along. This sends a message to the council. They read and share it within council so we know they see the issues, which is impactful.

We are trying to fill the gap of the previous Messenger (local newspaper).

Bruce Foster's statement:

I joined WACRA at the last AGM. I'd like to congratulate Geoff on a precise summary of the coastal issues. I am a resident of Grange and was part of the group that is now the coastal communities alliance.

My concerns about the delay (6 months) is that there is an agenda here and it is being managed by DEW who has vested interests. They are ready to start as soon as they can, with the pipeline. The plastics that will be delivered into the gulf will be an issue and there has been no monitoring of these over the last 10 years.

When asked about costs they obfuscate – it's a DIT issue. Whatever the costs, they need to be fully costed out to get the most value for whatever is necessary.

The best solution in my/my group's opinion is a sand motor as the Dutch have done and was recommended by the DHI. This is an experiment since 2011 at The Hague – there is scientific review and results on this. Their experiment has had outcomes that have exceeded their projections – re stormwater and a recreational lake. The sand has been maintained and has drifted both north and south. Most importantly it is put before the beach, not on it. This enables nature to do its job. (For more information type "sand motor @ the hague youtube".) Sand dumped on the beach is washed off very quickly and is an action that has been repeated over and over.

The fear is that the consultation process will be so concrete that it will not be challenged. We now have a proper review.

Any other business + general discussion on future priorities and plans

Dolphins

From the floor: The dolphins seem to have gone – they are rarely sighted. That's a sign of loss of ecological health.

A: Good point – we don't have any information regarding the health of the foreshore.

Mike Bossley has been monitoring this situation for some years. He has written a well researched book titled *Dolphins, whales and me*: <https://moonglowpublishing.com.au/dolphins-whales--me---mike-bossley.html#/>

Meeting closed 9.12pm

Appendix 1: Chairperson's report

Another challenging year with Covid and the need to reduce our General and Executive Committee meetings to quarterly as opposed to bimonthly. We managed to get the business done with some adjustments to locations and the use of technology.

The Sand Replenishment Project between West Beach and Semaphore was the main item on the agenda pre-election after the Marshall Government had announced the plan for a sand pumping pipeline mainly running through the dune system bypassing the Tennyson Dunes Conservation Reserve by installing the pipeline at the toe of that dune system.

During the lengthy process of questionable consultation and at the time of the announcement of the development WACRA took the position of 'not opposing the pipeline. We also wanted the recommendation made by the independent scientific company DHI calling for an impact study of the environmental effects of a pipeline through the dune system. The Marshall Government undertook what we considered a quasi-review and took that position to the Election in March 22. The Labor Party, under extreme pressure from a large section of the northern section of the coast decided that if it won the election it would halt the project and undertake a whole of coast independent scientific review.

Labor won the election quite comfortably, however Environment Minister Susan Close recused herself from the project and the Attorney General Maher was given the responsibility.

It has taken a lot of community pressure on Government to ensure the promised Panel and Scientific team were set up and operational with a promise of a recommendation by end of this year.

This is a long way from the end of the story as the promised quarry sand to be dumped at West beach was halved in volume, repeated storm events and poor coastal management have seen a rapid movement of the sand deposit and significant erosion at Henley South and Henley Beach. Calls for additional sand have fallen on deaf ears at this time. Calls for a significant replenishment need to be much louder and to come from all organisations and campaign groups along the whole of coast.

WACRA will continue to campaign for consensus of a whole of coast scientific position ensuring that all options are on the table and considered and that the community are well informed and part of the decision-making process.

The Linear Path from Third Street Semaphore Park to Cormorant Court [northern boundary of the Conservation Reserve was originally part of the Sand Pipeline approved under the Marshall Government. This was withdrawn and resubmitted by the Labor Government without the pipeline underneath the path. It is our understanding that work will commence on the pathway and its vegetation plan shortly subject to any legal opposition being considered by some residents.

April saw the Launch of our **50 Years of History Book "Listen to the People"**. The launch was a fantastic success with over 80 people attending at the Fulham Community Centre to celebrate some wonderful speeches by Greg Mackie CEO History Trust and leading economist [now] Federal Greens Senator Prof Barbara Pocock. Great appreciation to the authors and all contributors. Our history is well documented and stored safely by the History section of SA Library. The book has flown off the shelves and fortunately is available as a 'E Book' from our WACRA Web Site.

The My Tree project had its start from a young child's dream whilst sitting under a tree. An action group was formed and things happened almost at breakneck speed. Two primary schools involved over 300 children propagating, planting their trees, and showing their artistic and creative talents by producing an amazing art exhibition at the City of Charles Sturt Civic Centre. The project was

nominated and selected as the event of the year for the City Charles Sturt Australia Day Awards, Council also recommended the project to the South Australia Day Committee for consideration as the SA Event of the Year. The nomination was successful. What a fabulous achievement by this group to achieve this award. They will now be invited to speak at a number of events throughout the coming year. They are presently meeting to plan the next even bigger project for 2023-24.

The Planning Act and Residential Code Review that has created so much concern is presently under review. WACRA has made a substantial submission to the review calling for significant change to provide a greater voice for the people and local government. We are quite critical of the unsustainable structures that are going up within already built-up suburbs, creating huge traffic congestion, and chopping down of trees at an alarming rate thereby destroying the heat canopy. Historic homes are also being pushed over at an alarming rate, changing the character of place. We thank Becky Llewellyn for a wonderfully researched submission. We continue our active membership to the Community Alliance SA with its 35 member groups.

By the end of the year, we should see the start of the redevelopment of the **Henley and Grange Community Hub including the exciting Library and State Heritage Town Hall**. WACRA is a key stakeholder in the project consultation process and has made many representations and proposals to ensure the community is fully included in all of the activities that will take place in this new space.

Thanks to some wonderful advocacy by Councillor Kenzie van den Nieuwelaar and strong support from WACRA and the community, Council planted **Six Norfolk Island shade trees** on the most western edge of the Henley Square lawn area. These trees are already throwing some shade and will be of huge benefit in future years. Additional anchor points were installed in the lawns to hold family shade structures providing great relief during the blistering summer sun.

WACRA made a very extensive submission to the **City Charles Sturt Economic Development Strategy** that included issues on heat reduction, coastal degradation, tree canopy cover, waste and solar, public transport, storm water management, housing development and the Planning and Design code. We were somewhat disappointed with the lack of response to our submission from Council as we believed far more attention should have been paid to community concerns.

A substantial submission and presentation was made to the **Council Business Plan** making a call for greater emphasis on spending on issues to create more equity within the city and to give budget priority to issues of improving liveability and wellness. It seemed to fall on deaf ears and we have indicated our disappointment with Council for not giving our concerns greater consideration. We have advised that we will be back next budget but this time better prepared with greater community understanding of the power a budget has in managing now and determining the future.

We continue to remind the Department of Environment and Water of our keen interest in the development of the final stage of the **Breakout Creek Wetland** promised to be completed by end of 2023. It was WACRA who over 20 years ago campaigned for a three-stage wetland from Holbrooks Road to the outlet. We were the community representative organisation on the Torrens River Taskforce and worked with the then Water Catchment Board to design the plan. It will be a great day when the final stage is completed and open. It will be a time in our history that we can be proud of.

Our Annual General Meeting for 2022 included a **Meet the Colton State Election candidates**, Deb Cashel [Greens], Paul Alexandrides [ALP] and Matt Cowdrey [Lib] who chose not to participate. It was otherwise well attended and many questions were fired at both Deb and Paul.

We have had **three keynote speakers this financial year**. Dr Ian Dyson talked on the science of the Coast, Ms Zoe Smith City Charles Sturt reported on the Community Greenhouse Emission Reduction

Project. Chris Newby, representing Department of Environment and Water, reported on the Adelaide Beach Management Review.

Almost all of the references made in this report can be found in General Meeting minutes, Reports and submissions on our wacra.org.au website, thanks to the great work of our secretary Andrea Rankin who is a real treasure.

In conclusion, huge thanks go to the members of the Management Committee, Paul Laris, Bert Brown, Geoff Short, Julie Whitehead, Andrea Rankin, Richard Smith, Marty Cielens and Theo Ellenbroek for the huge tasks that they have taken on. I would like to make a special mention of the wonderful submissions and presentations made by Becky Llewellyn. Special thanks to our membership who turn up to our general meetings, pay their dues and continue to make their contribution. You are all truly wonderfully committed and care for our community, its place and its people. Thank you.

Jim Douglas, retiring chairperson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Douglas", with a period at the end. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Appendix 2: Life memberships

Life member nomination: Alan Goldsmith

Alan and his partner Rina moved to live in Grange thirty years ago in 1993.

Alan and Rina were both peace, environmental, animal welfare and social justice activists well before this time.

Both joined the previous Henley and Grange Residents' Association (later Western Adelaide Coastal Residents' Association) and became very involved in our campaign Save the Beaches- No Boat Harbour in 1997.

The organising committee for that campaign didn't know quite what to expect from them both as neither had ever been on a picket line or blockade, although they had marched with thousands down city streets.

We engaged an expert trainer in non-violent action to train us all up, and Alan took to it like a duck to water. He loved the linking arms and a bit of push and shove. By the way, Alan was one of the very few members of the campaign with a mobile phone so he was well in demand, as one would imagine.

It was not long after this campaign that Alan became our Secretary and established our very first electronic database of over 400 members. He didn't stop at that; he also created our first website with great excitement, providing us with a far more efficient means of communicating.

Alan and Rina are well known for their strong views on climate change and the use of alternate energy resources. They put their hearts into caring and protecting the rights and welfare of all animals and they live their values.

Alan is an interesting man, having won at least four state titles as our Chess Champion. He runs his own small business teaching, tutoring and organising chess games and championships but also creates and designs databases. Oh yes, he is also a trained journalist. Now that's not too bad a person to have as a member of WACRA and the Committee!

Alan held the position of secretary for 20+ years and did a sterling job in recording all of our General and Executive minutes, checking the membership database with Theo our Treasurer, and sending out our regular newsletters and meeting agendas.

Alan has a wicked sense of humour and this is evident if you Google him. One of the first things you read is his description of himself as 'chess player, database creator, vegan, left-handed, journalist and guerilla gardener'.

He is one of the most generous and kindhearted people one would ever wish to meet (other than on a blockade and picket line). At all of our fundraising events over the years (and there has been many of them), Alan is the first to offer assistance, generous with wine and food donations, and even more generous with the number of chess sets he donates as prizes.

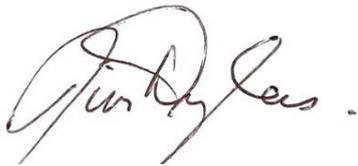
Rina and Alan have a wonderful circle of friends who never miss a WACRA event and most times win all the quiz prizes. Umm, we don't let him write the questions though.

We have done a lot in the 30 years that Alan has been an active member, as recorded in our recent history book *Listen to the people: 50 Years of community activism*. Alan has been a huge part of it all.

I am sure Alan would say he could not have done it without the great support of his partner Rina who has agreed to accept the life membership on Alan's behalf.

WACRA thanks you Alan for your wonderful service to the community, and we look forward to many more years of your community activism. CONGRATULATIONS!

Jim Douglas (retiring chairperson)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Douglas." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a period at the end.

2 March 2023

Life member nomination: Paul Laris

Paul has lived in the Henley area for over 30 years and has been a active member of WACRA for almost as long. He has a very long history of social justice and community activism and lives by his believed values.

He is described by his friends as 'semi retired', a health and human services tragic, health care users' advocate, medical regulator, community activist, gardener and sailor and most importantly a loyal friend.

Paul has achieved a high recognition for his work and qualifications including a Bachelor of Social Work, a Masters in Public Health, a Diploma in Chiropractics and Osteopathy, a member of the South Australian and Australian Medical Board, an advocate for Public Health, a special guest Journalist for Croaky Health Media and for the challenging and confronting newsletter Pearls and Irritations, in addition to numerous public media presentations on behalf of WACRA.

AND there is more. He is an active member of the Peoples' Health Movement, the Regional Co-Ordinator for the South Eastern Asia Pacific Region of the Global Peoples' Health Movement, and one of our authors of the recent WACRA history book *Listen to the people: 50 years of community activism*.

We are sure you would all agree that Paul is well credentialed as a member and officer of WACRA, and a really wonderful person and contributor.

Paul's history, first as a member of the Henley and Grange Residents Association and later WACRA, covers so many actions and campaigns as well as the 25 + years as a member of the Executive Committee holding most positions [other than Treasurer because he says that he doesn't like handling other people's money].

There are many memories and photos of Paul with his wonderful partner Professor Fran Baum and his great mate Andrew Ellis in the Save Our Beaches Campaign, or leading the successful call on Government to introduce a ban on jet skis between the Henley to Grange coastline. Paul successfully demonstrated his knowledge and skills to lead us through the Power to the People initiative that brought about the wonderful Energy Friends home audits [later picked up by the State Government and still going as the Energy Partners Program or EPP]. Paul also demonstrated many years of determination to see justice done by finally stopping the Illegal extraction of precious ground water from the Antunes development and playing a leading role in our call for sustainable development and the extreme need for affordable and social housing.

Paul has a very long history and we would like to take a step back to the 1980s almost 40 years ago where Paul altered a cigarette advertising bill board from 'Marlborough Country' into 'Cancer Country' as part of an international campaign to get cigarette advertising banned. Since then, the national rate of cigarette smoking has halved and the burden of disease from lung cancer and emphysema has fallen saving many thousands of lives as a result.

His more recent social justice activism has connected Paul to the "Extinction Rebellion movement and some of you will remember the energetic presentation made by two of their activists at a WACRA General meeting a couple of years ago.

Paul recently was charged by the state for taking some action to raise awareness of Climate Change. When making his statement to the Magistrate he said:

I would feel guilty if I had to tell my children and grandchildren in the future that I sat back and did nothing to respond to a planet under threat.

Paul has provided so much leadership, knowledge and so much of himself to community causes to assist us all in having a greater understanding of what we are facing as a society now and into the future.

The WACRA committee thank you for your commitment and recommend the award of Life Membership.

Jim Douglas (retiring chairperson)

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Douglas". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

2 March 2023