



Over 55 Walking Association Incorporated
ABN 89 024 968 604
www.over55walkingassoc

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 29 OCTOBER 2024 AT MOSMAN PARK.

1. MEETING OPEN AND WELCOME

The meeting was opened by the Chair Faye Jones at 12.15pm
There were 62 members present as per attendance book

2. APOLOGIES

There were 16 apologies as per attendance book.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES of AGM held on 31 October 2023

Before moving the confirmation of the minutes of the 2023 AGM, Faye said there had been an error in the AGM minutes emailed to members. The President's report in the minutes had been condensed (copies of the full report had been distributed to attendees and posted on OFFWA's web page) which had resulted in important acknowledgements, including thanks to the outgoing Vice President, Estelle Katauskas being inadvertently omitted. This had not been detected until after the minutes had been sent to members.

Faye stated that the official copies of the 2023 minutes would be amended to include the President's Report in full.

Moved Faye Jones. Seconded Phil Paddon that the 2023 AGM Minutes, amended to include the President's Report in full.

4. REPORTS.

1. President – Faye Jones

Welcome everyone to the 2024 AGM of the Over 55 Walking Association Inc.

I am honored to be chairing this meeting as your President for the third year, and for what is my last year as President. I am grateful for the opportunity to have served as President. I have enjoyed my term with all the support and companionship I have received along with the highs, the challenges and the ups and downs that come with the position. It has been great. Thank you OFFWA committee and members.

OFFWA is in a strong position. We have been operating continuously for over 37 years. (We were incorporated in 1987 but I believe the Association has been operating since around 1983). Despite the huge growth in local walking groups throughout the metropolitan area, we remain viable. Our membership is around 200 and hardly a week goes by without a new member or visitor attending. While numbers at walks vary due to the weather, distance and other factors – we still get a good or reasonable turn up even when it is wet. The success of OFFWA can be measured by the number of our members who feel comfortable and **welcome** coming to our walks when they may not be able to walk (for whatever reason) or can't walk far. They come because they enjoy the friendship and camaraderie. And possibly the venue. Everyone is welcome no matter how far or how fast they walk or if they walk at all. I think this is what sets us apart from other walking groups.

I would like to acknowledge with respect, the former members who are no longer with us. Some through illness or reduced mobility can no longer attend. Others have sadly passed away. In particular I would like to acknowledge our esteemed committee member and Web Master, Mike Davies, who suffered a stroke in April, then was found to have cancer and died shortly afterwards. We miss you Mike and appreciate your big contribution to OFFWA.

At our AGM last year we welcomed new committee members Jenny Ross who took on the important role of Raffle Officer and Mick Hill who became part of the social team (lunches) and later took on the position of Social Coordinator (Lunches) when Geraldine Hart resigned and later in the year took on the position of Acting Web Master. At the AGM we had some vacancies on the Committee but at the first meeting in January we were able to elect and welcome Marten Hutson to the positions of Membership Officer and First Aid Coordinator and Ellen Bos to the position of Walk Coordinator. Our committee was strengthened by the enthusiasm, energy and different experiences/expertise of our new committee members which complemented the knowledge, commitment and skills of our existing committee. This resulted in improvements in how we do things and a number of initiatives.

The biggest challenge we have faced this year has been the difficulties in accessing and updating our web site following our Web Master's demise. Unfortunately, this was not straight forward; there were many unexpected difficulties and our Acting Web Master, Mick Hill, has been working through the issues and the solutions for the rebuilding of the web site. Hopefully our new web site will be up and running soon. I would like to thank Mick Hill for all his perseverance and the effort and time he has put into finding workable solutions. I would also like to thank Marten Hutson for his initial contacts and his suggestions.

For a considerable number of years our membership fee has remained unchanged at \$10. (Most walking clubs' fees are \$40 plus, often with additional amounts paid per term or walk.) Due to the fact that the fees have not increased for a number of years, and for the future viability of the Association, the Committee unanimously agreed that the annual membership fee for 2025 should be \$20. **This is on the agenda for ratification.**

Our Social Coordinator will report on the organised lunches and events throughout the year and I thank the people involved – Geraldine Hart, for the first part of the year; then Mick Hill and Lorraine Lillico and their helpers.. This year our end of year luncheon will be different. Instead of people pre paying a set amount for a pre-determined menu, attendees will be able to choose what they want at the restaurant, and then pay for their choices on the day.

Our Walk Coordinator, Ellen Bos has been keen to involve members in the choice of walks and based on the feedback she received from members and her own research she has revitalised the list of walks for next year, deleting some walks and adding a significant number of new walks. As always members are encouraged to submit any feedback or suggestions regarding walks or any other matters, although we do ask these be written as it is hard to remember later what people have said at a walk.

While it has been a few years since we have a large OFFFWA organised "Get A Way" it is great to see there have been various smaller, informal walking events organised by individual members that many of you have enjoyed. If anyone is planning or organising any informal walking holidays/activities etc, we welcome you to publicise them at our walks. Hopefully I may get the opportunity to join you on one!

In my opinion, what sets OFFWA apart from so many other clubs and organisations is the large number of members who are always willing to lend a hand or step up and help out when required. Apart from our wonderful hard-working committee, we have a long list of "helpers" who keep things "ticking" over and keep us safe, fed and engaged.

These are some of them:

- **Our First Aid Officers** who don the orange vests and step out ready to assist come rain or shine – *Greg Young; Helen O'Neill, Jennifer Ross, Fay Tyak, Jill Howarth*

- **Raffle Team** –Jenny Ross, Lynley Bell, Di Jeffrey, Julie Brown, Gail Speedie, Lee Banks.
- **The Melbourne Cup Sweep Organisers**
- **The Social Sizzle & Lunch Helpers**
- **Our second-hand book stand** – Selby Leeder and his helpers`
- **Walk & Sign Helpers** – Marilyn Haylan and Alan Marrs
- **Our historian, Gordon Barnett**
- **Kevin Wolfe** for his preparatory work as Returning Officer
- **And all the others who see a need and step up to help**

My thanks to you all. You make the Association the warm and friendly organisation that it is.

In conclusion I would like to list and thank our wonderful, committed and hard-working 2024 Committee, some of whom are retiring this year and who will be missed. Some are moving into different roles and I wish them every success in their new roles.

Thank you for your friendship, support and everything you have done.

Office Bearers

Di Jeffrey	-	Business Secretary (<i>incoming President</i>)
Des Criddle		Treasurer
Valerie Newton – Barnett		Meetings Secretary
Marten Hutson		Membership Officer (<i>stepping down</i>)
Committee		
Ellen Bos		Walk Coordinator
Gail Speedie		Asst. Treasurer (<i>moving to Business Secretary</i>)
Jenny Ross		Raffle Officer
Geraldine-Hart		Social Coordinator Lunches (<i>resigned mid-year</i>)
Mick Hill		Social Coordinator & Acting Web Master
Lorraine Lillico		A/Social Coordinator (<i>moving to Membership Officer</i>)
Marten Hutson		First Aid Coordinator (<i>stepping down</i>)
Dirk van der Plas		T Shirt Coordinator (<i>stepping down</i>)

While we still have our walk and Melbourne Cup lunch next week and then our end of year lunch, I would like to take this opportunity to extend to all our members every good wish for good health and happiness and an enjoyable and safe 2025. While I won't be President or on the Committee I hope to catch up and chat with some of you on future walks. Thank you for your support.

Faye Jones,
President

29 October 2024

2. TREASURER – Des Criddle

Treasurer's Report To The Annual General Meeting 2024

Regulatory Reporting

The annual financial statements for the year ending 30th September 2024 are included on the back of this page.

Summary of Income/Expenditure and Assets

Income	\$14,758
Expenditure	\$14,753
Profit for Year	<u>\$5</u>

Assets

Bank Account	\$5,424
Term Deposit	\$6,000
Petty Cash	\$100
Loudspeaker	\$253
Total Assets	<u>\$11,777</u>

The Club managed to break even for the year.
Cash balances were \$11,524 as at 30/9/24.
Membership numbers have declined again this year.

Yearly Activities Analysis

	Income	Expenses	Surplus/Subsidy	Comment
Membership	\$1,880		\$1,880	
Raffles	\$3,872	\$2,330	\$1,542	
EOY Lunch 2023	\$4,916	\$5,346	-\$430	
MY Lunch 2024	\$3,800	\$3,990	-\$190	
Sausage Sizzle	\$213	\$280	-\$67	

Subsidies of EOY lunch 2023 (\$430), MY lunch 2024 (\$190) and sausage sizzle (\$67) for a total of \$687 were paid during the year. This came to \$3.50 per member.
Raffles profit has decreased by about \$600 this year.

Regulatory Requirements

A return of income received, bank reconciliation and assets and liabilities for the end of the financial year will be lodged with the Department of Mines Industry Regulation and Safety within three months of the presentation of this report to the members.

Financial Position Of The Club

The bank account balance of \$5,424 and the term deposit of \$6,000 provides the club with a solid financial backing for the coming year.
The Committee has resolved to increase the annual fee to \$20 per member to provide financial stability for the Club in coming years.

Recommended that the report be received and accepted.

Des Criddle
Treasurer

Over 55 Walking Association Inc Annual

Statements

For The Year Ending 30th September 2024

Profit & Loss Statement

Income

Membership Fees	\$1,880
Raffles	\$3,872
EOY Lunch 2023*	\$4,666
MY Lunch 2024	\$3,800
Sausage Sizzle	\$213
Interest	\$327
<u>Total Income</u>	<u>\$14,758</u>

Expenditure

Insurance	\$1,017
Office Expenses	\$2,432
Hall Hire	\$530
Raffles	\$2,330
MY Lunch 2024	\$3,990
EOY Lunch 2023~	\$4,046
Sausage Sizzle	\$280
Depreciation	\$128
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$14,753</u>

* Cash received previous FY

~ Deposit EOY Lunch 2023 paid previous FY

<u>Bank Balance 1-10-23</u>	<u>\$3,291</u>	
Add Income	\$14,758	
Add Term Deposit	\$2,000	
Less Expenses	\$14,625	Excluding depreciation
<u>Bank Balance 30-9-24</u>	<u>\$5,424</u>	

Assets 30-9-24

Bank Account	\$5,424
Term Deposit	\$6,000
Petty Cash	\$100
Loudspeaker	\$253
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>\$11,777</u>

Des Criddle Treasurer.

3. BUSINESS SECRETARY – Di Jeffrey

Venues

Lake Monger Community Centre continues to make us so welcome for our registration at the first walk of the year but as they now have a dance group in the hall we are holding it at the end of the bar area next year.

Mosman Park Football Club are also welcoming and we make a donation to them for the use of the rooms for our meetings as they are also a non profit organisation and do not levy a charge.

Guides

The fundraiser for the guides at Mundaring raised \$1717 and we had a grateful email of thanks from Gill- the Guide Leader.

Have a Go Day

The roster on the booth is now complete with a mix of committee and ordinary members Ann at Bright Press in Whiteman Park continues to do brochures for the booth at an extremely low rate and we hope we can attract new members for next year especially as Mick has now got the website live again so we can refer people to look at it.

Finally – a big thankyou to everyone who has helped out in so many varied ways to enable me to do the job of Business Secretary and I am sure you will all support the new Secretary next year.

Diane Jeffrey Business Secretary.

4. MEMBERSHIP OFFICER – Marten Hutson

Marten began by giving thanks to Faye Jones for her leadership as President. He said that he felt he could make a difference by nominating as President. He had battled with the committee throughout the year. Then he decided to withdraw his nomination.

He had enjoyed being Membership and First Aid officer and thanked everyone for their friendship.

5. WALK COORDINATOR – Ellen Bos

Ellen reported that she had enjoyed being in the position. She had arranged 8 new walks for next year, these would be advised soon and members were asked to comment on them. She was looking forward to being walk coordinator next year.

6. RAFFLE OFFICER – Jenny Ross

Jenny gave her report

“Raffle results for the period 3/10/2023 to 30/9/2024

Total income \$3870.95

Expenditure \$2360.

Nett Income \$1510.95

I'd like to thank Lynley Bell for running the raffle while I was overseas from April to June. I'd also like to thank my helpers Julie Brown, Lee Banks, Gail Speedie and Jill Howarth who all help make the Raffle a team event.”

7. FIRST AID COORDINATOR – Marten Hutson

Marten had no report except to remind all walkers to be mindful of snakes.

**8. SOCIAL COORDINATOR LUNCHES – Mick Hill
& ASST. SOCIAL COORDINATOR LUNCHES Lorraine Lillico**

Mick read the report.

We stepped into this role in March to the end of this year

We have had a busy year with 4 lunches to organize:

Our first Sausage Sizzle was at Garrett Road Bridge, on the 23rd of March.....120 members attended and were served sausages with onions, in a bun with a selection of sauces to top it off.

We had a donation of \$50 from Coles which was used to buy the bread rolls

A happy and sunny day and leftovers distributed to various members.

On the 12th of June the Mid-Year Luncheon was held at Al Fornetto Restaurant in Doubleview. 76 members attended. Unfortunately, 2 members were sick on the day, so the team at Al Fornetto made up 2 take-away meals and delivered them to their homes.

An Italian style entree was served with a selection of meats, olives and bread, this was subsidized by OFFWA.

This was followed by a selection of 4 mains and a desert of either sticky date pudding and sauce, or cake. Italian coffee and tea made up the menu.

From the stormy day previously, the next day we were treated to sunny weather. The day was enjoyed by all.

A thank you letter was sent to the owner & staff a few days later.

The second Sausage Sizzle was held in Kings Park on the 10th of September, 130 sausages were cooked "Bunnings Style" and served with onions in a slice of bread & a dash of sauce on top.

On the 19th of November, the final social lunch will be held at Tassels Bar and Bistro in Innaloo. Please arrive by 11 am so you can order your meal in time to be served at 12 noon.

Mainly Mediterranean Style & Light Meals with a selection from 3 different menus.

Currently we have 105 members registered to attend. There is a wide selection of food to choose from & a delightful " Cake Cabinet" to indulge in with a coffee or tea to finish the day!!"

Mick went on to thank everyone who had helped in any way with Sausage Sizzles.

9. WEB MASTER – MICK HILL

In May 2024, we lost with great sadness our Webmaster Mike Davies, because I had built 2 other websites and no one else had stepped forward, I offered to take over our site.

Mike had built the site on Microsoft Expression Web, which was discontinued by Microsoft on the 20th December 2012. There was nothing wrong with using that website builder, if you understood it.

Mike understood it and used it very well. The problem was for me to use it, first I had to understand it, then find the logins and passwords of not only the website builder, but the hosting site as well, for about a month.

Rochelle contacted me and I went up to her house, and her and her son went through Mike's drawers and files but we couldn't get into the website builder. I downloaded the backups and still no joy. I knew that with those types of programs, it is loaded on one computer and that you needed to use that computer to load the program. Rochelle's son found Mike's laptop, and we were in.

Di Jeffrey told me about a guy in The Seniors Recreation Council, who could help, so I went to see him. We discussed website builders as I didn't want to build one and then get sick, which would have left the association in the same situation as it was in at that time. He suggested Word Press, which is a website builder in the browser, what it means is that I can build the website on my computer at home, then someone else can take over if I want to go on holiday or I get sick. I only need to give the login and passwords to that person or persons and they can take over, and it doesn't matter if they use a

windows or mac computer. Around 472 million websites are built with WordPress.

It seemed to me the way to go, so I started to build the site, then I ran into a problem with it. I couldn't get my friend to help me because one of his parents had passed away.

Last week we went back to the website and yesterday it went online. It is the same URL over55walkingassociation.org.au

There is not very much information at this time, but as soon as next year's walks are printed off it will all change.

The next thing that I will be doing is to have a secure Facebook group and a Flickr group for photos.

I am looking for say 3 volunteers to look after the website and Facebook and Flickr with me. You will be the insurance for the association.

10. T SHIRT COORDINATOR – Dirk van der Plas

Dirk who was stepping down from the position had no report.

Rhonda Wolfe moved the reports be received, Seconded by Shirley Lizza.

5. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Recognition of membership of 20 years was awarded to Ann Seman. Appreciation certificates were awarded to Faye Jones, Phil Paddon, Marten Hutsen, Dirk Van Der Plas and Geraldine Hart.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2025.

Nominations were received and the following office and committee members were declared duly ELECTED.

Office Bearers

President

Di Jeffrey

Vice President

Shirley Lizza

Business Secretary

Gail Speedie

Minutes Secretary

Valerie Newton-Barnett

Treasurer

Des Criddle

Membership Officer

Lorraine Lillico

Committee Members

Asst. Treasurer	no nominations, position vacant
Raffle Coordinator	Jenny Ross
Social Coordinator Lunches	Mick Hill
Asst. Social Coordinator Lunches	Lorraine Lillico
Walk Coordinator	Ellen Bos
Assist. Walk Coordinator	no nominations, position vacant
First Aid Coordinator	Helen O'Neill
Web Master	Mick Hill
T Shirts	no nominations, position vacant

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Ratification of Membership Fees for 2025 (\$20 per person)

Faye reported that due to the fact that membership fees had remained unchanged at \$10 for many years, and for the future viability of the Association, the Committee had unanimously agreed that the annual membership fee for 2025 should be \$20. According to the rules this required ratification at the AGM.

Faye Jones MOVED and Des Criddle SECONDED that the membership fee for 2025 be \$20.

Before the motion was put to the vote, Phil Padden and Kevin Wolfe spoke against the motion, suggesting that the membership fee be \$15. The Chair ruled that as the motion that had been proposed and seconded it should be put to the vote. If the motion failed, then a second motion for a lower fee could be proposed

On being put to the vote the resolution that the membership fee for 2005 be \$20 was **CARRIED**

7.2 THANKS TO OUTGOING PRESIDENT

At the end of the President's speech, Phil Paddon stood up and thanked Faye for her excellent report and for the very good job she had done as President. Members applauded.

7.3 NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next AGM will be held on the 11th of November 2025. The first Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 14 January at 10am at Lake Monger.

8. MEETING CLOSED

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 2.15pm

Faye Jones.....
PRESIDENT

Valerie Newton-Barnett.....
MINUTES SECRETARY