



MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014

Saturday 25th October 2014
The Chifley Hotel
60-62 Harbour Street
Wollongong

Meeting opened at 12:30pm

Margaret Patterson, the National Organiser opened the meeting and thanked both the Illawarra Day & Illawarra Evening Goups for organizing and hosting the Conference this year.

1. Attendance (49)

Brisbane West: (1)

Carole Aveley.

Eastern Suburbs: (10)

Merryl Conn; Margaret Fitzgerald; Marie Joseph; Sue Lane; Pamela McCarthy;
Sue Perkins; Monique Rueger; Kate Strachan; Phil Waite; Merril Woods.

Illawarra Day: (18)

Leanne Beattie; Carolin Chapman; Trish Copeland; Trish Crimean; Carol Cruikshank; Annette DeLeon; Sue Dmetreson; Anne Doorn; Helen Faulkner; Lyn Hazell;
Wendy Hooper; Gerda Keast; Lucy Kennedy; Barbara Lucas; Margaret Patterson; Kathie Pearson; Alison Smith; Barbara McEwan (Dinner).

Illawarra Evening: (7)

Robyn Foster; Anne Innes; Betty Kitchener; Gwen Lucas; Christine Marks;
Suzanne Perram; Beverly Shaw.

Independent Members: (3)

Bev Kearney; Helen Jones; Jenny Quint.

The Hills: (4)

Bep Kleiberg; Baiba Liberts; Michele Middendorp; Sue Reed.

Kalamunda WA: (1)

Diana Sankey.

Visitors/Guests: (6)

Pamela Madden; Del Rattray (Qld); Joan Robinson (NSW); Jennifer Whaite (NSW);
Stephanie Turner (NSW);
Wendy Leatheam – Conference attendee plus Dinner Entertainer “Choices”.

2. Apologies

The Hills: Christine Hardy; Lorraine Budai; Brenda Clays.

Sunshine Coast: Robynanne Bessell; Robyn Tait.



3. Minutes of previous AGM held 19th October 2013

Trish Crimean, National Secretary read the Minutes to the meeting.

Motion: That the Minutes of AGM 2013 be confirmed.

Moved: Trish Crimean

Seconded: Barbara Lucas

Motion carried.

4. Business Arising from AGM meeting 2013

There was no Business Arising from AGM 2013

5. Correspondence

The Secretary reported the following:

- 4/11/2013 Email enquiry (Mary Hussey) if there was an NWR group in Canberra – Response sent advising no group currently. Assistance offered for setting up a group if person interested and copies of Advertising Leaflets: 'How to Start a New Group'; and 'What is National Women's Register' were emailed on 20/11/13. Response came back: "not at this stage".
- Dec 2013, the Treasurer received email from a UK member informing she would be visiting Australia for 6 months, staying in the Penrith area & asked if there was a group she could attend. The lady was given our website address and (in May 14) her email was forwarded to our Independent member who lives in the Blue Mountains, asking her to make contact with the UK member.
- 28/3/2014 – email from Sunshine Coast LO Robynanne Bessell informing that a *second* Sunshine Coast group was forming and would be known as Sunshine Coast *Evening* Group, with Dale English as LO. 31/3/14 Robynanne sent a further email advising contact details for Dale English. 23/4/14 Robynanne advised that a Draft 'Welcome' Letter had been prepared for sign-off at the upcoming NC Meeting. 3/5/14 Letter signed by NO on behalf of the NC was sent to Dale English – enclosed with the letter was a contact list of National Committee members.
- 17/4/14 Email from Lorraine Samin, formerly of Oatley Group then joined Staffordshire Moorlands Group in UK. Now living back in Australia, Lorraine enquired if there was still a Sunshine Coast or a Brisbane Group. On behalf of a friend of hers (Maryee Crofts) Lorraine asked for details of the Illawarra Groups. 23/4/14 Response email sent to Lorraine providing contact details for Sunshine Coast Group, Brisbane West Group and Illawarra Day & Evening Groups. (Maryee Crofts subsequently joined the Illawarra Day Group). 27/4/14 Lorraine sent a further email enquiring if an annual conference was still held, and when. 3/5/14 Response email sent to Lorraine with link to website for the Information Flyer, Accommodation details and Registration Form.



- 27/4/14 Email from Carolyn Gladwin enquiring if there was an NWR Group in South Australia. 2/5/14 Response sent advising no SA group but would be delighted if one could be started, offering to send further information on request. That same day Carolyn emailed to confirm she'd like to receive the Information material, that she would consider it and IF she wanted to go ahead SHE would make further contact with me. 3/5/14 Email sent attaching Information flyer(s) – long & short versions plus the 'How to Start a new NWR Group'. No further contact came from Carolyn Gladwin.
- August 2014 Email from Robyn Tait LO Sunshine Coast Group informing NC that her group had changed meetings from evening to daytime. The group will still meet on a Wednesday but until the end of the year they will vary between the 3rd & 4th Wednesdays. The Secretary responded advising that NC would be updated at meeting on 9th August 14 meeting.
- 22/10/14 Special card from Joyce Clydesdale & all the ladies from the Nantwich & Audlem Nwr Group in the UK – this group have been twinning with the Illawarra Evening Group for the last four years. The card has images of some of the old shops on the main street of Audlem & inside are 16 signatures from the group wishing us well with our Conference – Joyce wrote: "Do hope this card is not too late. Best of luck with your conference & hope to hear all about it. Love Joyce.

6. National Organiser's Report (see Addendum 1)

Margaret Patterson read her Report for 2014 to the meeting.

Motion: That the National Organiser's Report 2014 be accepted.

Moved: Margaret Patterson

Seconded: Trish Copeland

Motion Carried.

7. National Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer read her Report for the Financial Year 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 (see Addendum 2).

The Treasurer further reported as follows:

- The recently started (second) NWR group on the Sunshine Coast will be known as "Caloundra Morning Group" – the Local Organiser is Dale English;
- A cheque in favour of The Department of Fair Trading, in the amount of \$53.00 had been drawn;
- A cheque in the amount of \$1528.00 was drawn in favor of KiPrint Kiama for printing of the 2014 Newsletter;
- Explained the two Expense items for *UK NWR Affiliation Fees* – for 2013 and 2014, which now brings the payments in line with our financial year.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Bev Kearney

Seconded: Anne Innes

Motion Carried.



8. Election of Office Bearers 2013/2014

Trish Crimean, National Secretary informed the meeting that nominations for the Positions of National Organiser, Vice National Organiser and National Secretary had been received in writing, in excess of the required seven days prior to the AGM, as per the Constitution. She then called on Robyn Foster from the Illawarra Evening Group to Chair the election.

Robyn declared all National Committee Positions vacant.
She then advised that the National Treasurer had agreed to stand for a further twelve-month term.

The election and re-election of positions proceeded as follows:

Motion:

That Margaret Patterson, Illawarra Day Group is appointed as National Organiser for the incoming term:

Moved: Pamela McCarthy

Seconded: Marie Francis

Motion Carried.

Motion:

That Alison Smith, Illawarra Day Group is appointed as Vice National Organiser for the incoming term:

Moved: Helen Faulkner

Seconded: Barbara Lucas

Motion Carried.

Motion:

That Bev Kearney, Independent Member is appointed as National Treasurer and Public Officer for the incoming term;

Moved: Marie Francis

Seconded: Anne Innes

Motion Carried.

Motion:

That Beverly Shaw, Illawarra Evening Group is appointed as National Secretary for the incoming term.

Moved: Trish Copeland

Seconded: Phil Waite

Motion Carried.

9. General Business

9.1 NWR Website Australia

The Secretary informed members that favorable feedback had been received in relation the NWR *Australia* Website. Information relating to the National Committee and all Groups was available on the website as well as Conference information.



9.2 NWR Website UK

The Secretary informed members that she had been in contact with the UK Office Coordinator/s and submitted a list of the names and email addresses (where recorded) of every Australian member. A request was made to UK that each member be allocated an "NWR Membership Number" and their own Password. Once members have these they will be able to logon to the NWR Member Zone site: <http://wwwnwr.org.uk/memzone> where they will find interesting content and useful tools to enhance their own membership of NWR.

On 3rd September the Secretary received an email from UK advising that NWR UK are currently building a new website and when completed our member information can then be uploaded. UK hoping to launch new website in October.

The Secretary sent a follow-up email to UK on 22/10/14 asking for an update to their email of 3rd Sept 2014 – as at date of this AGM no response had been received. Further progress will be recorded at National Committee meeting/s.

9.3 NWR Conference 2015

The National Organiser informed members that she had received an email from Christine Hardy, LO of The Hills Group advising that they would host the Conference in October 2015. Any member from The Hills group was invited to speak to this Item. Baiba Liberts informed the meeting that her Group had only decided in the last week to host the next Conference so there was nothing to report at this stage.

9.4 NWR Newsletter 2015

The Secretary informed the meeting that in the 'loose' tradition of NWR the Group which held the current year's conference would produce the Newsletter the following year. However, this year organisation of **both** the Conference and the Newsletter were undertaken by the Illawarra Groups – in fact, *construction* of the Newsletter had been handled almost entirely by Alison Smith from the Illawarra Day Group. *A huge thank-you was extended to Alison for all the time and effort she had put in to producing a wonderful 2014 Newsletter.*

The National Organiser informed the meeting that so far no Group had been approached, nor had any Group volunteered to produce next year's Newsletter.

All LO's were asked to encourage their members to form a Newsletter committee for 2015.

10. Close of Meeting

The Meeting closed at 1:07 p.m

Report from the National Organiser 2014

Another interesting year has flown by with all groups continuing their animated discussions on many diverse topics, as well as visits to the theatre, exhibitions and places of interest. Visiting guest speakers are also invited to many groups, who stimulate thinking, extend knowledge and broaden horizons.

The '30 Years of Conferences' celebration in Caloundra last year was a resounding success, thanks to the great organization by Robyn Tait and Robynanne Bessell. Even though numbers were down, this gave everyone the opportunity to catch up with friends and make new ones. (It was fabulous for me to meet Di Sankey from WA and put a face to the name I had sent information to during my years as Secretary!) Everything went like clockwork and a tremendous time was had by all. Congratulations Caloundra Group!

It is great to see the new group at Brisbane West becoming established, as well as the Perth group expanding. There is also the possibility of a Day group starting on the Sunshine Coast, which gets more women involved in NWR.

Caroline Parsons was again a visitor to our shores this year and I was sorry to have missed her, but I'm sure she will be back next year. The Kalamunda group in WA also had a visit from Margaret Howe, who stayed with Di Sankey. It really does demonstrate the ease with which we can meet up with other 'lively minded women' doesn't it?

The Half Yearly Luncheon was again held at Diethnes Restaurant and although numbers were down a little, a great time was had by all. The food and service was exemplary, as usual, with much hilarity and avid conversation at times. Entertaining the whole restaurant!

The 2014 Conference is well in hand with Bev Shaw and her Committee fine tuning last minute details. We are hoping to see a good number there, to renew old acquaintances and make some new ones.

Many thanks to Alison Smith for volunteering to put the 2014 Newsletter together. From what I have seen already, she has done a sterling job. I am sure you will enjoy the read. A big congratulations Ali from everyone for your efforts.

Trish Crimean also needs a big thank you. She is not standing as Secretary at the AGM. She has done a tremendous job keeping the Organisation moving forward and has always done it with zest and humour! Well done, Trish.

Enjoy the rest of the year and keep smiling!

Margaret Patterson
National Organiser



**NATIONAL WOMEN'S REGISTER (NWR Inc.)
ANNUAL STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENSES
1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014**

	Debit	Credit
Balance as at 1 July 2013 as per Bank Statement		4807.86
Income		
Membership Subscriptions		
Boroondara 2013	235.00	
" 2014	165.00	
Brisbane West 2013	30.00	
" 2014	75.00	
Sunshine Coast 2013	7.50	
" 2014	150.00	
Kalamunda	150.00	
Illawarra Evening	120.00	
Illawarra Day	375.00	
Eastern Suburbs	420.00	
The Hills	285.00	
Independent Members	45.00	2057.50
Mid-year lunch 2013		58.00
Mid-Year Lunch 2014		290.00
Interest		5.77
Total		2411.27
Expenses		
Mid-year lunch 2013	609.00	
UK NWR Affiliation Fees 2013	54.45	
Draft Fee	25.00	
UK NWR Affiliation Fees 2014	56.76	
Draft Fee	25.00	
Deposit-venue for 2014 NWR Conference	1548.00	
Refund 1 membership (Boroondara)	10.00	
Printing Newsletter	1010.60	
Dept Fair Trading	52.00	
Webster Hyde Heath Public Liability	384.72	
Printing, Postage & Stationery	39.06	
Total	3814.59	
Balance as at 30 June 2014 as per Bank Statement		3404.54