

AGENDA

For the Annual General Meeting for 2024

Welcome

Apologies

Minutes of the Previous AGM in 2023

Treasurer's Report for 2023/24

J L N Southern Award

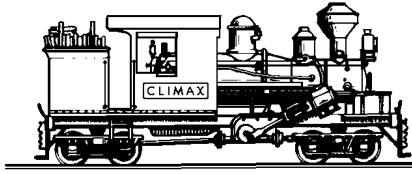
President's Report

Election of the Office-Bearers

General Business

Call for any items of general business relevant to the AGM

Close the AGM 2023



LIGHT RAILWAY RESEARCH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.

Incorporated Association A14384U

ABN 27 859 154 705

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held On: Thursday, 10th August, 2023 AD.

Venue: Conducted in cyberspace via Zoom®

Commenced: 8:02pm AET (Melbourne time)

Chairman: W. L. (Bill) Hanks, (President)

Present: 52 members

Apologies: .

Minutes of Previous AGM: Minutes of the 2022 AGM were available for members on the society's web site as previously advised and are taken as read. Moved by P Evans, Seconded by Scott Clennett, that the Minutes be accepted;

Carried.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report compiled by the Hon Treasurer, Colin Harvey for the Year Ended 30 June 2023, was available for members on the society's web site as previously advised and are taken as read. Includes the Statement of Income and Expenditure, Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Statement of Cash Flows. Moved by S. Moorehead, Seconded by R. Smith that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Carried.

JLN Southern Award: The **Tenth** annual awarding of the J L N Southern Award, to recognise the best article published in *Light Railways* each year, took place. The judging panel, composed of Dr Ruth Kerr, David Whiteford and Roderick Smith declared the winner of the award for the calendar year 2022 to be Mike McCarthy for 2-part article **Red Cliffs Pumping Station** that appeared in *Light Railways* issues 283 and 284 . Mike, greatly surprised, gave a short speech of thanks.

President's Report: Bill Hanks presented his 33rd Presidential Report. Some main points being:

At the end of the 2022-2023 financial year we had a total of 674 members, 15 less than at the same time last year.

Our Light Railways of Australia Facebook group continues to be very busy, with 5400 members, an increase of almost 50% from the previous year.

During the 2022/23 year we published one new book, *Wooden Rails & Green Gold* by Peter Evans.

Sales orders for the year was 612 orders compared to the previous years end total of 542. The total value of sales was \$43,951 compared to \$40,283 the previous year, The NSW and SA groups continue to have regular meetings, although unfortunately the SE Qld group have ceased to run meetings.

Our society at the end of the 2022/23 financial year is again in a very sound position. Whilst membership subscriptions cover the cost of producing LIGHT RAILWAYS and mail outs, our financial reserves are there to publish more books. The time will come when the services needed to publish our books that are currently performed by volunteers will have to be outsourced and that is when our cash reserves will need to be draw on.

Online Member's Entertainment Meeting have again been hugely successful. With presenters scheduled more than twelve months in advance of a meeting. In November 2022, Simon Moorhead conducted the first post-COVID tour to Timboon with the assistance of Peter Evans.

It was moved by M. McCarthy, Seconded by P. Evans, that the President's report be accepted. **Carried.**

Election of Office Bearers: The President declared all positions vacant and, in his capacity as an Ordinary member, duly advised that there was only one nomination for the position of **President** and declared W.L. (Bill) Hanks re-elected for another term. Bill re-assumed the position of chairman and read out the nominations for Council positions – **Vice-president:** Michael McCarthy; **Secretary:** Nick Sheridan; **Treasurer:** Colin Harvey. As there was only one nomination for each of the three mentioned positions, all were duly declared elected. **Committee Persons,** nominations: John Dennis, Peter Evans, Richard Warwick, Frank Stamford OAM, Phil Rickard. As the number of nominations – five – equalled the number of vacant committee-person positions – five – the Chairman declared all nominees elected.

General Business: The Chairman called for any General Business and received no response. The Chairman called for any Other Matters arising from the AGM and received no response. The Chairman called for any Other Matters pertaining generally to the society and received no response.

Meeting Closure : At 8:17pm, there being no other business to be transacted, the Chairman (the President, W L Hanks), declared the meeting closed.

Light Railway Research Society of Australia Inc, PO Box 21 Surrey Hills, Vic 3127, Australia
e-mail lrrsa@lrrsa.org.au Internet www.lrrsa.org.au

LIGHT RAILWAY RESEARCH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA Inc
(A14384U ABN 27 859 154 705)
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
Year ended 30 June 2024

2023	Income	<i>Notes</i>	2024
\$			\$
26,678	Members' Subscriptions		27,312
20,677	Magazine Sales	1	19,693
52,616	Sale of publications		21,321
1,721	Interest		3,837
402	J L N Southern Award Fund		829
0	Tours		574
0	Advertising revenue		120
83	Donations & bequests		0
102,177	Total Revenue		73,686
Expenditure			
35,883	Magazine production		37,600
7,222	Members mailouts		7,467
33,211	Sales	1	
	Cost of goods		12,166
9,562	Postage		5,436
4,714	Storage		5,372
1,404	Online shop		1,469
1,298	Advertising		413
531	Insurance of stock		737
50,720			25,593
1,895	Financial charges		1,398
1,347	Public liability insurance		1,338
460	Meeting expenses		270
3,285	Administration costs		3,210
418	Web site maintenance		301
300	J L N Southern Award Fund		300
0	Tours		609
91	Other		82
101,621	Total Expenditure		78,168
556	Surplus/(Deficit) for year		(4,482)

1. Includes magazines transferred to sales stock.
All values net of GST

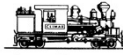
LIGHT RAILWAY RESEARCH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA Inc
(A14384U ABN 27 859 154 705)
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
Year ended 30 June 2024

2023		2024
		\$
282,951	Current Assets	
54,334	Cash	276,864
0	Sales stock	48,219
36	Publication in preparation	1,935
2,836	Debtors	1,166
929	Prepayments	4,433
1,511	Shop software	929
342,597	Accrued interest	3,514
	Total	337,060
	Non-current Assets	
0	Prepayments	1,677
1,510	Shop software	581
344,107	Total Assets	339,318
	Current Liabilities	
21,289	Subscriptions in advance	20,743
0	Creditors	239
21,289	Total	20,982
0	Non-current Liabilities	0
21,289	Total Liabilities	20,982
322,818	Net Assets	318,336
322,262	Accumulated Funds at start of year	322,818
556	Surplus/(Deficit)	(4,482)
322,818	Accumulated Funds at end of year	318,336
32,754	J L N Southern Award Fund	33,384
290,064	General accumulated funds	284,952
322,818		318,336

LIGHT RAILWAY RESEARCH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC
(A14384U ABN 27 859 154 705)
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
Year ended 30 June 2024

	\$
Cash at Start of Year	<u>282,951</u>
Subscriptions	26,766
Receipts from customers	40,316
Payments to suppliers	(75,532)
Interest on investments	2008
J L N Southern Award Fund receipts	655
J L N Southern Award Fund expenditure	(300)
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	(6,087)
Cash at End of Year	<u>276,864</u>

All values net of GST



President's Report 2023/2024

I am pleased to present my 34th Presidential Report for the Light Railway Research Society of Australia, this one being for the year 2023-2024.

“LIGHT RAILWAYS” magazine, saw issues No.293 to No.299 published, all of which contained 48 pages. In total 288 pages of light railway history. Again, all the additional pages have been necessary to enable submitted articles to be published in a timely manner. I thank all authors for submitting their excellent articles for publication in LIGHT RAILWAYS.

“LIGHT RAILWAYS” Editor Richard Warwick and the editorial team have maintained a very high standard that regularly receives favourable comments. To Richard and his Associate Editors Mike McCarthy, Frank Stamford and Phil Rickard, Field Report's Editor Peter Evans, Industrial Railway News Editor Chris Hart, Research Editor Stuart Thyer and Heritage & Tourism Editor Andrew Webster, thank you for your efforts throughout the year. Thanks also to Bruce Belbin of Box Car Graphics for laying out LIGHT RAILWAYS for printing.

The cover price of “LIGHT RAILWAYS” again remains as it has been for the last decade, due to the competitive nature of the publishing business

At the end of the 2023-2024 financial year we had a total of 661 members, 13 less than at the same time last year.

Our mailing list shows that 661 copies of “LIGHT RAILWAYS” are sent to our members in both print and electronic versions, with some members taking both versions. “LIGHT RAILWAYS” remains available on the newsstands and other outlets and is also sent to a number of libraries and historical societies. The subscription rate for hard copies remains at \$48.00 and \$27.50 for electronic copies.

Our electronic membership system “Wild Apricot” has again functioned well during this past year. Thank you to Mike McCarthy for his maintenance of the system. Thank you also to Andrew Hennell for managing membership matters and his use of the electronic system.

The Light Railways of Australia Facebook Group, member numbers continue to grow with over 9000 members. Thank you to John Dennis, Mike McCarthy, Frank Stamford and John Browning the moderators of our Facebook Group.

During the 2023/24 year no new books were published, but there a number of books being worked, with some expected very soon.

I thank our Publications Officer Frank Stamford as well as all the people who carry out the various activities needed to publish a book.

Sales orders for the year was a meagre 281 orders compared to the previous years end total of 609. The total value of sales was \$18,078 compared to \$43,845 the previous year, that partly reflects the fact that we did not publish any new books for the year and the impact of economic pressures in general.

Thank you to John Dennis for maintaining both the website and the online shop, with Bill Hanks managing the storage of sales stock, packing and dispatch of orders.

The JLN Southern Award for the most outstanding article/s published in LIGHT RAILWAYS during 2023 was awarded to Phillip G Graham for his two-part article “Schoma tunnel locomotives that appeared in LR262 and LR290.

The 11th JLN Southern Award was judged by Dr Ruth Kerr, Roderick Smith and James Shugg. On behalf of the Council, thank very much for the time and effort, you have devoted to this task. The winner of the award for 2023 was announced prior to this AGM.

Our society at the end of the 2023/24 financial year is again in a very sound position. Whilst membership subscriptions cover the cost of producing LIGHT RAILWAYS and mail outs, our financial reserves are there to publish more books.

To date most of the work required to prepare a new book for printing is performed by volunteers, such as the drafting of maps and diagrams and the preparation of photos, work will have to be outsourced and that is when our cash reserves will be required.

I thank Colin Harvey our Treasurer, for managing the society's finances. Colin has held this position for well over thirty-five years.

Online Member's Entertainment Meeting have again been hugely successful. With presenters scheduled more than twelve months in advance. With plenty of presenters and their presentations available, extra member meetings have been scheduled in between the normal bi-monthly meetings. Thank you to Mike McCarthy for arranging these Zoom meetings and scheduling presenters.

In November 2023, Simon Moorhead and Mike McCarthy conducted a tour to Walhalla and Tyers Junction. Thank you, Simon and Mike for organising this well attended tour.

All Council meetings have been conducted online using Zoom conferencing, proving to be both a reliable and convenient way to conduct Society business.

The New South Wales Division Sydney meetings, have been organised by David Jehan. Thank you very much David for managing the Sydney meetings and other activities. Also thank Ross Mainwaring, the Treasurer of the NSW Division

Thank you to Les Howard in South Australia for convening meetings in Adelaide.

In Western Australia thank you to our representative David Whiteford.

The committee often receives gratify comments about the quality of our publications, the LIGHT RAILWAYS magazine and all our other publications. The people make these publications all possible, have all been at it for many years. All of us were still working when we joined the Council, but now all of us are retirees and within the next few years most of us will be looking to step down. Last year I alluded to this matter and I say this again, unless we can recruit other members to replace us, to manage the society and to continue the publication of LIGHT RAILWAYS and other books, your society may not last much beyond 2030, if at all.

Finally thank you to Mike McCarthy, Nick Sheridan, Phil Rickard, Colin Harvey, Frank Stamford, Richard Warwick, Peter Evans and John Dennis for all they have contributed to our society throughout the year.

Thank you.

W.L.(Bill) Hanks
President LRRSA (November 2024)