

Annual Secretary's Report 2021 – 2022

Presented at AGM of the EAFC Inc.

Sunday 11th September 2022

Pam Schroeder

FINACIAL SAVINGS:

One of the main Constitution changes made at the 2020/2021 AGM has allowed significant funds to be raised especially the utilising the hiring of our clubhouse.

ESSCI and the Shooters & Fishers Party hold regular meetings either catering themselves or provided by our wonderful catering officer Eddy. We have also seen Weddings, Funeral Receptions and Training days by Austral.

Club house hire has been successful and well received.

Another major saving to the club was that there is no longer a need to have our annual financial report audited which is well and truly comprehensive for Mrs Val Cartledge.

Grant funds for our termite damage repairs to the clubhouse have been completed including the removal and replacement of all damaged roof trusses.

A complete refit out of the outside toilets sees them now modern and clean which was funded by the club and the remaining balance of the grant.

We became aware that for eligible not for profits organisations, a one-off rebate to the value of \$2000 was available to offset the cost of NSW local government fees and charges.

We currently pay a land lease to Crown lands annually.

Claim for rebates required a valid and active ABN and for charges due and paid from 1/3/21 and will lapse after 30/6/22

EAFC now has a registered ABN which allowed for the **Service NSW Scheme** land lease rebate application to be processed and we received a rebate of \$1985.50, which significantly reduced our annual fee.

Nov 2021 Finns Pest Control have installed termite bait traps around the whole clubhouse and have generously offered to maintain free of charge for a full year.

Last month a grant application was lodged to cover the costs of providing an Automated External Defibrillator.

This is a necessary life saving piece of equipment that the committee decided to be essential to have at our clubhouse.

As the annual financial statement shows, membership fees received would never cover the ongoing annual expenses of running the EAFC.

CLUB HAPPENINGS:

At the suggestion of Val Cartledge the EAFC introduced the hosting of a Book Fair, with Car Boot Stall holders, Sausage Sizzle and Devonshire Morning Tea and Wood Raffles.

This has been an amazing fundraiser for the club.

The 3 that we have held over the year have been a success with fabulous support and feedback from the community.

Our next one is scheduled for Sat Oct 29th.

The eafc would like to ACKNOWLEDGE the following members:

Emma Field & Josh Blyton who donated the wood from clearing their land to the club, to be raffled.

Many thanks to Eddy & Adam for cutting and splitting over 3 ton of Wood which allowed 3 raffles to be held.

John & Di Mutch also made a generous donation to the club by means a push mower

Terry & Lyn Carson sourced and donated a vacuum.

Recently I was contacted by the daughter of a Life member Mr Noel Geppert advising the club of his passing. The family has donated back to the club all of their mother and father's trophies, where the next committee could create a possible annual trophy named in their honour.

Fundraising has contributed towards these club purchases:

Whipper snipper & Blower Vac for better grounds maintenance

A Trolley which greatly assists transferring books.

A New 80 x 3pc dinner setting that is now alike and additional cutlery and kitchen implements that were needed and are more presentable when our clubhouse is hired.

Additional Security cameras have been installed which has deterred any further break-ins.

Our meter box is now key locked to stop power being turned off which also ensures the security recordings are not affected and certain members of the public are not helping themselves to our power.

New Club shirts and warm fleecy polos have been purchased and now all co-ordinate in colour with our fishing comp merchandise.

I do apologise that there has been a problem with our web page and I am working hard to resolve the issues with our Web technician.

Boat Ramp/Fish Cleaning Tables/Pontoons:

Many meetings' emails and phone calls with relevant parties have occurred and are ongoing.

We have Terry and Bob Ross the main advocates regarding the issue of the rock wall still being unstable and unsafe and an outcome is still ongoing.

BVS has installed 6 new stainless steel cleaning tables with additional lighting and Max & Rob have sealed underneath with sump oil to preserve.

We have provided new cutting boards, cleaning brushes and continue to maintain the ramp including diligent mowing by Eddy and Adam.

We are still awaiting our request to have a new public toilet sign erected to better direct visitors.

Concerns have been raised with BVS regarding the high level of the pontoons and many discussions also revealed that the rubbers are tearing, the buffers are damaged and the cleats are too close to the buffers causing boat damage.

Damage to the pontoons have been repaired under warranty terms of the organisation that built the pontoons.

We have strongly expressed to BVS that this is a totally inadequate substance not used on any other boat ramp facilities.

Just

two weeks after the buffer repairs they were once again breaking.

All issues are raised with the relevant parties and we will continue to seek a better more practical outcome is achieved.

Annual Fishing Competition 2022:

Managing unforeseen and the ever-changing Covid protocols the committee dealt with and adapted to see the 44th Consecutive Comp occur.

Oct 2021 was when the Committee decided it was impractical to run the competition in it's usual 8 - day format and chose to cancel.

Primarily due to the lack of available volunteers required for the planning, Covid uncertainties and costs yet to be outlaid.

Later in the year it was agreed that a Mini Annual comp over 2.5 days to be held with a revised format, reduced entry fee and less species.

This would continue to provide a consecutive competition.

On the 8/322 the committee met once again hat to meet and seriously discuss cancelling or going ahead now due to the flooding rains and disastrous weather affecting NSW.

It was agreed to continue as planned to commence on 11/3 and adjust to what ever occurred.

We were able to have clear skies and despite a low number of entrants attending, the competition was successfully run with once again the local businesses were amazing with their sponsorship and support

Grudge Match:

This has been an annual event and our turn to host has been interrupted by Covid for the last two years.

We are pleased that the Grudge Match has been renewed with Pambula & Merimbula fishing clubs and will be run on the weekend of Oct 21-23, 2022.

Thanks to Gordon and Terry who have re written the comp rules bringing it in line with DPI guidelines.

Full competition details are now available.

This is no cost to participate and anyone interested please talk to Gordon or Terry.

2023 Competition:

The current committee have all agreed to commence preparation for the 45th Consecutive Annual Fishing Comp.

Consideration to hold the event in it's usual weeklong format must take into account the base availability of club members, Committee etc. from **now** until March.

As previously noted in past CM meetings and Newsletters, the availability and willingness of members / volunteers required to execute sponsorship co-ordination, media promotion, obtain raffle prizes, process online entries, determine the fish species & prize amounts and adapt the rules of the competition as well as the terms and conditions are all necessary components.

Certainly, having a boat to win as a major prize is a huge draw card, however, this does increase the workload.

We can confirm that a Major Boat Prize package is being produced and co-ordinated with many of our valued Major Sponsors.

Forward Planning:

Promoting the EAFC to the Community

To increase awareness of the club's activities and potential future member base. I have created a brochure detailing the club to promote us as a social fishing club not just a fishing club that runs an Annual Competition.

These have been supplied to the tourist info centre, included into new resident welcome packs, the Access centre and hand delivered to residences that have a boat on their property.

This is hoped to increase awareness of our club to new residents that have moved into the area and gain potential new members.

A Calendar of Events was also created to notify members and sponsors of everything upcoming that the club has planned.

There is a copy available for anyone that wishes to take one today, and they will be updated in all correspondence such as Newsletters and digital platforms.

SUMMARY:

Holding the role of Secretary and many other hats is rewarding.

So please don't run from the "C" word and I don't mean Covid.

Being on the "Committee" is satisfying and is enjoyable.

As outlined in my report we all have attributes we can offer and a fulltime commitment is not required because with great support available to lighten the load for everyone the roles are easier.

When the Clubhouse was emptied for the termite repairs, I became aware of the huge amount of history and memorabilia this Club had stored in various boxes.

This frustrated me that these valuable records lay in dust and has driven me to take on pursue a challenging project.

Therefore, I have commenced restoring, collating, and recording the huge number of valued stories and events.

My intention is that all of this history will be able to be presented and celebrated at a future date by past, present and future members of the EAFC and our community.