

## **Rimstone Cooperative Ltd — 2010 Annual General Meeting Minutes of meeting held 17 September, 2010**

**Attendees:** Rob Brain, Paul Brooker, Colin Moloney, Lou Williams, Lloyd Mill, Miles Pierce, Rhoven Pierce, Gary Coleman, Greg Leeder, Peter & Marg Robertson, Nigel Cooke, Gerhard Noss.

**Apologies:** Brian Finlayson, Peter & Margot Matthews, Linda House, Susan White, Nicholas White.

**Venue:** Scout hall, Lewis Road, Wantirna South.

**Meeting opened** 8:20pm, chaired by Rob Brain.

### **1. Opening address**

Rob Brain opened the 36th AGM of the Rimstone Co-operative, and welcomed everyone.

### **2. Minutes of last meeting (AGM 2009)**

**Motion: "That the minutes of the 2009 AGM be taken as read" — moved Miles Pierce, seconded Paul Brooker, Motion carried.**

No business arising from the 2009 AGM meeting minutes.

### **3. Treasurer's report**

Paul Brooker presented the Treasurer's report (including a printed summary of key points and highlights, as well as the financial statements), and answered questions.

**Motion: "That the Treasurers report be accepted" — moved Lou Williams, seconded Gerhard Noss. Motion carried.**

### **4. Maintenance report (building, property, grounds)**

Gary and Greg presented this report. Key points:

(a) **Electricity meter box.**

This has been moved outside so that the meter reader no longer has to get in.

(b) **Keys and locks.**

The combination lock has had the code changed for a year now and the sky did not fall. The locks on the kitchen door and the toilet block have been replaced.

Keys were issued to those who requested them.

There is no practical requirement for Homeleigh users to have their own key as there is one inside and access can be gained via the combination lock.

The directors felt that the issuing of keys gives some sense of ownership and privilege to Rimstone members that other visitors and guests do not have.

(c) **Smoke detector / fire alarm.**

This was causing intermittent alarms that could not be traced.

The entire system has been removed and a new system installed. The old system had a smoke detector in every room and several in the hallways. (about 30) The new one only has six installed to date but this will be addressed at the next working bee.

(d) **Lawnmowers and grass.**

The large mower works and can be used. Please note that it is a 2 stroke engine and therefore must run on petrol / oil mix.

Small mower is in my shed awaiting overhaul. The Calinans are doing mowing as required for a reasonable fee.

(e) **Plaster and paint.**

Many of the bedrooms have been relined and work has started on the hall. This is progressing slowly and there is a considerable improvement in the look of the place.

(f) **Flue pipe** has been cleaned recently.

(g) **Rimstone trailer**

Trailer was dismantled to have wheel bearings replaced. Repairs are planned for the next working bee.

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- (h) **Fire fighting appliance.**  
Paul & his father have completed this project and Paul will arrange instruction sheet for operators.
  - (i) **Stains to paint work in toilet block.**  
Repairs have been made by the people responsible.
  - (j) **Front door.**  
The southern door on the front verandah has been boarded over as it no longer exists.
  - (k) **Repaired roof leak above room 15.**
  - (l) **Rotted stump** at the verandah corner near toilet block.  
The stump between the steps and the ramp was replaced at the working bee

## 5. Booking Officer's report

Nick White has been the Booking Officer, and Sue White fills in when Nick is away. In Nick's current absence (away on a trip), Sue prepared the following report which was read to the meeting:

Bookings have been steady for most of the past year. In particular the use of the property by groups has been steady. The Air Force bookings have been substantial and many of these are during the week which has given occupancy at times we have not traditionally had such usage. Although there was some problem with the accommodation email <mailto:accomm@rimstone.org.au> at one stage on the whole the system has worked well. There are still occasional people who try to book by personal contact but this has been minimal. There also is an occasional problem with the fax machine. Nevertheless problems have been minimal and other directors have been able to take over seamlessly when we have been away.

## 6. Rimstone Highlights and Vision

Rob addressed the meeting and described some of the highlights of the last 12 months, and the vision for the future. Key points as follows:

- **Homeleigh renovations** are going well. A lot of work has been done over recent years, and there is still much to do (further help is always welcome).
- **The "New Member Information Sheet"** discussed previously has received some feedback, and is now published. It will be made available from the web site.
- **Recycling Bins** — Paul has been instrumental in implementing recycling bins at Homeleigh, in line with general trends in society.
- **Rimstone web site** [www.rimstone.org.au](http://www.rimstone.org.au) now has recent AGM meeting minutes available, and all recent newsletters. Positive feedback was received regarding the updated photos.
- **Posters** — A number of posters have been posted around Homeleigh to help explain operational matters for the benefit of the newer members and guests. These have been very useful to help with smooth operations of the facility.
- **Communications Log Book** — Paul is in the process of implementing this. It will be at the Homeleigh Reception Desk and will be used to log relevant happenings and observations such as repair work, maintenance activities, etc.
- **The future?** — Many senior members are no longer active cavers. We must plan for the future, and attract new members. Rob suggested that people staying at Homeleigh could pursue other interests in the area besides caving. Greg noted that this idea provoked objections from founding members as the "Rimstone co-op was founded to accommodate cavers and promote caving and speleology in the area." Some more discussion is required.

## 7. General business

- **Privacy Policy** — Miles spoke on Privacy Policy. The accommodation sheet is removed from the site, but the Accommodation Register log book remains for all to see. Some may not want this information to be available to all visitors for years to come. Perhaps a loose-leaf version could be implemented? (It was originally initiated for voluntary "safety" purposes.) Directors should discuss this and possibly change the arrangements.
- **Local land access** — Greg asked if there is any update on this topic. There seems to be

no changes to the recent situation.

- **Local Relations** — We should try hard to make and maintain contact with the locals. Lou suggested that we subscribe to the Buchan Bulletin local newspaper \$15 p.a. Rimstone could submit a report on Homeleigh.
- **Rimstone Members are land-owners** — Paul reminded us that the owners of Homeleigh (the Rimstone members) are actually local land owners. We ought to remind all members of this in the next newsletter.

## 8. Election of Directors

Three directors have reached mid-term — Rob Brain, Greg Leeder, Nick White.

The other two directors have reached end of term (2 years) and are both offering to re-nominate (Paul Brooker, Gary Coleman).

Re: Succession plans — Paul announced his wish to retire as Treasurer at next year's AGM after 10 years in the job, but to stay on as a director. Next year he will be happy to pass on the treasurers position and be available to assist the new incoming treasurer. Nigel Cooke expressed interest in the position. Some discussion took place about the role, and the tools of trade ensued (computer and software — currently MYOB). It was agreed that a transition would be assisted by having some documentation describing the Treasurer's role and activities (ie. a job description).

Rob explained that due to time pressures he will be happy to stand down when retiring at the next AGM. This will make way for a potential new Treasurer to step onto the board.

Additional nominations for director were called. With none forthcoming, the nominated people were duly elected.

The board of directors now comprises:

Rob Brain, Greg Leeder, Nick White, Paul Brooker, Gary Coleman.

Miles Pierce moved a vote of thanks to all directors. Motion carried.

Volunteers — In terms of volunteers to assist with the running of Rimstone, Peter Robertson offered assistance. Linda House is currently travelling, and before leaving recently sent her apologies for the meeting and expressed an interest in getting involved on her return.

**Meeting closed at 9:47pm.**

Footnote:

13 March 1975 — The first shares in Rimstone Cooperative Ltd were issued.

24 Feb 1975 — The first AGM was held.