

## **2024 Aroid Society of Australia Annual General Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** 12th September 2023, 6:30pm

**Location:** Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens Auditorium

**Attendees:**

Barry Kable

Kim Hunter

Sandra Kane

Melissa

Cameron

Steven Hay

Chris Hood

Doug Spring

Alan Phythian

Stephen

Bartlett

Stan Walkley

Dominic Kain

Hayden Gray

Forest

McGlashan

Melanie

Marsden

Jerome Yee

Jody Harrison

Samuel

Harrison

Aaron Urquhart

Andrew Baker

Lee

Thorneycroft

Leanne Bennett

Stephen Flood

Peter Starkey

Thulasi Rajah

Alex Muddle

Jacob Wood

Robyn Drew

Trevor Perry

Suzy Perry

Samantha

Murray

Ross Malloch

Rebecca

Malloch

Greg Ure

### General Meetup

Welcome by the President - Andrew Baker

- References to the emailed apologies to [committee@aroids.net](mailto:committee@aroids.net) email and opened to the floor for any more apologies

### Suspend General Meetup at 1849 and Start AGM

For those in attendance you may notice that no-one is taking notes; the meeting is being recorded and to be transcribed at a later date and emailed to all committee members.

List of apologies presented and acknowledged:

- Jacqueline Kvello
- Alexia Loader
- Jennie Larucci
- Rhys Beijnon
- Judi Barkla

Previous minutes presented and members reminded that they were emailed to all financial members 12 months ago and available on our website.

- No objections were made and the motion was moved by Sandra Darling and seconded by Kim Hunter

### **Presidents Report**

Those who are not aware I'm Andy Baker and I've been fortunate enough to be involved with the ASA committee since mid 2021 where I functioned as a general committee member before stepping up 6 months later to the position of SEQ rep a position which I have held until tonight. I have also spent time as the interim president from December 2022 where I was fortunate to be voted in as the current chairperson at the last AGM

Over the last 12 months the society has experienced some of the most prosperous growth and activity which considering the tailing off of the "Aroid hype"; is a feat not to be understated.

The Committee has again been focused on regular in person meet ups with there being a total of 19 in person and 2 online events Australia wide. Some of these events included our highly successful events program featuring Dr Tom Croat. And what a tour it was with DR Croat having visited many locations across Queensland, NSW, VIC, SA, WA and his own self funded trip through Tasmania where he may or may not have accidently driven his hire car on the wrong side of the road a few times...

Dr Croat was able to also conduct valuable tasks for the society and it members by attempting to identify and re-name some of the various species grown by collectors here in Australia. Dr Croat has taken plant material back to the US to add and compare to herbarium samples and hopefully in the near to distant future we will be able to ID and reclassify some of these plants.

I would particularly like to thank those members who donated plants for the members raffle as well as the Croat auctions. This helped the society fund to pay for the Croat trip in it's entirety. To summarise having Dr Croat here talking aroids is like having Christ attend a Sunday church service.

Society administration wise the usual bumps were experienced along the way limited to but not including committee member resignations and the society being locked out of our domain user which rendered our ability to receive emails to the @aroids domain for about 6 weeks. I would like to that all the members and committee members for your patience and help during this frustrating time and can assure you that of you have a business whose Domaine is registered through google It is safe from unauthorised hands and potentially your own...

We have continued to receive great feedback RE the content featured in our biannual publication "Aroida Australis" however it is with great disappointment that I announce the July 2024 issues will not be published due to the editor having only received 2 articles from our members If you have any ideas for content or would like to contribute, please let Liz know by reaching out to her by email at editor@aroids.net.

Technology wise the society has just recently been accepted for a Com Biz account. Previously the president and treasurer were required to be side by side to complete net bank transfers which does not sound like too much of a hurdle until you consider the 1600km barrier between myself and Liz's homes. With comm biz we now ca complete transactions all online as well as their token system saves the up to four week challenge of updating signatures on the account physically instore at branches which is near impossible to try and line up working 40 hour weeks (on top of ASA) when mixed with the outrageously reduced and restricted branch operating hours.

I would also like to thank you, our members, who continue to engage with the society, be that renewing membership, attending events and even contributing to our Facebook pages and am extremely happy to announce that as of this time we have 505 financial members. The society is always looking for ways to engage members and encourages you all to participate in any way you can. At the end of the day; the Aroid Society is YOUR society!

A massive thanks and congratulations go out to all of our previous Office Bearers, State Representatives and general committee members for all their contributions over the last 12 months in continuing to grow our Society from humble beginnings to the nation wide club we are today and I wish the 2024-2025 committee the best for the year ahead.

No objections were made and the motion was moved by Stan Walkley and seconded by Aaron Urquhart

### **Treasurers Report**

Liz Showniruk

We are proud to announce that the last financial year gave us a record profit of \$11,547.58 giving us a total cash in the bank amount of over \$45000.00. \$10000 is currently in term deposit and just over \$35000 is in our operating account.

Our largest source of income has been from our memberships at \$11612.32, followed by fundraising through raffles and auctions at \$9093.78. As part of future-proofing our society, we have taken steps to streamline and simplify our systems so that they can easily be handed over from volunteer to volunteer. Part of this includes upgrading to a Commbizz account which will give us more ease of operability and advanced functions.

Using Joinit as our membership software has made it easy for members to maintain their membership with subscriptions and reminder emails. We have also moved to the accounting software MYOB which is relatively simple to operate and will save countless hours of volunteer time.

These steps will ensure that memberships are kept up-to-date, that people are paid on time for plant sales, reimbursed promptly for expenses, give us a transparent and real-time view of our finances and, moving forward, allow us to continue to grow the society through further opportunities such as creating an online merchandise store.

In the meantime, we hope to put our profits back into our society by organising bigger and better events, equipment upgrades and guest speakers.

Having a streamlined society with well-kept and audited books that show a profit is paramount in seeking grant funding, which we hope to do over the coming year.

All in All, we are in an excellent position. The fundraising has been astronomical, Tom Croats' visit was a boom moment for the society that we managed not only to pay for but to profit from, highlighting that when we work together, we can achieve great things.

No objections were made and the motion was moved by Kim Hunter and seconded by Suzy Perry

The profit and loss statement was provided for members to peruse as below:

		Total		
	Actual	Last Year	Variance \$	Variance %
<b>4-0000 Income</b>				
4-1300 Memberships	11,612.32	0.00	11,612.32	-
4-1400 Plant Sales	2,040.34	0.00	2,040.34	-
4-1450 Raffles and Fundraising	9,093.78	0.00	9,093.78	-
4-1451 Donations	65.00	0.00	65.00	-
4-1452 Advertising	640.00	0.00	640.00	-
4-1453 Merchandise	124.00	0.00	124.00	-
4-1454 Cash Sales	387.07	0.00	387.07	-
4-1455 Ticket Sales	1,715.37	0.00	1,715.37	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>25,677.88</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>25,677.88</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>25,677.88</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>25,677.88</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>6-0000 Expenses</b>				
6-1110 Accounting & Bookkeeping	495.00	0.00	495.00	-
6-1120 Advertising & Marketing	(25.00)	0.00	(25.00)	-
6-1240 Computer & IT Expenses	17.95	0.00	17.95	-
6-1470 Freight, Courier & Postage	58.20	0.00	58.20	-
<b>6-1540 Insurance Expenses</b>				
6-1550 Insurance	679.58	0.00	679.58	-
<b>Total Insurance Expenses</b>	<b>679.58</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>679.58</b>	<b>-</b>
6-4280 Printing & Stationery	282.24	0.00	282.24	-
6-4440 Subscriptions & Memberships	2,580.06	0.00	2,580.06	-
6-4531 Printing Aroida Australis	1,785.76	0.00	1,785.76	-
6-4532 Catering	936.79	0.00	936.79	-
6-4533 Events	6,677.12	0.00	6,677.12	-
6-4534 Square processing Fees	714.90	0.00	714.90	-
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>14,202.60</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>14,202.60</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Operating Profit</b>	<b>11,475.28</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>11,475.28</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>8-0000 Other Income</b>				
8-1000 Interest Received	66.44	0.00	66.44	-
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>66.44</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>66.44</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>9-0000 Other Expenses</b>				
9-1000 Interest Expense	(5.86)	0.00	(5.86)	-
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>(5.86)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>(5.86)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>11,547.58</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>11,547.58</b>	<b>-</b>

The 2023-2024 management committee was presented and were thanked for their hard work.

*All committee positions declared vacant.* With the committee having been disbanded

The following position were not filled by the deadline of the 29/12/24:

- General committee SEQ Rep
- General committee VIC Rep
- General committee SA Rep

However since this date we received late nominations for the VIC by Kimberley Callaghan. No objections.

Are there any nominations for the other remaining vacant positions? None noted.

It is therefore, without further ado, that I announce your new committee:

- President/chairperson: Andrew Baker – QLD. 1<sup>st</sup>: Chris Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Arden Dearden
- Secretary: Alex Muddle – QLD. 1<sup>st</sup> Sandra Kane, 2<sup>nd</sup> Andrew Baker
- Treasurer: Elizabeth Evans/Showniruk – FNQ. 1<sup>st</sup> Wynn Robinson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bruce Robinson

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General Committee

- FNQ Rep: Blake Jolly. 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Baker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kate Scanlon
- SEQ Rep: VACANT
- NSW Rep: Brendon Shoon. 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Baker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kate Scanlon
- VIC Rep: Kimberly Callaghan 1<sup>st</sup> Kate Scanlon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Andrew Baker
- SA Rep: VACANT
- WA Rep: Brocc Rogers. 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Baker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kate Scanlon
- Editor: Liz Showniruk – FNQ (as above)
- Special Projects Coordinator: Kate Scanlon –VIC 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Baker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maddy Furness

Any objections to the above nominations? Non mentioned.

The ASA declares that it holds public liability insurance for \$20M. All positions were made vacant, the new committee has been elected. The AGM is closed at 1905.

Resume general meeting