



# STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY CENTRE, INC.

699 Steels Creek Road, Steels Creek, VIC 3775

---

## SCCC AGM Minutes

7<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**MEETING COMMENCED: 06:15pm**

**WELCOME:** Maree Rothwell (President)

"I begin by acknowledging the Wurundjeri people and other Kulin Nations, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and pay my respects to their Elders, past and present."

**PRESENT:** Peta Whitford, Mary Shiel, Julie Wilcox, Craig Irvine, Maree Rothwell, Kerry Guthrie, Ivan Filsel,

**APOLOGIES:** John Brand, Delia West, Tara Bennetts, Mark Newell, Fiona Martin, Keith Montell

**MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

A copy of the minutes was provided to all committee members. There were no objections to taking these minutes as read.

*MOVED: Kerry Guthrie*

*SECONDED: Mary Shiel*

*CARRIED*

**PRESIDENTS REPORT:** prepared and presented by Maree Rothwell

It has been a busy year that has flown by at SCCC. As I read over the notes and minutes of this last year's meetings I am grateful for the community of people who make the Steels Creek Community Centre what it is. This year has been one of consolidation and maintenance as well as a year of discussions and planning.

The centre lease with the Shire of Yarra Ranges has been renewed for 5 years, with an annual lease fee of \$314.50. We continue to work with the Shire in the ongoing maintenance and compliance required to keep the centre open and running.

Many thanks to our committee members Kerry Guthrie and Ivan Filsell who have worked hard in completing many tasks, especially around garden, building maintenance and the Community Centre Evacuation Plan. Their work has also resulted in some upgrades to our outdoor lightening and the repair of the front fence.

In other good news, our ongoing conversations around community resilience and emergency planning with council has seen SCCC as an approved site for a generator with battery backup. We are still waiting for confirmation as to what we are getting exactly and when, but this will be the first stage in getting the resources needed for the centre to be a useful hub during emergencies.

I would like to thank our sponsors: Ash at Yarra Glen Automotive and Peter at Hoogies Yarra Glen for their annual sponsorship of the centre.

This year we will expanding our donation and sponsorship requests as well as finally completing the Welcome to Steels Creek information letter (thank you Kerry and Erin Marie). We didn't quite get these projects completed in time for AGM, but they are almost there.

One of the tasks we have taken on a SCCC is to coordinate communication within Steels Creek. Our Steels Creek Community Facebook Page continues to be moderated by a group of residents, led by Peter Benda, who is doing a great job keeping the scammers out. Kerry Guthrie continues to be our Grapevine Editor; she does a great job getting the information out each fortnight and keeps it fun and informative. We have also started using WhatsApp and developing a Steels Creek Community in that space, incorporating the Fire Trees, Landcare, a general group and a committee Group. This has been a great and efficient way to get information out there.

Our Steels Creek Website is still ticking away with a new version on its way. Many thanks to JB and Graham Rothwell for their work in this space.

The big change to the committee this year was having Reps from each group join us at SCCC Committee meetings. Thank you to Fiona, Mary, Julie, Peta and Delia who have joined us, it has made our committee much richer with your presence and has hopefully helped with communication between the groups and the committee.

Many thanks to my fellow committee who continue to support me and the community centre. Looking forward to another year of all thing's community.

Accept the presented report as read.

*MOVED: Ivan Filsel*

*SECONDED: Kerry Guthrie*

*CARRIED*

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** prepared by John Brand

Balance of accounts as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024:

Bendigo Bank Everyday account	\$8,797.21
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	\$6,546.33
Cash (to be banked @7 <sup>th</sup> October)	\$ 766.00

Adjusting for Art fund account (The Art Group funds (\$3,179.26) should be deducted from the balance of the Everyday Day account. I wish there was a better way to do this.....!), we made \$1,156.62. Our main source of income remains the centre use fees – 2023 we raised \$4687.05 and this year we made \$5856.20 so about on track for cost recovery but not much in it otherwise.

Currently we are in the process of making the Ritchies Loyalty Card income category more consistent as 'fundraising'. Previously it was categorised as 'donations'. This is to distinguish true donations which includes extra amounts included in the cash tin, personal donations etc.

There were no questions raised with financial reports.

Accept the presented reports as a true statement of the centre's current financial position.

*MOVED: Maree Rothwell*

*SECONDED: Craig Irvine*

*CARRIED*

**COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS:**

**4REEL MOVIE NIGHT:** prepared by Keith Montell (submitted the day after AGM)

Another year of very enjoyable evenings with usually very good food and a wide variety of films shown. The average attendance was 15-20

**ART GROUP:** prepared and presented by Ivan Filsel

The Art Group has had another good year with our regular Thursday afternoon workshops having a consistent attendance of 8 to 10 artists. Members work on their own projects from week to week, interspersed with special workshops run by visiting artists or by our own members. Throughout the year we have had a repeat book making class from Barbara Adams, an ink workshop from Glenda Tjepkema, scratch board with Gabrielle Pelling, vibrant colours with Margaret McLoughlin and an extended lino cut workshop from Ivan Filsell. We have also had a group visit to YAVA Gallery in Healesville and to the new Watsons Creek Gallery and Crafts. This time last year we were part of the open studios run by YAVA which was very successful, but a lot of work and we decided to give it a rest this year. Sadly, age and health issues have taken it's toll on some of our regulars: Jenny Tetlow, a foundation member and stalwart of the centre for more that 25 years, is now in care, we wish you well Jenny. Carolyn Kelmer and Iva Day each have health issues that prevent regular attendance. We wish you well and you are both welcome back any time. In the coming year, we are expecting to continue with visiting artists, regular workshops and gallery visit, particularly those with a good café nearby.

**BOOKGROUP:** prepared and presented by Mary Shiel

The book group has 10 members and meets on the third Tuesday evening of each month. Books are selected and provided by Eastern Regional Library and across the year, a wide range of genres are read. Many of the books provoke quite different opinions and there is often spirited discussion, always followed by supper which members take in turn to provide.

**EXCHANGE HUB:** prepared by Fiona Martin

The Exchange Hub meet twice a month from 10-11am on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Attendees ranged from 10-20 each time with old and new, young and older community members enjoying conversation and trading fresh garden produce, along with coffee and scones. Saturday working bees began, to join the hub, expanding the numbers and fun.

**GARDEN CLUB:** prepared by Delia West

Regular monthly outings have been well attended to interesting venues, such as Mooroolbark Community Garden; A great example of what can be achieved if council is behind you. The greenhouse is full of a variety of plants thanks to our growing group that meets every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in the month. We are ready for our annual Garden Fair on October 26<sup>th</sup>. We also made good use of the hall for our Biggest Morning Tea in May which raised \$1000 for council research. Jill Hess

continues to lead us as president and have some new members as well as many, many regulars.

**LANDCARE:** prepared and presented by Peta Whitford

Steels Creek Landcare is now registered as a charity. The deer culling program continues (north end of SC, 46 deer were culled in August & September; south end of SC, approx. 6 deer were culled in May). Capacity to process the carcasses is limited by the knackery and their capacity to butcher. A WhatsApp Group has been set up for residents to note sightings of deer in the valley.

There have been revegetation projects at two properties – 702 Steels Creek Rd (Guthrie property) and Yarra Valley Estate. These revegetation projects are aimed at improving and protecting waterways (in these two instances dams) using native and indigenous plants. Total plants planted is circa 1500.

The Chainsaw course, facilitated by Yarra Ranges Council, was fully subscribed- 8 participants of which 5 were locals to SC.

Birds on Farms conducted a farm walk which was very well attended with approximated 27 different species being noted in the 1.5hr session. This was held on a property in Hunts and we thank the landholders for allowing us access to their properties.

**SECRET MEN'S BUSINESS:** no report submitted

**STITCHERS:** prepared and presented by Julie Wilcox

Stitchers have been busy as usual. We have a variety of different donations going as follows: a target of 72 lap rugs for the residents of Taralla Aged Care, (which we have achieved); donated woollen dolls, approx. 22 a month; and bookmarks, fabric teddies and recently, Halloween pencil toppers for children upset when visiting pathology at Lilydale. We have also supplied the Police Community Liaison officer with items for the homeless or others in need. These items include beanies, gloves, scarves and mittens.

We are open to all crafty people and have enjoyed seeing quilting, spinning and weaving projects being worked on throughout the year.

**TENNIS & SOCIAL CLUB:** prepared and presented by Kerry Guthrie

We continue to maintain numbers at our social gatherings on the first Friday of each month, October through to May. We were successful in applying for a grant to tidy up the outdoor undercover area. Work on this project will start in due course and should be completed by the end of the current financial year as per the grant guidelines. Social tennis player numbers remain constant with session being held on Monday mornings, Tuesday and Thursday evenings as Sunday afternoons. The purchase of a sign for the club has made a big difference to getting our message out to the community. Yarra Glen Tennis Club has also been hiring the courts on Saturday mornings to cover the junior competition court requirements.

**Women's Group:** no report submitted

Accept the presented reports as read.

*MOVED: Mary Shiel*

*SECONDED: Maree Rothwell*

*CARRIED*

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- Centre bookings – we are looking for someone to take on the role scheduling the bookings for the community centre.

**ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:**

**President:** Kerry Guthrie

*NOMINATED: Ivan Filsell*

*SECONDED: Peta Whitford*

*CARRIED*

**Vice President:** Maree Rothwell

*NOMINATED: Ivan Filsell*

*SECONDED: Peta Whitford*

*CARRIED*

**Secretary:** Julie Wilcox

*NOMINATED: Peta Whitford*

*SECONDED: Ivan Filsell*

*CARRIED*

**Treasurer:** Craig Irvine

*NOMINATED: Kerry Guthrie*

*SECONDED: Ivan Filsell*

*CARRIED*

Committee: Ivan Filsel (Art Group)

Committee: Peta Whitlock (Landcare)

Committee: Mary Sheil (Bookclub)

Committee: Delia West (Garden Club)

Committee: Fiona Martin (Exchange Hub)

Committee: Tara Bennetts (General)

With no objections or ballot required for all or any positions, we accept the office bearers as nominated above.

Next General Committee Meeting: 25<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

**MEETING CLOSED: 07:19pm**