

**Notice of
VWA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
22 October, 2014**

The VWA 2014 Annual General Meeting will be held on 22 October, 2014 at 7.30pm in the Conference Room of the Meat Market Arts Centre in Blackwood Street, North Melbourne.

I strongly encourage you to attend.

The current Management Committee will report on the past year's progress, especially the very successful Create from a Crate exhibition.

I would like to invite you to take a more active role by joining the Management Committee and helping to steer the organisation over the next 12 months. Being a committee member is not an onerous task: it requires a couple of hours of your time each month to attend a committee meeting and whatever other time you are prepared to volunteer to help with specific tasks. Most importantly, we need people who are keen to work with their fellow woodworkers to maintain a strong and vibrant organisation.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Regards,

Damien Wright
President
VWA Management Committee

PS If you are unable to attend the AGM, you may appoint another financial member of VWA as your proxy to vote on issues such as the Special Resolution and election of Office Holders and committee members. A proxy form is attached.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Conference Room Meat Market Arts Centre
Blackwood Street, North Melbourne
Wednesday 22nd October 2014 at 7.30 PM

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES
 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 23 October 2013
 3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Damien Wright
 4. TREASURER'S REPORT – Rob Allan
 5. MEMBERSHIP and INSURANCE Report – Meg Allan
 6. Council of Woodworking Clubs Report – Rob Allan
 7. VWA SCHOOL OF WOODCRAFT REPORT – Jerome Wielens
 8. MONTHLY MEETINGS PROGRAM REPORT – Stephen Ziguras
 9. EXHIBITIONS PROGRAM – John Monument, Libby O'Brien, Ward Petherbridge.
 10. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE FOR 2014/2015
 - President invites Hamish Hill to take the chair for election of committee
 - Nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and other Members of the Management Committee
 - Declaration of candidates elected.
 - Elected President takes the Chair.
 11. ELECTION OF AUDITOR - Treasurer to recommend
 12. OTHER BUSINESS
- NEXT AGM MEETING Wednesday 28th October 2015

APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I
(name)

of
(address)

being a member of the Victorian Woodworkers Association Inc. (VWA)

appoint
(name of proxy holder)

of
(address of proxy holder)

being a member of the VWA, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the VWA Annual General Meeting to be held on

22 October 2014, and at any adjournment of that meeting.

I authorise my proxy to vote on my behalf at their discretion.

.....
Signed

Date:

Victorian Woodworkers Association - Committee Nomination Form for AGM Election 2014 – 2015

Executive Committee - Office Bearers

Role	Nominee	Signature	Proposer #1	Signature	Proposer #2	Signature
President						
Vice-President						
Secretary						
Treasurer						

General Committee - 8 Positions

Role	Nominee	Signature	Proposer #1	Signature	Proposer #2	Signature
General C'tee #1						
General C'tee #2						
General C'tee #3						
General C'tee #4						
General C'tee #5						
General C'tee #6						
General C'tee #7						
General C'tee #8						
General C'tee #9						
General C'tee #10						
General C'tee #11						

Note: Any person nominated must accept their nomination by signing this form.

Please return this form by Monday 22 October by email or post to: Meg Allan, Membership Secretary 2650 Mansfield – Whitfield Rd, TOLMIE

VIC 3723 Tel: (03) 5776 2178 Fax: (03) 5776 2185, Email: treasurer@vwa.org.au

Alternatively, hand the completed form to the Chairman at the AGM.

Current Committee and Contacts:

President	Damien Wright	03 9486 4434
Vice-President	Jerome Wielens	0431 891 451
Treasurer	Rob Allan	03 5776 2178
Secretary	Stephen Farquhar	0419 311 010
Editor	Will Matthysen	0438 984 415
School Sub-committee Chairman	Jerome Wielens	0431 891 451
Exhibitions Co-ordinator	Libby O'Brien	0430 500 420
Member Meetings	Stephen Ziguras	0405 668 779
Committee Member	John Monument	0417 119 946
Committee Member	Andrew Potocnik	0419 875 811
Committee Member	Mark Wakeham	0428 242 585
Committee Member	Sam Johnston	0404 520 680
Committee Member	Randal Kohn	0438 132 644
Committee Member	Ward Petherbridge	0418 350 551

2013 Annual General Meeting – Minutes

Date: 23 October, 2013

Time: 7.30pm

Place: Meat Market, 5 Blackwood St, NORTH MELBOURNE



Attendees:

Stephen Farquhar	Andrew Potocnik	Hamish Hill	David Hall
Mark Wakeham	Liam Thomas	Rob Allan	Meg Allan
Will Matthysen	Stephen Ziguras	Alex Lesniowski	Michael Kolosov
Liz Gardiner	Ward Petherbridge	Phoebe Everill	Geoff Allen
Norm Anderson	Carl Lutz		

Apologies:

Libby O'Brien, John Monument, Damien Wright, Darrell Pierpoint

1. Opening

- The Vice-President, Jerome Wielens, confirmed a quorum was present and declared the meeting open at 7.45pm.

2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting, 23 October 2012.

- Will Mathysen moved that the 2012 Minutes be accepted as an accurate record of the 2012 AGM. Jerome Wielens seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

3. President's report – Damien Wright

- Jerome presented the President's report - Attached.

4. Treasurer's report – Rob Allan

- The Treasurer, Rob Allan, provided a copy of the Treasurer's report and the Auditor's report to each member present. Rob explained the report and answered questions from the floor.
- Stephen Farquhar moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted. Mark Wakeham seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.
- **The Treasurer's report is attached.**

5. Membership Report, Insurance Report, VWA School of Woodcraft Report – Meg Allan

- Meg Allan reported that at the end of the Insurance year, 31 August 2013, **the VWA had 857 Full Members and 184 General Members (non-insurance, including WDC students).**
- The Membership and Insurance Report, and the VWA School of Woodcraft Report are attached.
- Jerome Wielens moved that Meg's report be accepted.
- Andrew Potocnik seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.
- **The Membership and Insurance report is attached.**

6. Council of Woodworking Clubs Report – Rob Allan

- Rob, in his capacity as VWA representative on the CWC, described the role of the CWC and its representation of 184 clubs and ~9000 woodworkers around Australia.
- Key plans being promoted by the CWC are good OH&S procedures and the documentation to support these to ensure both good woodworking practices and to ensure adequate protection for clubs in the event of litigation resulting from accidents.

7. VWA School Sub-committee – Jerome Wielens

- Jerome informed the meeting that the School Sub-Committee was operating well and has helped the main committee meetings run more smoothly and to focus on core VWA activities such as exhibitions, as opposed to school operations.

8. Exhibitions Program Report –Libby O’Brien, Ward Petherbridge

- Ward Petherbridge presented Libby O’Brien’s report.
- Jerome Wielens moved that the Exhibitions Program report be accepted. Stephen Farquhar seconded the motion. The report was unanimously passed.
- Libby O’Brien’s Exhibition’s Report is attached.

10. 2013/2014 Committee Election

The VWA Committee was dissolved and VWA Member Hamish Hill was elected meeting Chairmen for the election of Office Holders and Ordinary Committee Members.

Damien Wright was the only nomination for President and he was declared elected to that position. Jerome Wielens was the only nomination for Vice-President and he was declared elected to that position.

Rob Allan was the only nomination for Treasurer and he was declared elected to that position. Stephen Farquhar was the only nomination for Secretary and he was declared elected to that position.

There were 9 nominations for Ordinary Committee Members:

- Will Mathysen
- Mark Wakeham
- Libby O’Brien
- John Monument
- Andrew Potocnik
- Ward Petherbridge
- Sam Johnston
- Steve Ziguras
- Randel Kohn

All 9 were elected – The Association rules permit up to 8 Ordinary Committee Members however in the interests of effective operation of the committee, there were no objections raised for 9 committee members elected.

Jerome Wielens, as the elected Vice-President, took the chair.

11. Election of Auditor

The Treasurer, Rob Allan, recommended that ProActive Tax and Business Services of Mansfield, Victoria, be re-appointed as VWA’s auditor.

Jerome Wielens moved that the recommendation be accepted. Stephen Farquhar seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

12. The meeting was declared closed at 9.15 pm

Next Meeting: AGM – Wed 22 October, 2014

VWA President's Report - DAMIEN WRIGHT - 23 October 2013

VWA members,

Spring has sprung and not a moment too soon. Our AGM is upon us, which unfortunately I will be unable to attend due to family commitments.

Winter has been extremely busy for the VWA. Our membership, workshop, meeting, exhibition, publication, insurance, education, tenant and web programs are all going very well.

We are in a secure financial and administrative position. Like the season's new blossoms, all our activities are growing.

I have enjoyed my time as a committee member of the VWA and will nominate again.

By way of thanks I would like to draw your attention to the remarkable work that your committee has been doing this year.

Jerome Wielens, Vice President and Chair of the school sub-committee, works tirelessly for the VWA. There are endless issues involved in running a woodworking school, from materials supply to staffing, and Jerome takes them all in his stride. Jerome is an incredibly capable, generous and patient person whose perspective and advice I respect and appreciate greatly.

VWA Secretary, Stephen Farquhar, continues to develop the VWA's web presence. His focus is both external, managing the interface between the public and the VWA, and internal, as the connection between the tenants and the committee. Stephen's creativity and skill in digital communications has both opened the organisation to a wider audience and streamlined the VWA's operations. His ability to empathise with the tenants and students and articulate an emerging professional woodworker's reality to the committee is key to the functioning of such a complex organisation as ours. A secretary of Stephen's ability and passion is an extraordinary asset to the VWA and his work is recognised and appreciated by the entire committee.

Both Jerome and Stephen began their connection to the VWA as students of the school. Both are passionate students of woodcraft and have extended that interest to the VWA. This is a good thing. One moves from a consumer of a service to a contributor.

Treasurer Rob Allan runs a tight ship and presents the numbers in a clear and effective way. It is a huge challenge to rigorously manage the finances of an organisation with so many arms. Rob performs this task with great diligence. Rob also reports on the activities of the Council of Woodworking Clubs to the VWA. And provides invaluable advice and experience to the committee. Rob travels a very long way to help the VWA and we appreciate it greatly.

Will Matthysen, craftsman extraordinaire, has taken charge of the newsletter and the meeting programme. Will saw the need to have a regular newsletter and took responsibility for it. The news is such an important part of the VWA. It is key to our meeting program, which goes from strength to strength. Will's ability to connect with the woodworking community is a primary asset of the VWA. Let's be frank: when one thinks of the VWA, one thinks of Will. Mr Matthysen is a national treasure.

John Monument and Libby O'Brian run the exhibition program of the VWA. Perhaps the most difficult of all our activities, exhibitions stands as a central pillar of our organisation. The opportunity to exhibit work is key to the life of a creative person. It is key to the elevation of the practice and the material. There have been very few opportunities to exhibit woodcraft in recent years. Libby and John have made sure the VWA continues to exhibit members' work through our participation in the Working With Wood show and the Storm Wood exhibition. John and Libby's relentless energy, passion and commitment to exhibiting have significantly expanded the VWA's horizon. Our exhibition program is booming and it is going to continue to flourish. The plans are made; the galleries are booked. We are going to have a regular exhibition program to showcase our members' work.

Libby and John have had the good fortune of Ward Petherbridge. Ward comes to the VWA as a private collector of fine woodwork and as a professional recycler of timber. Ward is the heartbeat of our exciting 'Create from a Crate' exhibition, which will open in February 2014. Details are available on the web. In short, Ward puts in. Ward recognised the untapped potential of a readily available timber resource; he imagines a high end use for it. So he joins the committee and gets it done.

Similarly Sam Johnston, committee member and workshop tenant, deserves our praise for his approach. Sam's interest in woodwork comes from his industrial and landscape design background. He has a very clear idea of linking a craftsman's material knowledge of wood with micro industrial process to create beautiful furniture. CNC machine technique is central to his craft. Sam joined the committee a year ago and began a discussion about the appropriateness or otherwise of the VWA investing in a CNC machine. The committee agreed with Sam that a CNC machine is an important and valuable tool in modern woodwork and approved the purchase on one. So Sam researched and found a machine, which the VWA has purchased. The machine is now operable. The machine is now an asset of the VWA, which is fantastic, but the true asset is Sam and his initiative. In an honorary organization, someone's got to do the work and Sam we thank you very much.

Mark Wakeman and Andrew Potocnik offer the committee fantastic professional experience. Mark from a legal and woodworking point of view and Andrew as an internationally renowned wood turner and educator. Andrew's contribution to the newsletter is also very much appreciated. His correspondent at large pieces are wonderful. Both Mark and Andrew's input is of the highest quality, making the VWA the considered well-rounded organisation that it is.

I would like to thank Meg Allan for her great work. Meg handles the VWA's insurance, membership and school enrolments with intelligence and efficiency. Thank you Meg.

The tutors - I thank you one and all.

As you can see there is a lot going on and hands are needed. I encourage you to get involved be part of it.

It is an honor and privilege to have served as president of the VWA and I thank you for your support.

Thanks,
Damien Wright