

SACTCG Annual General Meeting
25/10/11
Tuggeranong Homestead, Richardson 5-8.30pm

Before the meeting began, Jenny took some of the group on a half-hour stroll along the creekbank to show them the work MOTH has been doing in revegetating the area.

Present: Jenny Horsfield (MOTH), Glenys Patulny, Anna See (CRPCG), Kathy Eyles (Mt Taylor Park Care Group), Fiona Spier (FOT), Julia Banks (FOT, POSM), Joan Goodrum (FOT, MOTH), Andrew Reichstein (Hughes/Garran ParkCare Group), Miranda Gardner (ActewAGL SWPP), Martin Lind, Steve Welch, Geoff Pryor (CROWK), Mike Morriss (MOTH), Geoff Robinson (K2C), Amanda Lutz (Restorative Justice Unit).

Apologies: Wendy Rainbird, Michael Sim, Arminel Ryan, Anne I'Ons

Previous Minutes: Geoff Pryor moved that the minutes of 2010 AGM be approved as read. Seconded by Mike Morriss.

Guest Speaker – Ian Lawrence:

Ian addressed the group about the great changes taking place in urban water catchments, changes prompted by drought and the prospect of climate change. Ian talked about three projects: the Canberra Integrated Waterways program; water-sensitive urban design; and the planned Tuggeranong Creek Rehabilitation project.

He explained that cities are increasingly moving away from the old designs of impervious stormwater pipes and concrete channels. Stormwater and grey water are now seen as resources we have to harness and use. There are now imaginative programs in place to harvest stormwater, intercept pollutants, and redesign out streetscapes and gardens to make more intelligent use of all our water resources. The real obstacles to progress and change lie not with technology but with management structures that are inflexible and often resist innovation. But governments are slowly beginning to recognize that redesigning our urban spaces must be a collaborative effort, involving community and local business groups in a cooperative partnership with government.

Ian talked briefly about the site at Tuggeranong, where a large alluvial plain, one and a half metres below the surface, used to support a large catchment of water in a bed of sand and gravel. The deep drain that was built in the 1970s, has drained out much of this underground aquifer. The Tuggeranong Creek Rehabilitation project aims to correct much of this leakage by building clay walls along the creek to seal the aquifer and allow a chain of ponds to redevelop in the old creekline. We await a government response to this plan.

In conclusion, Ian talked about the work he is doing in studying the state of health of Lake Burley Griffin by a close analysis of the water quality in the Molonglo catchment above the lake.

Chair's report: on file

Treasurer's report: on file, together with Auditor's report. Jenny moved that the treasurer's report be accepted. Seconded by Geoff Pryor.

Coordinator's report: on file

Waterwatch/Water Education officer's report: On file

Election of Office Bearers:

Chair: Glenys Patulny, nominated by Jenny H, seconded by Geoff Pryor. Elected unopposed

Treasurer: Fiona Spier, Nominated by Geoff Pryor, seconded by Glenys. Elected unopposed.

Secretary: Jenny Horsfield, nominated by Glenys, seconded by Mike Morris. Elected unopposed.

Vice Chair: Fiona Spier, nominated by Glenys, seconded by Joan Goodrum. Elected unopposed.

General Committee members:

Geoff Pryor, nominated by Glenys, seconded by Jenny. Elected unopposed.

Joan Goodrum, nominated by Jenny, seconded by Fiona. Elected unopposed

Julia Banks, nominated by Geoff, seconded by Fiona. Elected unopposed.

Steve Welch thanked Deb Kellock, in her absence, for her work on the committee last year.

Public Officer: Miranda Gardner, nominated by Andrew Reichstein, seconded by Julia Banks.

Before the meeting's conclusion, Amanda Lutz, from the Restorative Justice Unit, talked about the possibility of being involved with helping young offenders who volunteer to do work with this program.

Next Meeting: 22 November, Urambi office, 4.30 pm. Committee to arrange special pre-Xmas afternoon tea.