

Anglers Alliance  
Tasmania

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**  
**10.00 am Sunday 19 November 2023**  
**Great Lake Community Centre, Miena**

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**Present**

Gary France *Chair*, Howard Jones *Vice Chair*, Tim Munro *Executive Officer*, Phillip Charlesworth *NWFA*, Peter Coventry *Devonport Anglers*, John Butler *Devonport Anglers*, Keith Symons *Independent South*, Jonathan Wadwell *Exec Committee*, Malcolm Crosse *Exec Committee*

Guest: James Johns *Miena Village*

The meeting opened at 10:12am

**Apologies**

Mark Rockliff *Independent NW*, Wayne Bellette *Tas Fly Tyers*, Terry Byard *Exec Committee*, Chris Hilton *Tas Fly Tyers*, Adrian Hope *Tas Flyfishing Association*, Peter Wisniewski *NWFA*

**Minutes of last GM**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 August 2023 held at the Great Lake Community Centre were distributed. The meeting passed a motion that the minutes be accepted.

**Moved Phillip Charlesworth, seconded Jonathan Wadwell**

**Matters Arising**

- Peter Coventry and John Butler spoke about the need for additional fish stocks for the North West Junior angling dam, noting that their association had already spent around \$3,000 on fish. They are looking to stock 400 – 600 fish in the 800gm to 1kg range. They are prepared to contribute up to \$600 for transport costs for the fish.  
After discussion around fish size and angler expectation it was agreed that Tim Munro would establish contact with fish suppliers to see if 500 fish in this size range could be made available.

**Finance Report**

The profit and loss report and balance sheet as at 31 October 2023 had been distributed with the meeting papers. Tim Munro advised that AAT is receiving income for webcam subscriptions (\$1569 as at the reporting date) and that this figure was increasing.

The Balance sheet remains strong with Assets of \$52,312 and Liabilities of \$300.46 which relates to GST. The meeting resolved to accept the financial report.

**Moved by Malcolm Crosse and seconded by Howard Jones**

**Shallow Waters Project – Interim Report**

Howard Jones presented the Shallow Waters interim report, walking through the key findings. Whilst the report is based on data derived from research at Penstock Lagoon, it is considered that the findings relate to shallow waters generally (Little Pine Lagoon and areas of Four Springs Lake being popular examples). The project aims to discover whether angler reports of declining insect life (particularly mayfly nymphs) in shallow waters is in fact occurring and what might be contributing factors to any such decline.

Research undertaken includes sampling of insect life, drone photo-mapping of the lake bottom, chemical analysis of lake water, and a range of desktop research covering relevant topics such as angler numbers and lake level data.

The interim reports notes that there is indeed a low insect count at Penstock Lagoon and suggests angler behaviour and boating impacts along with other factors may be contributing to this. The report includes some draft suggestions for how to reduce the impacts on the habitat.

The report needs some approvals (Hydro, Ron Thresher and others) in order to be finalised, Howard Jones is to drive that process. It was agreed that plans would need to be in place to implement the report's recommendations by the end of this trout season.

Howard will co-ordinate a subcommittee to move this forward.

### **Guest Speaker: James Johns, Miena Village**

The Chair introduced James and invited him to speak to the meeting on business developments involving Miena Village.

James discussed AAT play an important role in a potential fishing event to be run in conjunction with the Royal Hobart Hospital Research Foundation. Essentially, two competitions would be run in the one event. The event would promote catch and release with anglers photographing caught fish against a 'ruler' background. Regular anglers would enter the longest fish competition, and novice or first time anglers, a mystery length competition.

James also gave the meeting an update on the Great Lake Trail, noting that there was some misinformation in the community. Although not yet approved by Hydro Tasmania, the trial is intended to feature:

- 107 km of smooth gravel 1800mm wide situated at the 1040m height around Great Lake
- Toilets (maintained by Miena Village) located every 20km along the route
- Improved access or walkers, cyclists and fishers around Great Lake.

The meeting discussed the fishing competition after James left agreeing to support the proposal and to form a working group consisting of Malcolm Crosse, Jonathan Waddell and Philip Charlesworth. (Tim is to let James know this outcome.)

### **Correspondence**

- Social Media Report

The report was discussed with committee members noting that more content involving Hydro Tasmania might be welcome. It was also explained that AAT members could submit potential content to Fiona Dewar for consideration/publication.

- **Water Management Plan**

Terry Byard's email was noted along with the frustration in progressing the discussion with NRE on the water management plan for Lakes Sorell and Crescent and the Clyde River

- **What's going on with Woods Lake**

The Hydro Tas publication outlining the development of a water management strategy for Woods to disrupt the algal bloom was noted.

### **Webcam Update**

Malcolm Crosse gave an update on progress with Webcam service contract discussions and subscriptions. AAT has already achieved around 330 subscribers to the webcam service.

Productive discussions with Rob Vernon of Indiciem Dynamics are underway regarding maintenance of the webcams. The meeting asked Malcolm to continue contract negotiations on the basis of \$65 per hour plus travel and accomodation allowances, a 72 hour response time to fix technical issues and a 1 to 2 year contract.

Potential webcam sponsors were identified:

- Lake Leake Hotel
- Miena Village
- Spot On
- Essential Fly Fisher
- Hydro Tas
- Oatlands Distillery

It was agreed that recognition on the website, advertising links and banners should be made available to webcam sponsors. Web Manager, Sam Shelley will be invited to future AAT meetings to discuss this.

### **General Business**

**Next General Meeting Date Sunday 18 February 2024 Great Lake Community Centre.**

**Future meetings: 19 May 2024, 18 August 2024**

Meeting closed 2:07

# Appendix I

Growth of followers		May 2022	August 2022	May 2023	Aug 2023	Nov 2023
	Facebook	2,671	2,766	2,865	2,931	2,999
	Instagram <small>(started 19/3/2022)</small>	66	85	125	132	128

Total of 50.5 hours dedicated to AAT social media related activities from March 2022 – October 2023

During this period a lot of time was spent monitoring and responding to comments on the webcam subscription post.

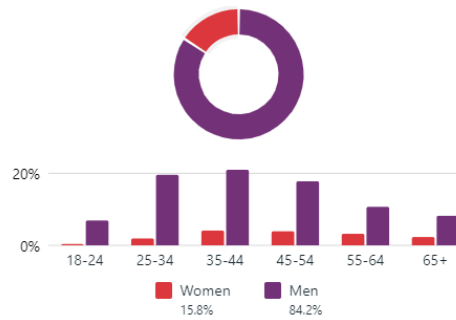
### Topics, and spread of posts across topics

AAT General Promo	4	Delicate Shallow Lakes	2	Webcams	20	Use of Rural Water in our Rivers		Junior Fishing Program	4
Economic Value of Freshwater Fishing	1	River Health	2	FHIF	1	General Fishing	2	Community	4
IFS Shared News	26	Health & Wellbeing		Relationships & Collaborations	1	Other Club's Stories	1	Education	
Fishing as a Sport		Facilities & Amenities	2	Hall of Fame	3	MAST Shared Article	2	Hydro Shared Article	1

### Audience Demographic

#### Facebook

Age & gender ⓘ

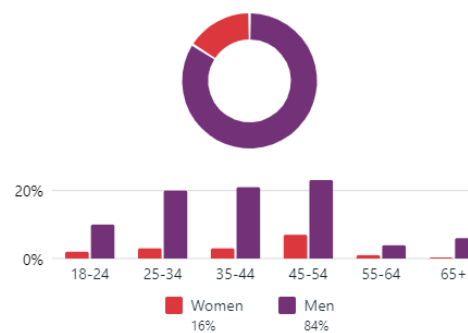


#### Top towns/cities

Melbourne: 8.5%  
 Launceston: 7.2%  
 Hobart: 5%  
 Devonport: 4%  
 Ulverston: 2.2%  
 New Norfolk: 1.9%  
 Latrobe: 1.8%  
 Sydney: 1.7%  
 Perth: 1.3%  
 Burnie: 1.5%  
 Australia: 97.6%

#### Instagram

Age & gender ⓘ



#### Top towns/cities

Melbourne: 16.4%  
 George Town: 3.1%  
 Latrobe: 3.1%  
 Perth, Tas: 2.3%  
 Sydney: 2.3%  
 Australia: 92.2%