



Anglican Youth Department Diocese of Sydney Ski Lodge Limited

Trading as Southern Cross Alpine Lodge – Celebrating over 62 years of Christian ministry 1963-2025

Southern Cross Alpine Lodge – Annual General Meeting Minutes

Held: Saturday 24th May 2025 3pm

**Venue: Sydney Anglican Diocesan Hub, St Andrew’s House, Sydney Square
and by “Zoom” Conferencing.**

1. Graham Morrison opened the meeting at 3:03 p.m. and welcomed those present and online. A special welcome to Craig Roberts CEO Anglican Youthworks being present at the AGM today.

2. Apologies and Declaration of Proxies

- a. Apologies Read
- b. Proxies tabled

3. Motions:

The following motions were tabled and approved by all.

1. That at this Annual General Meeting (AGM), if a poll is called for any vote, or if there needs to be a vote for election of directors, then such poll or vote shall be conducted in the manner that the meeting Chair shall determine and describe.
2. That Ann Collins be appointed as Minutes Secretary for this AGM.
3. That the Minutes of this AGM be adopted at a subsequent meeting of directors.
4. That the [Minutes of the 2024 AGM \(click on this link\) are noted](#).

4. DIRECTORS REPORT – Graham Morrison

- a. Refer to [Directors' Report for 2024 as circulated](#) and read out by Graham.
- b. Additions to this report: 40 emails were sent to local members of councils etc. to provide opportunity to come along to the first Service of the year at the Alpine Church. Prayer requested for this Service on Sunday 7th June 2025.
- c. Motion: The Director’s report was accepted by all.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT – Brian Gaetjens

- a. Refer to [audited Financial Report for year ended 31 Dec 2024](#).
- b. Question asked regarding current liabilities and non-current liabilities:
 - i. Current = accommodation paid in advance
 - ii. Non-current is for known upcoming expenses
- c. If any questions - please send secretary an email which Brian would be happy to answer – providing openness and transparency.
- d. Graham thanked Brian for the financial report and his ongoing work.
- e. Motion to receive Financial Report: Moved: Tom Tresseder, Jonathan Wood seconder; All in favour.

6. Election of the Auditor – Stewart Vella

- a. RJW Associates recommended by Directors as 2025 Auditors.
- b. Stewart Vella and Brian Gaetjens seconded – All in favour.

7. Election of Directors

- a. Current status is our 3 Youthworks Directors are Graham Morrison, Brian Gaetjens and Ann Collins. Graham Morrison is retiring at this AGM after 42 years of service. See item 14.
- b. The 4 member elected directors are Stewart Vella and Chris Hinchcliffe, with 2 vacancies. Jeremy Freeman has recently stood down and was thanked for his contributions over the years.
- c. 1 Nomination for Director has been received from Jen Morrison). Jen was unanimously accepted by the meeting, and welcomed as a Director to Southern Cross Alpine Lodge.
- d. Please email Ann Collins if you would like to be considered as a director as we still have vacancies.

8. Maintenance completed and planned – Chris Hinchcliffe

- a. Chris presented a slideshow showing some of the completed tasks at various working bees.
- b. Hoping to enhance the Partnership with village church in Jindabyne; Working bee / retreat also held with youth group from ACT church.
- c. April Working Bee – Thank you to all the people involved in the lodge, especially to all those who contributed to the working bee.
- d. We have some ideas for improvements including oven review/replace and carpet stair replacement. Please let us know your thoughts and ideas.
- e. Graham thanked Chris for his enthusiastic work.

9. Staff for 2025 – Ann Collins

- a. Hosts, Chefs and cleaners are organised until end August 2025. Thank you to those who will be hosting.
- b. Hosts/chef meeting will be arranged soon. Ann will reach out to those involved.
- c. Graham thanked Ann.

10. 2025 Winter/Spring Snow season Bookings update – Brian Gaetjens

- a. Vacancies shown on the website are kept very up to date.
- b. Sadly late August and September showing low bookings so far.
- c. Bookings are lower since 2022 which was a great season. So far for this year of \$150k which is lower by about \$50k.
- d. Hopefully with good snow = more people booking. We are very “linked” to the Vail Epic Australia Pass system and as Directors will discuss ways to leverage this.
- e. Graham thanked Brian for the huge amount of work associated with the bookings.



- f. Question – Tom. Is there somebody who has the job of promotion the lodge in the Christian circles?
 - i. There is a vacancy for a marketing individual on the board. 😊
 - ii. Website is very functional but not attractive, lots who find us by the internet are either people who have been at the lodge or by searches.
 - iii. Current paid advertising is in the Sydney Diocese magazine (Southern Cross).
 - iv. Reliance is on word of mouth and within the church communities.
 - v. Looking to build on Youthworks relationship, and links to churches. Also Canberra Diocese.
- g. Question - \$150k in bookings: where are we normally at this stage if we are looking at the last year and this season?
 - i. Approximately running at \$170-\$175k. Bookings are running lower due to poor season last year. Also, people are starting to go to Japan as a reliable snow & cost-effective option with children in Christmas /Jan period. All lodges are facing this problem.
- h. Question – Do we have a strategy to connect with Christian schools?
 - i. We have a school that books each year and another showing interest. They need to look at non-peak periods so as not to displace members. NB: The snow season is shrinking – we need schools interested in walks and other uses as well as skiing.

11. Perisher Ministry update – Graham Morrison

- a. Graham commented that the Chaplain jacket helps within this ministry – providing opportunities to speak to others on the mountain.
- b. Lloyd Bennett is currently ill at the moment and would appreciate our prayers.
- c. People like having a chaplain around. Story about the Freedom chair, saw Graham and asked if he took funerals, good mate of his and he wanted a church funeral - which can be a great opportunity for the gospel.
- d. Margie starting to put together roster for 2025 services. She is keen to encourage new women to do some leading of the services from local Jindabyne people.
- e. Baptisms and funerals happening more regularly by people who live in the valley.
- f. Privilege to serve in this way.
- g. 300 people on social media for the Alpine Church.

12. Member and non-member survey – Stewart Vella

- a. Presentation shown by Stuart Vella summarizing some of the key learnings from the survey to members.
- b. Brian commented on out of winter/spring snow season usage:



- i. Outside of July and August, we welcome anyone who wants to get a group together.
- ii. The lodge is there to be used for ministry. In 2024, total Income was \$206,000, of which \$68,000 was outside of the snow season.

13. Other Business

- a. None raised.

14. Reflections of the past 42 years – Graham Morrison

- a. Graham read out his reflections – also now available on the website.
- b. Craig Roberts, CEO Youthworks spoke in recognition of Graham and his time as Chair of Southern Cross Alpine Lodge.
 - i. This doesn't happen by accident, met Mr. Morrison earlier as a student first. This started in 1982, and went through to meet the Lord.
 - ii. Fast forward to the position of CEO, got a file on SCAL. This doesn't happen by accident to be involved in SCAL.
 - iii. From Youthworks, thanks from the Chairman and Board, SCAL is run well and this doesn't happen by accident. Thank you!
 - iv. Hebrews 11 – heroes of faith. Chapter 12 v1-3 – *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”*
 - v. On behalf of Youthworks Council, thanks for not growing weary or losing heart. We are grateful for Graham and the lodge – for reflecting the glory of your Saviour.
 - vi. Graham thanked Craig for kind words.
 - vii. Card and Gift presented by Ann Collins to Graham on behalf of the members of SCAL. Thank you to members who completed the e-card.

15. Prayer for the season

Tom Treseder closed in prayer.

- i. Thank you all for the charter of the forebears and from Tom's family point of view.
- ii. Where is Jesus now? Where is he in the snowfields? He is with us in the glory.
- iii. Jesus is shining through you and me.

Meeting closed at 4:46 pm.

Following the close of this AGM, members were welcomed to join the directors for a light supper to celebrate the contributions of Graham Morrison to Southern Cross Alpine Lodge.



Attendees:

Attendees:	Zoom Attendees:	Apologies:
Brian Gaetjens	Mike & *Esther Kirkpatrick	Liz Love
Julie Gaetjens	Neville Lynch	Nick Bell
Ann Collins	Fran & Steve Smith	Sean Buckley
Kathryn Harwood	Naomi Spencer	Paul & Angela Slimmons
Elle Byrne	Hugh & Ann Hollier	Debbie & Mark Jarman
John Hain	Kevin Collins	Paul & Ros Sampson
Mike Gardner	Jan Coggins	John Knight
Margaret Gardner	Jonathan & Lynette Wood	Meriel Treseder
Tom Treseder	Elena Mantz	Karina Taggart
John Cross	David Llewely	Gordon McOrist
*Robin Cross	Michael McGarity	Steve & Jenny Thompson
Graham Morrison	John Knight	Peter & Alison Matthews
*Margie Heath	Phil Heyne	Andrew Morrison
Chris Hinchcliffe		
Jeremy Freeman		
Stewart Vella		
John Whittingham		
*Craig Roberts - Youthworks		
*Matthew McOrist		
*Sue McOrist		
Jen Morrison		
*non-members		

Proxy	Held by:
John Knight	Graham Morrison
Paul & Ros Sampson	Graham Morrison
John & Louise Baxter	Graham Morrison
John Knight	Graham Morrison