

**Draft Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting of the Canberra  
Ornithologists Group**

**11 November 2015, Canberra Girls Grammar School**

The meeting opened at 7.35pm, and was chaired by the President, Alison Russell-French.

**Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting**

Alan Thomas moved that the minutes be accepted. Seconded: Neil Hermes

**Apologies**

Jenny Bounds, Julian Robinson, Terry Monroe

**Steve Wilson Medal**

Chris Davey and Barbara Allen were individually awarded the Steve Wilson medal

**President's Report**

A copy of the report is attached. In summary:

Alison thanked the 2014-2015 committee, and those members who provide ongoing service to COG's regular activities.

Membership stands at 273, with 73 new members joining this year, and a number of members leaving the Group.

COG received special recognition throughout 2015 through the following awards

Keep Australia Beautiful – Sustainable Cities Award

ACT Conservation Council Category of "Making a Significant Contribution to Protecting the Environment"

Conservation. Jenny Bounds and other committee members provided input on a number of conservation issues.

Woodland and Wetlands Trust. COG provided financial and on-the-ground support for the re-introduction of Bush Stone-curlews at Mulligans Flat.

COG's program of surveys continued throughout the year, with Gang-gang monitoring added to the survey activities. The COG members providing records management support to survey activities continued their valuable activities.

The COG website launched in early 2014 continues to attract increasing usage. Julian Robinson was thanked for his ongoing efforts in maintaining the website.

Consideration of the future directions for the COG database was initiated with a workshop of about 20 COG members with particular interest and expertise in the COG databases. This work will need to be continued in 2016.

The field trips program was busy, with weekend, mid-week, and pelagic outings.

COG's publications Gang-gang and Canberra Bird Notes continue to be produced.

Jack Holland has continued to provide interesting speakers for the COG monthly meetings.

The Canberra Birds Conservation Fund provided funds to a project on the Pacific Koel for a second year.

Alison Russell-French then moved that the President's report be accepted. Seconded: Lia Battisson

#### **Financial reports**

Lia Battisson presented the audited financial reports.

Lia Battisson moved that the financial reports be accepted. Seconded: Alan Thomas

#### **Appointment of auditor for the next financial year**

Lia Battisson moved that Rod Griffiths be appointed auditor for the 2014-2015 financial year. Seconded: Jack Holland

#### **Election of office bearers for 2015-2016**

Jack Holland acted as returning officers, and the following were elected unopposed:

**President:** Alison Russell-French

**Vice-President:** Neil Hermes

**Secretary:** vacant

**Treasurer:** Lia Battisson

**Ordinary committee members:** Chris Davey, Jenny Bounds, Bruce Lindenmayer, Sue Lashko, Julie McGuiness, Paul Fennell, David McDonald

#### **Other matters for which notice has been given**

#### **Special Business: Revision of the Rules of the Association (The "Constitution")**

The following motion was moved, seconded and resolved.

'That the Association alter its rules as per the revised rules that have been made available to members'.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm