

Secretary's Report for AGM 2024

This is the start of my 4th year as Secretary, a role I continue to enjoy so I thank you for the opportunity to do this.

Membership update

Membership for 2024 for renewals and new members opened December 4th 2023.

No of new members: 145

Current membership: 988

We purchased a square to give members the option of paying by card in the office and this proved to be quite popular with many members using this option. This also reduced the manual work to update our membership database.

We advertised in the local newspapers for new members and tutors but most of our new members came from referrals of current members so please continue to let your friends and family know about our organisation.

Following on from our last AGM where members thought it would be a good idea to purchase a defibrillator, I am pleased to let you know that with assistance and recommendation from Terry McCallum we have now purchased a Mindray Bene-Heart semi- automatic defibrillator from Royal Life Saving NSW for \$1,860. Terry is also assisting us in providing training for our tutors/volunteers and we are now in the process of setting this up. A big thank you to Terry for all his help.

To say thank you to our tutors and volunteers a Christmas theme lunch was organised at St Marys Band Club on December 1st . The event was well attended by tutors, volunteers, committee members and their partners. Certificate of appreciation were handed out to tutors for 5, 10 and 15 years of service. From the feedback we received everyone had a good time. We will host a lunch this year as well.

Tickets for the Seniors concert was obtained this year and those who attended said this was an enjoyable event.

You will be happy to know that we will start organising bus trips to various locations, an activity that was well attended prior to Covid. Chris Bolton and Judy McCabe will organise these trips and we have received a good response from our first notice in the newsletter.

I think everyone enjoys our monthly newsletter and apart from the necessary admin items, the President's message and members contributions get better every month so thank you to all who take the time to contribute their stories, poems etc. and special thanks to Rosemary and Stewart MacPherson, editors of our newsletter.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge and say a big thank you to all the office volunteers who give so much of their time to assist in the office and help with the admin work. We are

always looking for new volunteers so if you are interested, please contact me or Ruth Todd, Office Manager. I would also like to thank the other members of our committee, who have been there throughout all the ups and downs in the running of an organisation such as this.

Thank You
Micky Marks