

Northcliffe CRC 2017/18 AGM

Tuesday evening, 30th October 2018, Northcliffe CRCs 2017/18 AGM was held. We had 14 members present and 26 proxies were submitted. By the end of the meeting we had a committee of 10, and had passed Rule changes which should allow us to comply with the Associations Act 2015.

It was the rule changes which took up the bulk of the AGM and. Members had a thorough discussion of two changes:

- What % of members are needed to force a special General Meeting should this be against the wishes of the committee? The final vote was for 15% - halfway between the positions advocated at the extremes by members.
- Which CRC documents should be able to be withheld from scrutiny by ordinary members of the CRC, to protect privacy, commercial or other legitimate interests?

In the end the members agreed to see if we can address some of the good points raised in this second debate with further constitutional amendments next year.

Thanks to those who attended and participated in this excellent discussion amongst members.

With 137 members on the roster, a full committee of 10 volunteers, and our funding future looking secure, times are good for the NCRC.

Lest that all sound too rosy, here is a more sobering excerpt from our Treasurer's Report:

In 2017/18, after the election, the CRC was looking at a massive cut in services according to the governments stated policy, which they have now backed down on.

However we do need to bear in mind that we were actually under significant funding pressure under the old system, even before they planned on cutting it. The funding pressure we are continuing to experience is mainly due to legislated wage rises from the National Annual Wage Decision (trending at about 3% per year) and the Equal Remuneration Order (we have another 2 annual wage rises to pay based on this order, which are both around 3%). These changes effect all workers on the SCHADS Award. The CRC continues to examine our options in terms of lobbying for better funding indexation and examining whether we can move to a more flexible employment instrument. Neither of these two possibilities will be easily realised.

So far the CRC's way of tackling these cost increases has been to slightly cut staff hours each year. These staffing cuts have been well disguised this year due to fact we have taken on a second trainee. So, we have in fact had a net staffing increase.

However in coming years CRC users may begin to see the impact of this slow erosion in spending power, unless the CRC can successfully raise more money from the services it provides. This is probably the most viable way to address our ongoing funding problems.

Read all the AGM reports here:
northcliffe.org.au/ncrc.html#agm

Youth Sponsorship Awards Made

We would like to thank all the Northcliffe kids who submitted applications to the CRC's 2018 Youth Sponsorship round. While we were not able to fund all applications we did fund 3 excellent projects:

- * Matthew Backhouse (submitting for a team, including Jackson, Gareth and Ben), was supported to launch the computer game *Rolly's Adventure* to the world.

\$150 (approx) seed funding will allow *Rolly's Adventure* to be made available on the Steam gaming platform. We will also provide support for the team to run a game competition and launch event at the CRC.

This team created *Rolly's Adventure* as part of their computer science studies at Northcliffe DHS. The application was helped along by a letter of support from Matthew's teacher and by the fact our CRC Manager had a chance to play the game itself. It was a lot of fun!

The NCRC will be gifted copies of the game to install on our machines. Watch this space for details about the game launch event, including a competition where the winner will collect the most tokens in a set time.

Thanks Matthew and team for taking on this unique and

ambitious project.

- * Patricia Mwansa was supported with \$300 to buy supplies for starting a business she is planning called "Blinged up Brow Bands". The brow bands are for horses. Patricia is setting out to make an occupation for herself out of something she really enjoys doing. We look forward to seeing what she comes up with.
- * Georgia Clifford was given \$500 towards purchasing a new camera and photo mounting supplies, and will be provided \$280 of photo printing. All this will allow her to mount an exhibition at Blooming Wild 2019. Georgia has already won numerous awards for her photography, and part of the funds for her new camera are coming from the proceeds of sales of her own photographs.

Thanks to all those kids who took the initiative to apply. We would have liked to have funded you all!

The Northcliffe CRC Youth Sponsorship program is a unique opportunity that kids in other towns don't get. Our committee is really proud of this initiative and the opportunity to support local kids to explore their projects, hobbies, dreams, ideas and talents.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10 am to 5 pm • Thursday 10 am to 6 pm • Friday 9 am to 6 pm