



ACN: 099 357 454

Notice of the 22nd Annual General Meeting

6 pm Wednesday 15th November 2023 at Uralla Community Centre, Hill St Uralla

Please RSVP to mail@snelandcare.org.au or 6772 9123

by Monday 13th November 2023 for catering purposes

Our **vision** is for vibrant, socially, and economically healthy communities, thriving in healthy, biodiverse, and productive environments.

Our **mission** is to lead, connect and enable our communities to reach their sustainability goals in a changing environment.

Strategic objectives

1. Build and service our networks.
2. Enable innovative, regenerative initiatives for natural resources, agriculture, environment, and communities.
3. Build and maintain staff and board capacity.
4. Provide financial security for our organization.

Agenda

Time	Item
6:00	1 Apologies, Minutes of the previous meeting
6:05	2 President's Report
6:15	3 Financial Report
6:25	4 Setting Membership Subs
6:30	5 Election of Directors and Office Bearers
6.40	6 Around Our Groups
7.10	Supper
7.45	7 Presentation – Ray South on Syntropic Agriculture
8:15	8 2023 Award Announcements
8.30	Close

Our mission is to lead, connect and enable our communities to achieve their sustainability goals.

AGM Business Papers

Item 1: Welcome, Apologies, Minutes of previous meeting

Acknowledgement of country.

Apologies.

Minutes of previous meeting – will be taken as read.

Draft resolution: Members resolved that the minutes of the meeting held 16th November 2021 AGM are a true and accurate record.

Moved: Seconded:

Item 2: President's Report

To be presented by Bill Perrottet.

Item 3: Financial Report

The Audited Financial Statements will be tabled for presentation at the meeting.

Individual group funds reports will be available to group Representatives at the meeting.

Draft resolution: Members resolved to accept the audited financial statements for year ending 30 June 2023.

Moved: Seconded:

Appointment of auditors.

Draft resolution: Members resolved to retain Roberts and Morrow Auditors as Southern New England Landcare Ltd's auditors for 2023/2024 financial year.

Moved: Seconded:

Item 4: Setting of membership subs

Memberships are currently \$110 for Corporate Members and \$0 for Individuals.

Draft resolution: Members resolved to set annual membership subscriptions as follows:

Corporate - \$110 inc GST

Individuals – free.

Moved: Seconded:

Item 5: Election of Directors and Office Bearers

The constitution of Southern New England Landcare Ltd lays down procedures that must be followed for the AGM. Invitations to nominate were sent to group representatives in October.

Each Landcare or similar group in the Southern New England is eligible to become a member of Southern New England Landcare Ltd. To be a current member a group must have nominated a person or persons to represent their group. Only current nominated representatives will be eligible to vote at the AGM.

Procedure

Any group representative who is a member of Southern New England Landcare Ltd, whose nomination was received by the Secretary of Southern New England Landcare Ltd by the due date, will be eligible to be elected to the Board of Directors, and then to any position of office for which they have nominated.

Where the number of nominations received is greater than the number of vacancies, an election will be held by written ballot. The votes will be counted by an appointee of each of the contestants.

Should there be less than ten nominations for the positions of Directors, then vacancies may be filled by calling for nominations from the floor.

Should any position of Office Bearer have no nomination received by the due date then nominations for this position may be called from the Board of Directors at the AGM.

Should any position of Director or Office bearer remain vacant after the AGM, the Board may accept nominations at any time to fill these positions.

The Chair will be vacated and a nominated person will run the election of office bearers.

Item 6: Around Our Groups

Each Landcare group representative has 2-3 minutes to present on what's been happening in their group/area or what might be coming up shortly.

Item 7: Guest Speaker Ray South - An Introduction to Syntropic Agriculture

Ray South was the 2020 winner of the John Winter-Irving Bequest. He used the award funds to do an eight-day residential course in syntropic agriculture and is currently experimenting with these methods along with the co-owner of Banded Bee Farm, Jane Pickard.

Syntropic agriculture is a system of agroforestry which attempts to mimic a forest in structure and function in both space and time. It was developed by Ernst Götsch, a Swiss scientist turned farmer who eventually settled in Brazil. Photosynthesis is maximised by having plants that occupy as many layers or strata as the local environment allows. Many of the plants in the system are support species providing services such as nitrogen fixing, shade and/or frost protection and in situ mulch. Disturbance through pruning encourages growth pulses throughout the system. The ideas of syntropic agriculture can be applied to the vegetable garden, fruit and nut production, silvopasture, or shelter belts and so on.

Item 8: 2023 Award Announcements

1. 2023 Coordinator's Choice Award announcement

Each year, the staff at Southern New England Landcare nominate someone they think deserves some recognition for the assistance they provide to the team as a volunteer throughout the year.

2. 2023 John Winter Irving Memorial Bequest announcement

The Board of Southern New England Landcare Ltd is honoured that the Winter-Irving family continues to make available a bequest to allow John's unflinching commitment to Landcare to be continued.

The bequest is to be used as a study grant in an activity of the recipient's choosing, in the field of sustainable agriculture, natural resource management, rural or regional development or leadership.

The Board of Southern New England Landcare Ltd shall in November of each year identify a member or partner who has shown skills, interest, and commitment in one or more of the following areas – sustainable agriculture, natural resource management, rural development, or leadership – and in the view of the Board has the potential for further development with the assistance of this bequest.

In recognition of John's quiet, unassuming manner the Bequest is not openly advertised, but instead is merit based – a case of where actions really do speak louder than words.

The recipient shall have 12 months in which to utilize the bequest. The recipient will as part of the acceptance of the bequest agree to provide a short article for inclusion in Landchat and give a short presentation to a SNEL meeting within 6 months of completing the training.