

Minutes

Meeting of the AEVA Tas Branch
Glenorchy Showgrounds, 22/09/2021 19:01

Attendance

AEVA Members

Christopher Walkden (Secretary), Ray Johnston, Charles Gregory (Vice Chair), Penny Cocker (Chair), Clive Attwater (Treasurer), Penny Wadsley, Michael Wadsley, Rosemary Grant, Bruce Hocking, John Casimaty, Doro Forck, Richard Upton, Midj Jones, Shayn Harkness, Julie Hargreaves, Scott Ashton, Steven Honson, Frank Leibfried, Elizabeth Ferrara, Adwait Kale

Guests (please excuse errors, some are difficult to identify due to Zoom alias or handwriting!)

John Lennox, Sushila Desai

Apologies

Helen Hutchinson, Ron Andersen, Warren Boyles, John Fast, Darren Briggs

Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting

Moved by Ray Johnston, seconded by Michael Wadsley that the minutes of the previous meeting (available [here](#)) be accepted as an accurate record; carried.

Correspondence in/out

From Andi Lucas, Support Event Manager for the [Australian Industrial Hemp Conference](#):

As discussed, we are very keen to ensure that we have a demo model of the BMW i3 at the third biennial Australian Industrial Hemp Conference in Launceston next March, and while Launceston BMW has offered to support our event, they can't 100% guarantee supply of a vehicle next year due to various supply chain challenges.

If one of your members who owns this model was willing to allow us to display the car for one key evening of the event at the Launceston Country Club - Wednesday 23rd March 2022 - we would be most grateful. We would also love for both the cars' owner and/or a representative of the AEVA to attend as our guests to the catered event that night to enjoy our hospitality and to answer any questions folks might have about this vehicle specifically and electric cars more generally.

Once that aspect is determined, and with fingers crossed all is do-able, I would love to be able to promote your association with our event via our various social media platforms and advertising channels. A typical post would look something like the example below. If your board are able to give me a 'yay' or 'nay' decision on that aspect too that would be great.

If you have an i3 and/or would like to be involved, please contact the secretary.

General Business

Treasurer's Report

Balance at last meeting (EOFY): **\$3,430.38**

Since the last meeting -

Payments made:

 RAST, meeting room **\$75.00**

Income received:

 Trade display income **\$50.00**

 EV tags **\$103.00**

The current balance is **\$3,508.38**

Moved by Clive Attwater, seconded by John Lennox that the report be received; carried.

Licence Plate Tags

'Blue triangle' licence plate tags are required by [legislation](#) for all electric vehicles manufactured after January 1 2019. AEVA Tas branch now has stock, you can buy them online [here](#). Thanks to Lance Turner who has offered to post them out!

The kit includes metal triangles, stickers and rivets. Although it might be tempting to apply the sticker directly to the licence plate, it is a requirement of the legislation that the metal tag is used. The metal triangle is more likely to last through a fire or impact, helping emergency services personnel to identify the vehicle as an EV. [Click here](#) for instructions on attaching the tags to your licence plates.

News

- Member John Harders has written an article on how you can carry a spare tyre in the boot of a Hyundai Kona Electric. Read it online [here](#), thanks to John Casimaty who posted it to the website.
- The Ioniq 5 will be on sale from October 12th. Only 400 vehicles are being sold in Australia at the moment, with a price of about \$70k. It seems likely that these vehicles will sell out immediately.
- The Kia e-Niro is now being delivered, several have been spotted.
- There is a new Hyundai Kona Electric model, a shorter range (and therefore cheaper) vehicle.
- The Good Car Company is now importing a 40 kWh Nissan van for about \$70k. It can be configured for 2, 5 or 7 passengers.
- The Tesla Model 3 price has been reduced to below \$60k.
- The Tesla Model Y has passed Australian Standards, and so is one step closer to being sold in Australia. In other markets the price is typically 10-12% higher than the Model 3 price.
- The BMW iX3 plays a star role in the new Marvel movie Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings.
- A Tesla Model 3 has won the Targa West 130 rally. The car is charged en-route within the 1000 km race by a modified Kona and several generators. The generators are run from bio-diesel for an extra green tint. Read about it in [this article](#) from The Driven.

Tasmanian Chargers

- The Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) is providing \$16.5m to fund fast charging in metropolitan areas, including greater Hobart (*the first round of the Future Fuels Fund*). The Hobart grant was for \$400k. Applications were invited from operators to install charging sites, and it was stated that one operator would be chosen to install all the Hobart sites.

It has now been announced that *two* operators were chosen to receive the grant. This means that all of both operators' sites will be funded.

The two operators chosen are EHT and Evie. In total 10 sites will be funded, each with the facilities to charge at least two vehicles at 50 kW simultaneously.

The sites nominated by EHT are Sorell, Eastlands, Northgate, Wrest Point and Kingston.



Some of the Evie sites are in the same suburbs as the EHT sites, meaning greater choice in those areas. The exact sites for both companies are in various states of negotiation, and may change, although the terms of the grant state that they must be within a few kilometres of the site stated on the grant.

- The state government has created the 2021 [ChargeSmart Grants Program](#) with \$600k to encourage charging sites in regional areas:
 - The grant is for AC and DC chargers, and the application process closed on 10th of September. This grant is not for just one operator, each site is selected on its individual merits.
 - EHT made a submission to install some chargers, and is also the company nominated to install chargers for submissions from some other entities (e.g. local councils). In total about 30 sites have been submitted to the grant.
 - The DC charger part of the grant was for 50 kW minimum. EHT has argued in their submission that 25 kW DC chargers should be considered. A 25 kW charging site will typically have a significant cost saving over a 50 kW site, the hardware costs less and a 25 kW feed is low enough that it can often be taken from an existing switchboard. Some remote sites will receive so little traffic that they will struggle to be profitable, and so a lower cost per site means that more sites could be installed.
 - Announcements for this grant could be as early as November, however this is not certain.
 - Once announced the hardware needs to be ordered, and lead times for this type of equipment are extending out to 20 or 30 weeks. This is partly due to shipping problems, and partly due to the high demand worldwide for EV charging equipment.

Launceston Conversions Group

This is a Launceston-based group of AEVA members and non-members interested in converting vehicles to electric. Please contact the secretary if you'd like to be involved, you'll be added to the email list.

Nothing to report.

Hobart Conversions Group

This is a Hobart-based group of AEVA members and non-members interested in converting vehicles to electric. Please contact the secretary if you'd like to be involved, you'll be added to the email list.

This report from Ricky Barrett:

Tane's BMW, while losing a bit of momentum is on the uptake again with a major order for Tesla model s packs being placed with a company in the USA any day now, Tane has also had delivery of other major components such as motor, controller DC/DC converter and charger.

Rowena has moved her ute to a new location with better access to tools for manufacturing and has also joined the USA battery order.

Jay has taken delivery of a Porsche 924 Coupe that was ripe for conversion and has been thoroughly engaged in the process of working out what/how the best way to get the conversion underway and the task of rust removal/body work. All being well and good hopefully we'll see 3 new converted EV's turning heads around Hobart soon!!

EV Owners' Kit

John Fast knew that he could not attend the meeting, and wrote these comments to discuss:

There was something I wanted to bring up though and not sure where this should sit though as I believe it is probably best at the national level. Recently the charger at CT was blocked for 2hrs by someone new an organisation who didn't either know or didn't inform their staff on the differences in EV's to ICE vehicles and to the etiquette particularly at chargers(DC).

I think there needs to be some type of education as they would be classed as mass market and they didn't know. Either work with the charging companies and get a simple A4 sized sticker type thing to apply to the front of the charger with a few dot points on charger etiquette or have some type of limit on the time able to be connected say 1hr at most to a DC fast charger of 50kW or greater, though that won't stop the charger getting blocked. This will happen more and more and there needs to be some type of education but not sure where to apply it but it needs a global view rather than state view why I thought the federal AEVA is maybe best suited to investigate this but it needs to be done quickly I would say not a 2yr review or there will be a lot of hatred by the early adopters/innovators who know this to the mass market who are just coming on board with EVs.

A friend I work with recently bought a Tesla M3 LR and he had no idea about charging or charging etiquette or the Apps that are useful so I had to send him an email with everything I knew about it as he is very much the mass market and I suspect he's not the only one, it was just lucky that I had the information as there could be a number of new EV owners who say bought a Tesla purely as they heard how good they were and have no knowledge of charging or apps or terminology used. Do we need to work with the various state road training authorities on updating the driver training materials perhaps or information on sites like say platesplus in Tassie and the equivalent in the other states. It would be the same information though between states why I thought federal AEVA group could come out with something.

This type of information is exactly what we need as part of the proposed EV Owners' Kit. Such a kit could be distributed via dealer networks, handed out at open days, posted on the website etc. There are various resources available, but it needs someone to take it on and make it into a coherent whole. If you would like to work on this project please contact the secretary.

National AEVA

- The South Australian conference has been cancelled. The AGM has not yet been announced, but will be held over Zoom.
The question was asked, would this affect the progression of the AGM/conference from state to stage – i.e. would South Australia hold one next year, or would it go to the next state/territory? Although nobody in the room was certain, it seems likely that the 2022 event will go to the ACT as planned, and SA will be ‘skipped’. Partly because SA is still planning to hold a local event this year, and partly because the ACT has been planning their event for some time already.
The progression is SA, ACT, WA (2023, the 50th anniversary), Tas. Unless the Northern Territory forms a branch!
- The national website working group has been investigating paid advertising for the organisation. There have been a number of requests recently for a ‘For Sale’ section. For instance we might have a free classified ad for members, and charge money for the service for non-members. This idea will be put to National Council shortly for consideration.

Reports on Events

- August 23rd was the National Webinar on battery repair, re-purpose and re-cycling. You can view the recording [here](#).
- September 18th, Clarence Climate Action Community Expo. See pictures and a report by Michael Wadsley on the website [here](#).
 - The weather was typical for this time of the year, with showers and a cold wind driving people inside. Therefore the AEVA had two spots, outside with the vehicles and inside with an information booth. About 300 patrons attended.
 - Two vans were on display which garnered a lot of interest. One was fitted out as a camper, but with a 100 km range it would make an interesting trip!
 - Michael suggested that perhaps something could be written to cater for the question ‘how long does it take to charge’, for people who haven’t thought about this question before.
 - Midj apparently roamed the event, kidnapping people to take them for rides in her BMW i3.
 - Thanks to the volunteers who came to help!

Planning for Upcoming Events

- October 7th & 8th – [Launceston Show](#) has been cancelled.
- October 9th – [Sustainable Living Festival](#) in Launceston
AEVA has a space for about 13 vehicles at this event. Please consider if you can come along to help, as there should be plenty of interest with the sustainability crowd. It looks like it will be possible to have vehicles arrive and leave during the day, although there is no scope for rides. Please let the secretary know if you can attend.
- October 20th - 23rd – [Royal Hobart Show](#).
The Hobart Show Society has offered a fairly large site for about \$1000. Due to COVID they have fewer exhibitors than usual, so are offering local organisations quite good rates. The site is next to the vintage cars, at the end of the grandstand. There is a map on page 13 of the [prospectus](#).
 - There is enough room in the space to erect our marquee (8x4m) and display a variety of vehicles.
 - The Wednesday and Saturday are short days, with the Thursday and Friday going into the night. We can move vehicles to and from the site after hours, they don’t have to stay there the whole four days.
 - The price would include a certain number of tickets for volunteers.
 - We need to apply by early next week (Monday 27th September).

Several people offered to help, and it was decided that it should be attempted. This needs a coordinator though, and nobody has yet volunteered for that role. It was decided that we should seek a coordinator via an email plea to members, and if one was found then the event will go ahead.
If you can volunteer your time and/or vehicle for this event please contact the secretary. Especially if you could do the coordination!

Meeting Dates

Christopher Walkden noted that with only one Zoom licence, and most branches now using Zoom for their meetings, it is important that we don't clash meeting dates with other branches. Our branch meetings are currently scheduled every 8th week, which is different to the other branches, which are typically scheduled monthly, for example the 3rd Wednesday of the month. This means that our meetings sometimes clash with the SA and QLD branch meetings.

Christopher and Penny Cocker discussed this and came up with the 4th Wednesday in every 2nd month, to start on January 26th 2022. The dates for 2022 are therefore 26/01, 23/03, 25/05, 27/07, 28/09, 23/11. As always, head to the [Tas branch page](#) for a list of all meetings and other events.

Presentations

Our guest speakers were Elizabeth Ferrara, Communications & Sales Coordinator and Adwait Kale, Business Development Manager of Ebusco in Australia.

The presenters provided their materials for distribution, and we also made a recording of the presentation. For both of these please head to the event page on the AEVA website [here](#).

Meeting closed 20:34

Next meeting: 19:00 November 24th in Devonport. Please contact the secretary if you have a good idea for a venue or a guest speaker in Devonport.
See our [website](#) for a full list of meeting dates and locations.

Text written in italics was added by the Secretary while writing the minutes, and was not part of the meeting on the day.

General information:

For more information on any of the topics covered, or for contact information of the people mentioned, contact the secretary Christopher Walkden at: secretary@tas.aeva.asn.au

Want to join the AEVA or join our mailing list? Need info on EVs? See our [website](#).

Members' discounts:

- 20% off **Tesla Limousines & Tours** <https://teslatours.limo/> (Statewide)
- Discounted EV chargers from **Gelco**: <http://www.gelcoservices.com.au/>
- Fonzarelli Electric Scooters are offering a 5% discount and a free charger pack to AEVA members: <http://www.fonzarelli.co/>

Links provided by members (since last meeting)

List of Australian EVs by EV Brief podcast:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VHlk31NSa0ldQAYqn_2BF5jktYO3ExgayRgRM1O1mUY/edit#gid=0

Survey by Tas Networks on Distributed Energy Resources:

<https://talkwith.tasnetworks.com.au/der-survey>