

Minutes

Meeting of the AEVA Tas Branch
Launceston College, 27/03/2024 19:03

Attendance

Christopher Walkden (Secretary), Ray Johnston, Charles Gregory (Vice Chair), John Fast, Jon Ettershank (Branch Chair), Shayn Harkness, Julie Hargreaves, Ian Roberts, Sondra Roberts, Tim O'Loughlin, Zara Walkden, Grant Hyland, Clive Attwater, Sean Manners, David Armstrong, Andy Corbould, Nathan Bourke (Treasurer), Pete Dawborn, Midj Jones, Chris Adams

Apologies

Michael Wadsley, Penny Wadsley, Annick Ansselin, Dave Davey, *Paul French, Penny Cocker*

Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting

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

Correspondence in/out

From Bryce Gatton, national newsletter editor, 16/3/24:

Hi all - letting you know that following the call for submissions (by March 15th) in the January EV News to kick-start a revived national newsletter by yesterday, I received absolutely no submissions!

As I don't want EV News to become filled with only my stuff (which I could easily do BTW, but that's not the point of EV News!) - have shelved any further edition to a 6 months/twice yearly cycle in the hope that the members will eventually want to write up things to share with the wider AEVA audience.

Therefore, please let your branch members know that the deadline for submissions to a July edition is June 15th.

Articles can be anything EV related - eg:

- conversion works/progress/parts sourcing & reviews
- conversion parts
- new car ownership experiences
- trip stories
- purchase ordeals at dealers (!?)
- overseas trips and EV experiences
- AEVA event descriptions
- product reviews
- event invites of interest to interstate AEVA travellers

Smaller items also welcome, like:

- useful/interesting EV websites

Christopher was contacted by Matthew Roadnight, a Volvo owner south of Hobart. Matthew purchased a set of “Prestige Plates” from TasPlates. The plates arrived, but didn’t have an EV tag on them as required by legislation. So Matthew purchased a set of tags through the AEVA website [here](#). These labels are a sticker on a triangle metal plate, and a rivet is included so that the label can be riveted to a metal licence plate.



Since the warranty from TasPlates stated that the cover may not be removed, Matthew placed the sticker on the cover, and did not use the metal triangle.



In January this year, Matthew received a “Call-In” notice from the Registration of Motor Vehicles, stating that his vehicle may not be roadworthy, due to “Number plate label not affixed as required”. The notice said that Matthew would need to fix the problem, then take his vehicle for a full roadworthiness check, at his expense, or his registration may be suspended. You can view the first page of this notice [here](#).

Matthew is required by law to have a metal tag on his licence plate, but would void the warranty of his licence plate if he did this himself. He has written a letter to both authorities to ask what can be done. See a copy of the letter [here](#). So far there has been no resolution to this problem.

On investigating this problem, it was found that there are two sets of legislation that contradict each other. In 2014 the state government issued the [Tasmanian Vehicle and Traffic \(Vehicle Standards\) Regulations](#). Then in 2015, the federal government issued the [Australian Light Vehicle Standards Rules](#). The Tasmanian regulations specify a different size label to the federal rules (35 mm triangle for Tas, 30 mm triangle nationally). The labels sold by AEVA comply with the national rules. An email from the Tasmanian department of State Growth has acknowledged this discrepancy, said that the rules are currently being updated, and said that “An electric vehicle having a label with the reduced sides of 30mm will not be subject to on-road enforcement with relation to label sizing”.

Christopher said that his new Volvo arrived with stickers only – despite the legislation saying that a triangle metal plate is required. His Volvo dealer said that they had been advised that a sticker was sufficient.

Charles said that Teslas are being delivered with a metal label attached with glue, not riveted. There is nothing in the legislation against this, but it doesn't sound like a good idea.

Clive suggested that AEVA Tasmania should make a submission to the Tasmanian government department to suggest that EVs should have special licence plates.

General Business

There was no Treasurer's Report this meeting.

News & Tasmanian Chargers

- Charles presented some [slides](#) and gave us a summary of news from various sources.
- Clive spoke about some of the Electric Highway Tasmania sites.

Tasmanian Conversions

We have Launceston and Hobart based email lists for people interested in converting vehicles to electric. Contact the secretary if you'd like to be on one or both lists.

Nothing to report.

National AEVA

Jon Ettershank is our board member at the national level. He gave a summary of the topics that the board is discussing. The AEVA board produce a Public Summary of each meeting, you can see them [here](#).

Reports on Events

- January 23 [Huon Valley Social Meetup](#)
- January 31 AEVA Webinar - [Home Charging and V2G](#)
Follow the link if you missed the webinar, it is free to view for members.
- February 9-11 [Everything Electric](#) in Sydney
- March 2 – [Sustainable Living Festival](#) in Launceston
Lots of cars were provided by dealers, which meant that we filled our small space and had cars we couldn't display. The SLF was very busy, and lots of people went through the static display. Not so many people wanted rides, perhaps because the SLF programme was very full, and perhaps because it is easy now to take a test drive at a car dealer.
Follow the link to view some photos.
- March 3 – [Pop-up Electric Cars](#) in Westbury
A small event, easily arranged and worth doing.
- March 7 – [Know your EV Workshop](#) in Launceston
This was our first-ever workshop, and it went well. Christopher and Ray presented. Not many attendees, but we didn't mind for our first one. Needs more advertising next time.
- March 24 – [Devonport Motor Show](#)
We had a small showing, but well worth going as it was very busy. Follow the link to view some photos.

Planning for Upcoming Events

- March 28 – AEVA Webinar: [Battery EV fires](#)
- March 30 – [Glebe Hill Village Easter Display](#) in Howrah
Contact Jon if you can volunteer at this event: chair@tas.aeva.asn.au
- April 6 – [Ecofest](#) near Ulverstone
This is another test drive day, it will be interesting to see how popular it is, given that people can test drive at dealers now. Many volunteers have registered their interest, Nathan Bourke is organising this event.
- April 21 – Triabunna [Electric-Hybrid Vehicle Show](#)
Contact Jon if you can come to this one: chair@tas.aeva.asn.au
- April 23 – [EEE Expo Launch](#) in Hobart
This is the media launch for the events coming up in November.
- April 20 – [Know your EV Workshop](#) in Devonport
This one is a Saturday afternoon, the timing is so that we can advertise it at the DMS and at Ecofest.
- November 1 – 3 [National conference and Expo in Hobart](#)
Follow the link for more details and a prospectus. If you can help with this event please contact the secretary.

Presentation:

Andy Corbould, Project Manager and Superintendent for the Metro Tasmania - Zero Emission Bus Trials. Andy spoke about the electric and hydrogen bus trials in Tasmania. Watch the presentation on Youtube [here](#).

Meeting closed 20:45

Next meeting: 19:00 May 22nd at the Glenorchy Library in Hobart.

Meetings are the fourth Wednesday of every second month, 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/>