

Minutes

Meeting of the AEVA Tas Branch
Glenorchy Showgrounds, 26/05/2021 19:03

Attendance

AEVA Members

Charles Gregory, Christopher Walkden (Secretary), Julie Hargreaves, Ray Johnston, Shayne Harkness, Midj Jones, John Fast, Rose Grant, Andrew Cash, Rob Dawkins, Penny Cocker (Chair), Michael Wadsley (Vice Chair), Penny Wadsley, Millard Ziegler, Andrew Fyfe

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

Patrick Jones, Chris Gillies, Krys Smietanski, David Barajevic, Rick Barrett, Tane Thomas

Apologies

John Casimaty, Clive Attwater (Treasurer), Helen Hutchinson, Warren Boyles

Confirmation of minutes from previous meeting

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

Correspondence in/out

Excerpt from an email on 25/5/21 from Dick Friend, TOCA Tas representative:

The new V3 Devonport chargers will be launched next week on Thursday 3 June at 11am. I'll be arriving from Melb that morning on the Spirit.

We would like to invite an AEVA rep to attend. Perhaps you could mention it tomorrow night?

All Tesla owners are welcome, and we're excited, viz:

> The ultra-fast V3 Tesla Superchargers for installation in Australia have 250kW cabinets, which can add almost 250km driving range in about 10 minutes.

Could you please ask anyone that wishes to attend to let me know?

M +61 (0) 419 503 198

dick.friend@icloud.com

If you'd like to attend as an AEVA representative please contact the secretary so that we don't double-up.

General Business

Clive was not in attendance, but sent this report:

Treasurer's Report, 26/5/2021

Balance at last meeting:	\$3,757.36
Since the last meeting -	
Payments made:	
AgFest costs, sundries	\$197.75
AgFest promotion	\$145.08
AgFest displays	\$519.15
Income received:	
Trade display income	\$440.00
The current balance is	\$3,335.38
Income due from Agfest	\$440.00
Additional expenses claim for Agfest	\$80.00 (est)
Agfest in summary:	
Site rent	\$2,051.50
Expenses	\$941.98
Income	\$880.00
Net cost	\$2,113.48

Moved by Christopher Walkden, seconded by Ray Johnston that the report be received; carried.

Borrowing AEVA Equipment

AEVA Tas owns a certain amount of equipment, some of which might be of use to members. Some examples are an 8x4 m marquee, two TVs, cable covers, stop/slow bats
Christopher Walkden proposed that a register of equipment be tabled on the website (with location), and that members should be allowed to borrow this equipment without payment, on approval of the branch committee.

Seconded by Penny Wadsley, carried.

Apply to the secretary if you'd like to borrow any equipment. The register will be added to the [Tas branch page](#).

News

- 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 website says that applicants should be notified of their success or otherwise in May. Penny Cocker (on the board of EHT, who made a submission) said that she doesn't have any further information which she is allowed to release to the public.
- The [EV Grid Project](#) is a trial of smart EV charging being conducted in Tas, Vic and ACT. Participants in the trial will receive a free smart charger, and the electricity distributors in the areas will be able to perform tests using the chargers. The idea is for the distributors to gain experience on how this style of network control might work. The chargers will allow the network to control how much power is delivered to a vehicle. This is not a bi-directional charging trial. The trial will consist of a number of 'events', where participants will know in advance what is going to happen, and so they can choose to opt out of an event if they need to.
The project aimed for 150 participants in total, with 22 in Tasmania. The Tasmanian participants have now been selected and notified.
The trial participants have received notification that JetCharge will visit and quote on installation. If the quote comes to a price above the 'included' work, the participant can choose to accept the quote and pay the extra amount.
- The Liberal party won the state election, and their '[Climate Action](#)' policies include several related to EVs. Charles theorises that these might be enacted within the next couple of months. According to the linked document, the government will:
 - Waive the stamp duty component from the purchase of new and second hand EVs. The estimate is that this would save an average of about \$2000 per vehicle.
 - Deliver a further \$600,000 to grow the state-wide charging network "in our regions and at key tourism destinations". This sounds very similar to the approximately \$400,000 granted over the past few years. A list of towns is mentioned, although with no promise that infrastructure will necessarily be built there: Bicheno, Cygnet, Dunalley, Dover, Miena (Central Plateau), Ouse, Oatlands, Port Arthur, Smithton, Southport, Strahan, Tullah, and Triabunna.
 - Waive registration costs for EVs run by car rental and coach operators for two years. It is not clear if this will include peer-to-peer rental such as that provided by [Evee](#).
- Victoria has passed its EV tax of 2.5c per km for full EVs, 2.0c per km for plug-in hybrids. Sweetened with a temporary \$3000 discount on the purchase of a new EV.
- The Ford F150 'truck' has been announced. Much has been made of its ability to tow.
- [Coal Miners Driving Teslas](#) is a new Australian Youtube channel. The name is self-explanatory and the reactions are great. The Bob Katter video has gained a lot of attention. The owner would like to come to Tasmania and give Jacqui Lambie a ride.
- PWC's Skills for Australia is requesting comments on their draft updates to EV technician training courses. You may provide feedback up until May 31st. Follow [this link](#) for details including the draft documents.

Tasmanian Chargers

- The Old Woolstore in Hobart has installed AC chargers for patrons.
- The Kempton DC charger disappeared due to a renovation. It has now been re-installed, but is not operational (despite being lit-up). Apparently it will be joined by two more chargers, estimated to be operational by October.
- The DC charger in the Hobart museum car park was unavailable for about a week due to an exhibition.

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.

After four years of work, the Launceston College Suzuki Mighty Boy is finally able to move under its own power! The group made the necessary connections on Thursday the 29th of April, and by the following Monday it had had its first prang. The pedals are quite small and close together, so it is easy for a big boot to press the accelerator instead of the brake. Ray found that it goes quite well, whether the hand brake is on or off. Christopher found that it is quite easy to spin a wheel in 1st gear on grass.

The Mighty Boy made an appearance at Agfest, and gained quite a bit of interest. Most of the work has been performed by the group and the teachers, as there is a concern with students working with high voltages. The students should be able to get more involved now with more traditional car maintenance activities such as panel beating, windscreen replacement and brake repair.

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.

Tane and Rick spoke about the group's work over the past two months. Some photos are [here](#) of Tane's BMW 5 series E12 having its engine removed. Thanks to Steven who lent an engine crane after a request to the Tas AEVA Facebook group!

Tane has been emptying his wallet by buying: Motor (Hyper9), Tesla Battery Modules, Charger, Orion BMS etc. Queensland company [Drive by Nature](#) has been very useful.

Rowena also has a vehicle conversion underway, a Rodeo 2WD, which she started as an honours project a while ago. Hopefully together the group will be able to complete these two projects and then move on to the next one!

National AEVA

Charles reported that the last meeting spoke at length about future national conferences/AGMs. This year's conference is in Adelaide, with activities from October 28th to 31st. Next year is the ACT's turn, and they will bring theirs forward about 6 months so as not to clash with [Fully Charged Live](#) in Sydney on the 29th & 30th of October 2022.

2023 will be WA's turn, followed by the Tas branch in 2024.

Stickers? Number plate tags?

Christopher has been asked a couple of times lately about whether the branch will be producing more stickers. Currently we have the round 'My next car will be electric' stickers which we hand out at shows etc. A new sticker could be for the same purpose, or could be for AEVA members to advertise that they are members.

Christopher doesn't have any particular desire to create stickers, but said that if someone else wants to put in the work, the branch will almost certainly pay for a run of them. So contact him if you have a good idea, preferably an idea backed up by a design!

Ray wondered if might be worth the Tas branch buying some of the blue triangle 'EV' tags that are required for the licence plates of new EVs. He said that people with older EVs might still like to apply the tags, which could help a first responder in an emergency to identify an EV and therefore respond in a manner that respects the particular hazards that might be present.

Penny said that she will take this up, finding out where they can be purchased from.

Reports on Events

- April 10th – [North West ecofest](#)
This was typically windy, cold and it periodically rained. A reasonably small crowd of quite interested people attended. Christopher, Ray, Clive and Grant were there to answer people's questions.
- April 10th – [Top Gear @ The Rocky Cape Tavern](#)
- April 18th – [Electric-Hybrid Vehicle Show](#) in Triabunna
- April 21st – [U3A Wynyard Talk](#)
- May 5th - 8th – [Agfest](#)
Numbers were well down due to the 10,000 person per day limit imposed by COVID restrictions, but this was still an event well worth attending. See the link for a video walk-through of the display that we made.
Thanks to the many people who helped out in one way or another for this major event.

Planning for Upcoming Events

- October 7th & 8th – **Launceston Show**
Launceston Show is this year to be held at Quercus Park near Carrick (where Agfest is held). As part of the show we will hold a version of our Elektrikhana test drive days on the 7th, the local public holiday Thursday.
A map was shown during the meeting, although this is not able to be included in the minutes for reasons of confidentiality. Quercus has many internal (unsealed) roads in a grid pattern, and we have been given one 'square' to drive around. We'll load patrons into cars and take them for a drive around the block. Drives would be short and relatively sedate, but could be very frequent. We can set up a static display to one side of the square, with parked cars, bikes etc. and trade space for related businesses. The static display would look like an enlarged version of our Agfest site this year.
We will be looking for members to lend their vehicles for this event. We'll definitely try to get vehicles from dealers, but have found in the past that these can be unreliable (they tend to sell the cars!). It might pay to approach the national organisations as well as the local dealers.
If you know of a business or organisation that would like to display in this space please let us know. The Launceston Show has quite reasonable rates for trade space.
We'd also appreciate any offers of help with organisation, setup, marshalling on the day etc.
- October 9th – [Sustainable Living Festival](#) in Launceston
Just two days after Elektrikhana, this festival has asked us if we'd like to put on some kind of display. It is at Windsor Park in Riverside. It might be convenient to move vehicles from Quercus to Riverside. Christopher is to organise a meeting to see what we might do, bearing in mind that we will be worn out by the Elektrikhana! Let us know if you'd like to be involved with this.

Next Meeting

Note that next meeting is our branch AGM. At this meeting we elect the chair, vice-chair, secretary and treasurer, plus other committee members. Our current executive have all been in their positions since the branch was formed six years ago, and some of them might welcome a break. Please consider if you might be able to take on a position. The position doesn't necessarily have to be the whole job, for instance an assistant secretary or treasurer might be able to take some of the work burden from the incumbent.
If you would like to contribute in this way, it would be great if you could contact the executive to discuss.

Presentations

It was planned that Richard Hannah from Neuron Mobility was to give a talk on electric scooters, however he did not make it (*Richard has since sent his apologies*). Instead, Patrick Jones, who specifically came to hear Richard speak, gave us a talk about the electric scooter which brought him to the meeting.

Michael Wadsley also presented on designing new buildings with electric vehicles in mind. Michael is thinking of building a new house, and has a list of considerations.

For these presentations please see the recording of the meeting, available on the AEVA Youtube channel [here](#).

Meeting closed 20:53

Next meeting: 19:00 July 21st at the Hobart Showgrounds. This will include the branch AGM. 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)

Draft EV Charging Infrastructure plan for Northern Beaches council in NSW:
<https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/electric-vehicle-charging-infrastructure-plan>

Details and commentary on Victoria's EV Tax: <https://techau.com.au/victorias-ridiculous-tax-on-electric-vehicles-has-passed-starts-july-1st-2021/>

How to [fit a spare wheel in your Kona](#).