



**Rover
Scouts**
VICTORIA

2021 YEARBOOK



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

What a tumultuous year it has been, not only in Rovering, but the world as a whole. In Victoria, this meant repeated periods of lockdown and limited freedom, causing many issues for our regularly scheduled Rover activities and events. Having to adapt to holding meetings over Zoom and working through technical difficulties, forgetting to unmute yourself, and patchy WiFi connections made for a very interesting Scouting experience for us all. Michael 'Jeff' Watts and the Rover Scouts Victoria IT Team have done countless hours of background work to keep us running and adapting to the ever-changing needs of the Rover Section.

A large focus of this year was on the creation of a mental health working group to ensure Victorian Rovers had trained mental health support at events, as well as a group to support the VRC to ensure mental health is a consideration in our program and policies. As part of this working group, we learnt that it's very difficult to find time for mental health specialists to meet and support Rovers, especially given the increased workload the Australian mental health system is experiencing during the COVID-19 pandemic. A big thank you to Kathryn Crisp for her work over the last year in this group, her support of Rovers has been invaluable and much appreciated.

Alongside the addition of the working group, this year we had two Patrol Leaders, Diversity & Inclusion and Environment, join the VRC to ensure important discussions and projects occur at the VRC level. The first twelve months of a role will always see lots of shaping and learning occur, and I thank Fi and Hugh for being part of this year's team. I am excited that these roles will continue to be a part of the VRC going forward.

I would additionally like to acknowledge the challenges I experienced throughout my period of being Chair. It has taught me lots about myself and how I want to engage with volunteer work in the future; I sincerely hope Victorian Rovers can focus on moving towards supporting each other from what was learnt in the 2020-21 year.

It goes without saying that the past year involved lots of remote Scouting; the lack of photos I have from the year are evidence of this. It was incredible to experience Rovers across the State banding together from their homes to create Rover programs which were still diverse and engaging. The resilience shown is something everyone should be proud of and is something to draw strength from going forward as we continue to face uncertain times.

The commitment of Rovers to run events whenever possible is a testament to the passion in our community to be outdoors and challenge one another. One such example of this was Rover Scouts Victoria running Surfmoor in January 2021 against all odds. Additionally, the ongoing commitment from the Mudbash committee to run their event, which was held online in 2020, but sadly was cancelled in 2021 due to Government restrictions. Therefore, while COVID-19 has been a challenge to a traditional model of Rovering, there continues to be strength in the innovation and passion of Rovers to look beyond the horizon towards new and exciting challenges.

Finally, I'd like to thank my executive team, Kieron Younger, Matty Barnes, and Maddy Packer, as well as the rest of the Office Bearer team. They put in a lot of work to keep Rover Scouts Victoria running during a difficult year. I'd also like to thank the Rover Support Commissioner team, Peter Wotherspoon, Regi Caesar and Stephen Carter; their advice has been invaluable this year.

MICHELLE SAFFIN

Chairman

Victorian Rover Council



COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

The past twelve months have demonstrated how we, as a Section, have been able to rise above the disappointments, frustrations, and other limitations due to the various restrictions imposed on our overall operations by the Government due to COVID-19. That we have endured these circumstances is testament to the dedication, resilience, support, friendships, and innovation of all Rovers.

The Office Bearers team, Region members, and Sub-Committees have continued to operate under the Executive team of Chairman Michelle Saffin, Deputy Chairman Kieron Younger, and Assistant Chairman Matty Barnes.

The vast majority of meetings for all entities were held virtually, and specific thanks must go to the IT team for all their work in coordinating everything. Their involvement has enabled us to continue operating.

Surfmoot was the only event which took place in person this year! From uncertainty if the event was to take place, to confirmation that it could proceed, provided a small window for the committee to finalise preparations and conduct what was a welcome event for all and a release from lockdowns. My thanks to the committee for all their work. Rover Dinner occurred virtually; whilst the format was different, the night was well attended. We were entertained by Kent Bennett, who outlined the challenges encountered in his incredible journey from the highest point in Australia (Mt Kosciusko) to the lowest point (Lake Eyre) over six months; truly a remarkable journey. Unfortunately, other events did not fare as well. Mudbash 2020 was postponed to September, then cancelled, then scheduled to run as normal in 2021. At almost the last minute, the event was postponed to September, but has now again been cancelled.

Our ski lodges at Mt Baw Baw and Mt Bogong were unable to operate, Mafeking was closed for most of the year and unable to take bookings. The World Moot to be held in Ireland in July was postponed to 2022, then subsequently cancelled.

My congratulations to Emma Watson on receiving the W.F. Waters Award and to the 15 Rover Scouts who completed their Baden-Powell Scout Award. It was also pleasing to see the contribution of Rovers and Advisers acknowledged with Adult Recognition Awards this year.

Congratulations also to Everest Le Page Rover Unit, whose service was recognised with the BP Lodge Service Award presented by Freemasons Victoria.

Tragically, two members of the Rover community passed away during the year.

Sheridan Burnell, a much-admired member of Port Phillip Rover Unit and Cub Leader at 4th Williamstown, passed away on January 2, aged 24. Sheridan was a driving force and active member in her Rover Unit, having occupied most positions, including Unit Leader. She completed her Rover Wood Badge in December 2020 and had almost completed her Baden-Powell Scout Award.

Lisa Mandeltort was a past member of Ogilvy Rover Unit and passed away in mid-January. Lisa drowned at Venus Bay while attempting to rescue a swimmer in trouble. Well known to the Mount Dandenong Region and as a science teacher at Nossal High School, Lisa was also a Scout from 2000-17, most recently a Unit Leader at Ogilvy Rover Unit. She received her Queen's Scout Award in 2009. Lisa touched many lives during her time with us and both she and Sheridan will be greatly missed by family, community, and their Scouting friends.

Members of the Jack Fuhrmann Rover Unit were also heavily involved in a rescue of people who got into trouble at the beach during Surfmoot. I am grateful for the assistance of a psychologist and Branch personnel, and the work of members of the Rover Mental Health Group in these matters.

I am incredibly impressed by the perseverance shown by Rovers at all levels and in all entities to continue planning for events, meetings and use of our assets only to have activities cancelled/postponed, sometimes with little notice.

Thank you to the Commissioner team for all their contributions, and especially the support of Regi and Stephen who undertook additional responsibilities while I was unavailable.

The leadership and participation, as well as the innovation shown by the Victorian Rover Council Executive, Office Bearers, Region Teams, Sub-Committees, Rover Units, and Rovers has been inspirational. Yet again we have shown strength to continue successfully, whilst being inspirational and ensuring that our friends in Rovers are coping with all that we faced.

PETER WOTHERSPOON

State Commissioner - Rover Support



TRAINING

The past year has seen some significant developments in the Rover Training space. The National Curriculum was introduced in 2020, which is designed to make training across all Sections consistent, regardless of role. This resulted in the loss of Rover Basic and Advanced Practical courses; the last of which to be held in the traditional format was May Madness 2021, held at Gilwell Park; which is a special place for training and adult development in Victoria. It was the only face-to-face course held this year, and we were incredibly fortunate to have an outstanding attendance.

In addition to May Madness, the Rover Training Support Team was also able to run Rovember and the Super July Training Courses successfully online. Thank you to all presenters for adapting to the change in delivery formats and running such successful courses.

Rover Training has changed substantially over the past year. The role of the Rover Training Support Team has also changed with the roll out of the new curriculum. Course content will now be standardised across all Sections. This results in Rovers not receiving vital training specific for their roles; with finance, meeting management, and conflict resolution being among a few modules that are no longer presented. The Rover Training Support Team will fulfill these missing requirements by delivering stand-alone modules as required. This is a new and exciting direction for training that will improve the capabilities and skills of our members.

HAMISH BESHARA

Training Officer
Victorian Rover Council

ROVER WOOD BADGES

BAYS

Matthew Barnes

Cumoot Rover Unit

LERDERBERG

Sheridan Burnell
Andrew Strachan
Zachary Geddes

Port Phillip Rover Unit
Port Phillip Rover Unit
Djerriwarrh Rover Unit

MELBOURNE

Mark Black

Raisbeck Rover Unit

PLENTY VALLEY

Catherine Marley

Cleve Cole Rovers



W.F. AWARDS

EMMA WATSON

Carlton Rover Unit



Emma has been a major contributor to Rovering across two States, New South Wales and Victoria. Commencing in NSW, Em was an active Unit member; holding positions including Secretary and representative on the Region Team. Em was also a member of her Region Rover Council, occupying the roles of Chair and Training Coordinator. As a member of the NSW Branch Rover Council, Em was the Activities Officer, a Rover Training Officer for five years, and the Executive Officer - Program. Additionally, Em was the Chair of the NSW Rover Ball.

In the Rover Training Officer position, Em demonstrated a high level of knowledge and skills and was able to promote the advantages of training to others. During this time, Em also achieved her Rover Wood Badge.

Moving to Victoria, Em joined Carlton Rover Unit and has been Assistant Unit Leader and Unit Leader. As well as focusing on her Unit, Em completed her Baden-Powell Scout Award in 2020 and has been assisting with the Youth Mental Health First Aid courses.

Emma has, over the years, demonstrated a high level of achievement and outstanding service to the Rover Section, making her a worthy recipient of a W.F. Waters Award.

BP LODGE SERVICE AWARD

MELBOURNE

Everest Le Page Rover Unit

BPSA AWARDS

BAYS

Luke Wheatley

A.B. Balcombe Rover Unit

LERDERBERG

Abbey Tiernan

Kathryn Crisp

Hanging Rock Rover Unit

Port Phillip Rover Unit

MELBOURNE

Emma Watson

Tiffanie Thomas

Carlton Rover Unit

Rafiki Rover Unit

MT DANDENONG

Alice Hayllar

Gemma Park

Anna Mullens

Cassandra Lia

Ryan Leggett

Gerard Hook

4th Knox Rover Unit

Manderson Rover Unit

Manderson Rover Unit

Lasseter Rover Unit

Manderson Rover Unit

Hatfield Rover Unit

MURRAY MIDLANDS

Kelly Elliott

Kulin Rover Unit

PLENTY VALLEY

Fabiola 'Sunny' Aguilar

Kingsford-Smith Rover Unit

SOUTH WEST

Sarah White

Emily Kinross-Smith

Patanga Rover Unit

Boss Hurst Rover Unit



BAYS REGION

The past year in Bays Region was a challenging one, with lockdowns causing us all to be confined to our houses and away from each other for a while. Our Units really managed to step up to the plate and come together, and Bays saw a lot of joint nights and varied activities whilst being stuck online. In the last twelve months, the Bays Region Rover Community became more of a community than ever before; I have been constantly impressed by how resilient our Rovers are when thrown into these awful situations.

With the only major event managing to run being Surfmoort, the Region was stoked to get down to Eumerella and enjoy the Australia Day weekend with their mates. A huge shout out to the Surfmoort team for managing to pull it off, as it was the morale booster we all needed at the beginning of 2021. Bays as a whole also had good participation in the 2020 Rover Plasma Challenge. A few Units in Bays were able to get up to Mafeking for RSM Round 3 with only a couple of days' notice, and Kurl's Own Rovers managed to come out on top!

For some, the lockdown gave Rovers more time to focus on badgework, and we saw many BPSA proposals come through for approval over the year. I would like to give a massive congratulations to Luke Wheatley for earning his Baden-Powell Scout Award, and to Matty Barnes for achieving his Rover Wood Badge.

Finally, I'd like to thank my Region Team and our fantastic Region Rover Adviser, Drew Lazenby. Regi Caesar also gets a special mention for being the best assistant for Drew we could have asked for. This team helped keep me sane as I navigated being a first-time Chair in a pandemic, and I will be forever grateful to them. I can't wait for more adventures in Bays next year!

RACHAEL OSBORNE

Chairman
Bays Region Rover Community

GIPPSLAND REGION

Gippsland had a very productive year, with an increase in membership, bringing our total numbers to 94. We have been focusing on interacting more with each other as a Region, and have experienced many joint activities between Units with a lot more activity in the Region as a result.

Firstly, we welcomed back the Tarwin Junction Rover Unit; it's great to see them back and growing. The Region has had quite a lot of BPSA proposals that have come through this year, so we will hopefully see a number of these being completed over the next twelve months.

Gippsland Rovers have managed to attend the only major Rover event to run this year, Surfmoort, with quite a large turnout from the Region. Thank you to the committee for all of their hard work.

With the uncertainties this year, it's been good to see everyone out and about. It has been really good to finally see every Unit in the Gippsland Region appoint a Rover Adviser, their guidance will be invaluable moving forward.

I would like to thank our Region Rover Adviser, John 'Erny' Ernst and the Gippsland Executive Team for all the hard work and their dedication. We hope the Region continues to thrive and participate more in the wider Rover Community.

JUSTIN PORTER

Chairman
Gippsland Region Rover Community



LERDERBERG REGION

Lerderberg Region Rovers had a productive year, despite the numerous impacts COVID-19 had on the regular operation of our activities. The Region saw a 14% decrease in membership over the year, which was largely driven by low Venturer retention and participation in online activities during lockdowns. The current Region population sits at 180 Rovers.

We would like to welcome back Arundel Rover Unit, who have restarted in the past year, it's great to have another active Unit in the Region. I would like to thank the passionate group of Rovers who had the initiative to restart the Unit and their continuing commitment to the quality of Rovering in the Region.

Lerderberg would like to recognise Sheridan Burnell, Andrew Strachan, Maddy Packer and Zach Geddes who achieved their Rover Wood Badge this year. The Region also congratulates Kathryn Crisp and Abbey Tiernan for achieving their Baden-Powell Scout Awards.

This year, Lerderberg lost a valued member; Sheridan Burnell's passing affected our entire community. This is a testament to her personability and the contributions she made to her Unit and the Region as a whole. Sheridan's absence will be felt for years to come, may she rest in peace.

Lerderberg was fortunate enough to be able to have a Region barbeque, a night at BOUNCE, a fundraiser at the Region Grey Wolf Presentation, and our AGM in person between lockdowns. Units are looking forward to getting back to regular program, and the Region is ready to welcome Rovers and guests to Rover Dinner 2021.

HAMISH BESHARA

Chairman

Lerderberg Region Rover Community



MELBOURNE REGION

What a year we have had in Melbourne Region. We had the privilege of running the 2020 Rover Dinner. Although this was moved online due to COVID-19, we had a great turn out, and the event ran smoothly. Keeping the good times going, the Region Team hosted our annual Christmas Beach Party, with fun water activities. With both Rovers and Venturers attending, a great night was had by all.

Come January, it was finally time for Surfmoort. Melbourne Rovers had a fantastic time letting their hair down and going for a swim. Unfortunately, Mudbash had to be cancelled, so the Region Team ran an online games night.

Everest Le Page Rover Unit hosted the Great Gilwell Getaway, a Region-wide camp in May. This was lots of fun, and a positive way to get the Region together. Melbourne Region is pleased to welcome back Doutragalla Rover Unit, who have restarted this year.

At Cuboree, we were proudly represented by John Gardiner and Mullumbimba Rover Units, who gave up their week to provide coffee and works & services.

I would also like to congratulate Emma Watson on receiving the W.F. Waters Award for her outstanding contribution to Rovers. One of our Rover Advisers, Mark Black, earned his Rover Wood Badge, and two Rovers, Emma Watson and Tiffanie Thomas, achieved their Baden-Powell Scout Awards.

I would like to give a massive shout out to the Region Team; Rohan Lambert, Grace Archer, Lily Stephens, Megan Heaney, Sam Lyons, and of course our Region Rover Adviser, Greg Davies.

TIFFANIE THOMAS

Chairman

Melbourne Region Rover Community



MT DANDENONG REGION

Mt Dandenong Region weathered lockdowns over the last year and have come out the other side with 335 Rovers. We have been getting back to the basics of good Rover programs, jam-packed with activities. We have been examining the fundamentals of our programs and transitioning our Units to Our Program. To facilitate this, we delivered a workshop with 40 attendees from across the State.

We would like to congratulate the following Rovers on achieving their Baden-Powell Scout Award; Alice Hayllar, Ged Hook, Cassie Lia, Anna Mullens, Gemma Park, and Ryan Leggett. We would like to congratulate Rover Adviser, Jason Winters on receiving an Adult Recognition Award for his service.

Moistmoot celebrated its tenth anniversary with a record 100 participants camping over three days. The lake at GWS Anderson Scout Park provided the perfect location for an afternoon float. Off-site activities included local brewery tours and an adventure park. Shout out to the committee for running a fantastic event.

Mt Dandenong had the great misfortune of losing an ex-Rover this year. Lisa Mandeltort sacrificed her life while attempting to save a swimmer in trouble. Her service to Scouting and beyond will not be forgotten.

We would like to thank our Rovers for turning up, giving it a go online and persisting when it was not so fun. Thank you to our Rover Advisers for being there and supporting us through this uncharted territory. Finally thank you to the Region Executive Team for coming up with ways to support Units on the fly, always being ready for a healthy debate, and assisting with the strong community that is Mt Dandenong Rovers.

GEMMA PARK

Chairman

Mt Dandenong Region Rover Community



MURRAY MIDLANDS REGION

Murray Midlands had an interesting year, with lockdowns and restrictions limiting what we could run at Rovers. We were lucky to miss a lot of the restrictions and were able to meet in person for some of the year. Some Units were able to take advantage of this and met outdoors for COVID Safe hikes or camps.

We had members of our Region attend Surfmoort, which was a great time. Shout out to the committee for all their hard work running this event during such a chaotic time. We were looking forward to Mudbash, where we would normally hold our AGM, but it was unfortunately cancelled. Hopefully next year includes less cancellations and more exciting events.

Congratulations to Kelly Elliott from Kulin Rover Unit for earning her Baden-Powell Scout Award. This is the result of a lot of hard work, and the Region is looking forward to seeing more awards achieved in Murray Midlands.

Thank you to my Region Rover Adviser, Mark 'Barney' Thornton; I could not have made it through the year without your support. I would also like to thank my Executive Team for all their help during the year, and congratulate the incoming team. I wish them the best of luck for 2022!

BELLA CONDELLO

Chairman

Murray Midlands Region Rover Community



PLENTY VALLEY REGION

It's been a long year, with three lockdowns, many postponed events, and restrictions changing every other week; at least this year we knew what we were signing up for. Surfmoor went ahead in January with a lot of hard work from their committee, and we had a chance to go camping and to the beach. Warringal and Norsemen Rover Units have restarted, both with support from neighbouring Units and past members. Our Units have been making the best of online Rovering with exciting programs, doing things we would never think of running in person, which is a testament to what Rovers can achieve. They are creative, resilient and are always willing to rise to the challenge.

2021 was going to be RoVenture's third year since its revival, expanding with a collaboration with Lerderderg Region. Unfortunately lockdowns caused the event to be cancelled a month before the scheduled date. I'd like to thank the committee for all their hard work in preparing this event; Cameron Phillips, Andrew Strachan, Cam Cerda, Maddy Packer, and Catherine Marley. RoVenture will be back next year in an exciting new format, so keep an eye out.

Congratulations to Sunny Aguilar for earning her Baden-Powell Scout Award and to Catherine Marley for earning their Rover Wood Badge.

I would like to thank my outgoing Executive for all their work over the last year. From my team I have two special mentions; to Nicola for always being there to give me advice and keep me on the right track, and to Will for being filled with bright new ideas. I'm excited to see what the future holds for the Region, I hope it includes a lot more outdoor activities!

CATHERINE MARLEY

Chairman

Plenty Valley Region Rover Community

SOUTH WEST REGION

Over the last year we have achieved a fair bit considering the circumstances. Adapting to online and offline formats; the resilience South West Region have shown is absolutely amazing.

This year, the Region participated in initiatives such as the One Foot Forward and Rover Plasma Challenges. We hosted an exciting summer break up where we all got back together for the first time after lockdown.

The Region had members on the Surfmoor and Bogong Sub-Committees, and the Victorian Rover Council. It was great to see South West Rovers represented in the wider Rover Community.

We have been unable to access our Villa during lockdown. We also received the final WHS report, allowing us to create a working timeline for repairs. We will be helping Scout Moot with their finances and have some beautifully designed Region badges in the works.

Congratulations to Sarah White and Emily Kinross-Smith for earning their Baden-Powell Scout Awards; this is a great achievement reflecting a lot of hard work!

It is incredible to think that we did all this whilst going through some of the strictest restrictions in the world. I'm incredibly proud of everything the South West Rover Region has achieved and I know the next year will be even better. An especially big thank you to the outgoing Executive Team for doing a great job, and a big congratulations to the incoming team, may your times be only good.

LILY TWYFORD

Chairman

South West Region Rover Community



MAFEKING ROVER PARK

Most of this year we were stuck at home in lockdown. It was difficult having to deal with the ongoing challenges of not being able to have Rovers enjoy the Park, let alone not having many bookings come through from elsewhere.

Towards the end of 2020, we were able to complete some much needed working bees, as we had only limited access to the property for the better part of five months. Over Easter, we saw a large number of Scouts arrive to participate in Stradbroke Cup. We, as Rovers, are so proud to be able to offer a location for events such as this, where younger members of Scouting can enjoy fun weekends full of adventure and excitement.

The Mafeking Team have been able to complete a few projects this year, including the ongoing re-fencing of the Gum Road border, and working in conjunction with the Mudbash Team to start remodelling Main Arena. Thank you to Hugh Anderson from Mullumbimba Rover Unit who installed new composting bins. We have also engaged with outside community environment groups to see what new initiatives we can establish to maximise the diverse range of natural Flora and Fauna at Mafeking.

Following a review, the Mafeking Committee underwent a restructure and became the Mafeking Rover Park Management Group.

Thank you to all those who have visited the Park over the last twelve months and helped maintain our amazing property. A special mention to the Mafeking Committee, Mafeking ex-Rovers, and the Police Scouters; without whose involvement, we would be unable to continue to operate such a great asset. Thank you to Charmaine Beggs, Laura Hall, Jason 'Gov' Govan and Deanne 'Dee' Smith who were key in ensuring that the Mafeking Team stayed motivated and driven throughout the year. I would like to wish the incoming team the best of luck.

BEN BARRACLOUGH

Chairman
Mafeking Rover Park



BOGONG ROVER CHALET

The Bogong Rover Chalet provides Rovers the opportunity to return to the outdoors, with this year being the first time we have been able to open the Chalet since this pandemic began.

Earlier in the year, we were able to run all of our planned working bees, including the refurbishment of our stove and beginning the renovation of our bathroom. The various restrictions throughout the year made the prospect of running our ski weeks difficult, but through working with the Scouts Victoria Risk & Safety Team, we were able to develop a set of regulations that allowed us to run our ski weeks while still complying with the State Government requirements.

We had just over 330 bookings this year; unfortunately, only 74 of these were able to attend as Victoria went back into lockdown at the end of our third week. A small number were able to attend in week eight under tighter restrictions in the brief period that Regional Victoria was released from lockdown, however, the other nine weeks unfortunately had to be cancelled.

We are looking forward to being able to return to the Chalet as soon as we can so that we can prepare for next winter. Hopefully, we will then be able to welcome Rovers and the wider Scouting Community back to the Chalet.

It was a hard year, but we are glad that we were able to run some of our ski weeks for the few members that were lucky enough to attend. We would like to thank everyone on the Bogong Chalet Management Group, Scouts Victoria Risk & Safety, and everyone who booked in to attend this year for continuously supporting the Chalet and doing everything you could to run a successful season. We look forward to many more ski seasons to come!

JESSE LANG

Chairman
Bogong Rover Chalet

W.F. WATERS LODGE

It is safe to say, it has been another year full of challenges, with no exception for the Baw Baw Rover Crew. After some optimism over the summer months that a more normalised winter season may be on the horizon, COVID-19 once again proved to be a major obstacle. The difficulties almost became something out of a movie, as when restrictions finally did ease torrential rain washed away the majority of the tourist road, the most common route used to access the Lodge.

I want to thank our team for their efforts and being able to adapt to every challenge that has been thrown at us during our term. On a brighter note, we did see a successful summer season, with a transition to predominantly AirBnB bookings reaping rewards in both ease of use and bookings numbers. I would like to thank Caroline Mann for all of her work in making this happen. These bookings helped provide a financial buffer for the slow winter season that followed.

In relation to winter bookings, it was pleasing to see that we once again had a fully booked season with Rovers eager to get back up to the lodge after the 2020 hiatus. Thanks to Ben Cunningham for stepping into the Rover Booking role over the past year, it was certainly a baptism of fire and you handled everything that came your way amazingly.

With all the challenges that have been encountered in the past twelve months, I am sure that we will be well placed to tackle the next year head on.

TODD HENDERSON

Chairman
W.F. Waters Lodge



SURFMOOT

Surfmoot 2021: Mean Girls Moot, was full of twists and turns for the committee. The team did particularly well to keep motivated, persevere through all the lockdowns and provide the State with the first event in twelve months.

It was fantastic to have over 420 people onsite for the Australia Day long weekend. What made this event even more special was the fact that it was the first COVID Safe event run for Scouts Victoria; pioneering methods that have since been implemented by other major events, such as Cuboree. We also trialled a new site within Eumerella, allowing the Committee to use a new event layout.

Chief Commissioner, Rod Byrnes, visited the site; he was impressed by the proactive and adaptive approach the Rovers took to running this event, and even enjoyed a doughnut from the CAS Van.

This year, funds were raised for the National Breast Cancer Foundation through merchandise sales; the committee is looking to continue this initiative in the future.

The committee cannot run without the support of numerous people. I would like to give special thanks to our Rover Adviser Danny Vriens, as well as Matthew Barnes, Matthew McKernan, Simon Casey, Bryce Hutton, Greg Davies, and Regi Caesar, who helped the whole committee immensely. I am incredibly grateful for their help.

MEGAN ROGERS

Chairman
Surfmoot

MUDBASH

This is another year for the record books; due to COVID-19 we had to cancel our event once again. We could not be more proud of the committee's work over the last twelve months; the determination they have shown is outstanding. We would like to thank our service team and the Rover Community for their support for the last twelve months, we could not have continued without your help. Don't worry, Mudbash will be back in 2022!

LUCY HUBBARD

Chairman
Mudbash

ROVER SCOUT MOTORSPORT

What a year, filled with the planning and postponing of events. Fortunately, we managed to run one championship round between all of the COVID-19 lockdowns. Round three of the championship was held with three days' notice as we came out of lockdown. It was a great show of determination from everyone involved. A massive thank you to the RSM Committee and our event and support teams for all their hard work over such a challenging year.

1st	KURL'S OWN ROVER CREW UNIT	Bitz
2nd	BEREMBONG ROVER UNIT	Power Out
3rd	SUGARLOAF ROVER UNIT	Phantom
4th	WAGGATAAN-RUTHERFORD ROVER UNIT	Rapid Pulse
5th	RJ SCHUTT ROVER UNIT	Schutt Heap
6th	BOSS HURST ROVER UNIT	Pink Panther
7th	YEAH THE BOYS RACING	Neva Lift
8th	CRAIGIEBURN ROVER UNIT	Smash 'N' Grab
9th	4TH KNOX ROVER UNIT	Hard Knox
10th	SPLIT ROCK ROVER UNIT	One 2 One

SIMON NUCCIO

Chairman
Rover Scout Motorsport

MARB

The theme for MARB was 'Roaring into 2020'. The committee put in so much work planning the event, but unfortunately it had to move online. The committee was able to adapt very quickly, which is a great reflection on their creativity and determination. Rovers were provided with a themed Spotify playlist, cocktail recipes, party games and photo props to print, which encouraged them to participate with their Units in a COVID Safe manner.

We would like to thank the MARB 2020 Committee who supported the event through the unpredictability of COVID-19. We cannot wait to see you at MARB 2021!

TASH LEMA

Chairman
Metropolitan Area Rover Ball



FINANCES

The financial statements of the Consolidated Victorian Rover Council consist of The Victorian Rover Council; our three properties: Bogong Rover Chalet, W.F. Waters Lodge and Mafeking Rover Park; and five event and activity Sub-Committees.

The Consolidated Victorian Rover Council has reported a turnover of \$160,342 for the year ended 30 June 2021 (2020 \$382,383), and a net deficit of \$69,772 (2020 surplus of \$7,476). Turnover was down 58% on the previous year due to the COVID-19 pandemic severely curtailing our operations.

The operating deficit for the year includes losses for our property assets as a result of closures totalling \$69k. These losses were partially offset by surpluses in some of our activities. Surfmoort was the only event that ran as normal and returned a \$6k surplus, although turnover was lower. Mudbash incurred a loss of \$8k due to a \$10k investment in the main arena at Mafeking. The aggregate loss of \$69.7k is net of \$32k of depreciation and includes \$43k in insurance charges paid to Scouts Victoria.

As of 30 June 2021, net assets are \$1,207,306, whilst cash assets equate to \$680,851 (2020: \$699,143). The majority of cash balance sits with our three properties; however, VRC also retains historical reserves. Cash is expected to reduce as we were holding considerable advance payments for events and bookings that were subsequently cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

A breakdown of net assets (at cost) and income between activities is represented as follows:

	Net Assets (\$ at cost)		Turnover (\$)	
	As at 30-Jun-21	As at 30-Jun-20	For year Ended 30-Jun-21	For year Ended 30-Jun-20
Victorian Rover Council	228,965	228,657	6,750	23,163
Bogong Rover Chalet	342,823	386,179	1,322	117,026
W.F. Waters Lodge	165,113	166,094	77,585	97,672
Mafeking Rover Park	409,642	434,137	17,130	55,485
Rover Scout MARB	10,863	9,649	1,044	21,545
Victorian Contingent Moot	3,722	3,142	-	8,504
Rover Scout Motorsport	1,511	2,301	-	8,485
Rover Scout Mudbash	555	8,574	15,470	3,402
Rover Scout Surfmoort	44,110	38,346	41,041	47,101
Total	1,207,306	1,277,078	160,342	382,383

For our snow assets, the turnover represents revenue earned for the 2020 Winter Season. For Bogong, the season was cancelled entirely, however for W.F. Waters Lodge a partial operation was possible. Both Mafeking and W.F. Waters were recipients of Government grant funding in 2020, however it only partially covered outgoings for site rental and insurance. Whilst costs were curtailed across all our operations, charges including insurance, maintenance, and depreciation are unavoidable.

Over the year the Rover Finance Team has enhanced our financial policies, and developed new templates for budgeting and reporting to the VRC. This is supplemented with regular financial training for our members.

Due to continuing lockdowns, 2022 will also be financially challenging for the Rover Section. As revenue is largely out of our control, the VRC is closely managing all costs. Whilst our financial position is sound, there may be a need to draw on our reserves in the year ahead.

JODY FREEMAN

Honorary Treasurer
Victorian Rover Council

**THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
VICTORIAN ROVER COUNCIL
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2021**

	2021 \$	2020 \$
EQUITY		
Retained Earnings	1,207,306	1,277,078
VRC CONSOLIDATED EQUITY	<u>1,207,306</u>	<u>1,277,078</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank or Investment	680,851	699,143
Debtors	11,075	20,304
Prepayments	54,471	11,888
Advances Other	29,598	29,598
	<u>775,995</u>	<u>760,933</u>
Fixed Assets		
Land at Cost	185,000	185,000
Buildings	826,597	818,283
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(516,639)</u>	<u>(493,846)</u>
	309,958	324,437
Plant & Equipment	280,382	280,027
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(216,109)</u>	<u>(206,917)</u>
	64,273	73,110
Total Fixed Assets	<u>559,231</u>	<u>582,547</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,335,226</u>	<u>1,343,480</u>
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	28,259	47,282
Amounts received in advance	99,661	19,120
	<u>127,920</u>	<u>66,402</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>1,207,306</u>	<u>1,277,078</u>

**CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

INCOME		
Member activities received	259,610	401,291
Less in advance	<u>(99,661)</u>	<u>(19,120)</u>
	159,949	382,171
Sundry Income	393	212
Interest	2,688	4,695
TOTAL INCOME	<u>163,030</u>	<u>387,078</u>
EXPENSES		
Operating Expenses	(200,816)	(341,057)
Depreciation	<u>(31,986)</u>	<u>(38,545)</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES INCLUDING DEPRECIATION	<u>(232,802)</u>	<u>(379,602)</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(69,772)	7,476
VRC CONSOLIDATED BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	1,277,078	1,269,602
VRC CONSOLIDATED BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	<u>1,207,306</u>	<u>1,277,078</u>

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared for the members of Victorian Rover Council, Scouts Australia, for the year ended 30 June 2021.



