

# Minutes of Annual General Meeting and Conference APLA of WA Inc held 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019-8:30am

Hosted by the State Management  
Executive Committee



**A**malgamated  
**P**rospectors and  
**L**easeholders  
**A**ssociation of W.A. Inc.



Representing Prospectors  
Since 1904

Agenda. Industry Support. Conference – Secretary Marise Palmer- sec@apla.com.au

## MINUTES

APLA of WA Inc - AGM and Conference – held at the Recreation Centre, Leonora Saturday 21st September 2019.

### **8.00-8.30 am Registration as per attendance Records at sign in.**

112 members and 1 Guest Jason Hockings – Minelab Representative

Guest Speakers were members.

The secretary declared the meeting open at 8.31am

### **1. 8.30 am Opening and Formalities**

Proxies were read out. All 3 (three) in favour of changes to Constitution and By-Laws

AGM & Conference-Welcome address by Les Lowe - APLA President

Les thanked the administration who keep APLA running, Marise Palmer who has organized the AGM and general meetings for delegates and Treasurer Kurk Brandstater who handles finances and membership, webmaster Bill O'Connor, Steve Palmer in The Datum Post. LL introduced the Delegates who contribute with also running the branches and thanked them for their contribution as volunteers to APLA as a job well done. He thanked the for the contribution with regards to input on government matters.

### **3. Apologies.**

David Joice, Jeremy Dunne

### **Annual General Meeting Business**

#### **4. Minutes of Previous AGM sent out**

**Motion: Moved they are a true and correct record of the AGM held on 15/9/2018**

**Moved by Bill O'Connor                      Seconded by John Plummer                      Carried**

**Business arising from the minutes – Nil**

### **Treasurers Report**

#### **5. APLA Treasurer Report**

##### **(a) Treasurers Report 30/6/2019**

The attached report shows the financial health of APLA as of 30 June 2019. This report is a summary of the Financial reports from the Online Accounting System and shows, Revenue. Expenditure plus Profit & Loss as of 30 June 2019.

Many thanks to Jonathan Chua from 360 Accounting and Financial Solutions ([jonathan.chua@360afs.com.au](mailto:jonathan.chua@360afs.com.au)) for his efforts in reviewing the books this year. This year is the first year that Jonathan has charged APLA for the review noting that he has conducted the review for the past three years at no cost. In addition to the review Jonathan has also been a great help with the preparation and change for becoming a GST registered entity and this assistance was provided at no cost.

The official report from the accountant is attached as an addendum, it will be however included in the PDF version which is emailed out to all members after the AGM.

**Income including GST for the year was \$181,271.45 vs \$152,123.25 in the previous year which represents a growth of 19%. Of this \$176,964 is from membership subs as opposed to \$146,730 in the previous year. Also of note is that the Profit and Loss Statements from previous years have not accounted for GST so in this first**

year of GST reporting you will notice some differences when compared to previous years, as previously all income was APLA's but as GST reporting entity we now lose 10% of that income to GST, so the best comparison of Income Vs expenditure will be shown at the 2020 AGM when both years are reporting with GST, and we are comparing Apples with Apples so to speak.

As mentioned in previous year's financial reports, improved management of membership has been made possible by the APLA website combined with the use of Saasu online accounting. These changes have brought APLA's membership and financials into the digital age which will make the ongoing management of the Associations membership and finances easier.

Expenditure for the past financial year including GST was \$128,425.58 vs \$96,591.10 in 2018 but below the budgeted expenditure. Most of the difference is the result of the following increased payments.

- Honorariums increased with webmaster \$2000 and Datum Post Editor additional \$600
- Increased subscriptions to branches from \$14,264 to \$15748
- Increased Phone costs \$1648.23 to \$2160.23 ex GST
- Setting up the new Goldfields Branch expenses
- New Goldfields Branch Seed Money
- Increased PayPal Fees as these are based on % of income
- Increased Postage – Membership / Leaseholders / Renewals \$931 ex GST
- Rent for Document Storage \$518.18 ex GST

The expenditure increase is in line with increased memberships and other approved expenses such as payment of a technical advisor to provide technical guidance and assistance to APLA members, and liaising with PGA, Mining companies and other groups that directly impact on APLA members activities.

The attached Profit and Loss statement clearly itemizes each area of expense and while some areas have increased others have decreased. These figures are Exclusive of GST in accordance with accounting principles. As mentioned above the upcoming years figures will give a clearer comparison when comparing to GST reporting years instead of one GST reporting and one not GST reporting.

In my opinion the Association is financially stable with a growing membership and I would expect the membership numbers to continue to grow as we get better at retaining existing members in addition to identifying and obtaining new members not only locally within WA also from around Australia. Also, as we continue to pursue the leaseholder membership these numbers should continue to increase, as lease holders become more proactive towards their rights as prospectors / small miners. Should the State Government introduce new legislation that affects these lease holders then I expect many of them will be keen to join APLA and help to fight for our rights.

### **Current Cash Assets**

Cash at bank continues to show strong growth. We have reduced the number of term despots to just one plus a savings account. Due to the reduction in interest rates interest on these accounts is now quite small however every little bit helps. This is cash reserves which are not currently required for daily operations.

The Assets as shown below are as extracted from the Accounting Package and not yet verified by the Accountant, however the final figures should be very close to this, as the Bank Balances are as per the statements. Undeposited Funds are cheques received but not yet deposited as of June 30.

Assets	30 Jun 19
Accounts Receivable	1,010.00
APLA Cheque Account	94,732.73
APLA Paypal 1	3,052.75
APLA Savings	200,798.66
APLA TD 5 - 1219	42,528.70
Computer Equipment	1,279.20
Office Equipment	1,794.46
Plant and Equipment at Cost	4,061.97
Tax Paid on Purchases	1,084.30
Undeposited Funds	1,945.00
Withholding Tax Paid	842.07
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>353,129.84</b>

As can be seen by the attached Profit and Loss Reports and Balance Sheet, APLA has continued to grow and is currently financially secure. The requirement to be able to generate ongoing funds to continue to improve our services to our members, and proactively fight for the rights of prospectors, lease holders and hobbyist detectorists remains, and given that over 95% of our income is from membership we must continue to grow the membership.

Despite actively targeting leaseholders in the past 12 months to increase the number of leaseholders we have as members the number of lease holders and prospectors remains at about 1/3 of the membership base. There are probably many reasons behind the low take up by professional prospectors / leaseholders however the main one is most likely that they are like the rest of us too busy what they do to worry about being in Clubs or Associations which may take up more of the limited resource – TIME. On the other end of the scale we have been able to continue to recruit hobbyists and part time prospectors thru our advertising and public awareness campaigns which maintains and grows our numbers each year.

In the 2017/18 year we reached the required income threshold to be registered for GST so as of July 1, 2018 APLA is now a GST reporting entity which adds another layer of reporting for the treasurer's job. We currently report and pay our GST liability quarterly with a final Annual report each July. These are currently done manually via a paper return and the intention is to move this over to electronic reporting in the next 12 months.

#### **Fees Update: -**

The executive has recommended maintaining fees at the current rates.

#### **Branch Rebates Increased from \$6 to \$12: -**

At the 2017 AGM a motion to increase the branch rebate to \$12 was approved. This increased rate was paid during the 2018/19 year and well received by the branches.

#### **Honorariums: -**

Last year saw only a slight change in the Honorariums being proposed to add the Webmaster and increase the Datum Post editors Honorarium. These are both key roles within APLA and well deserving of being recognised and rewarded for the time and effort put into the job.

#### **Equipment Purchases: -**

Now that APLA is a GST reporting entity any large capital purchases that are required by branches should be made by the state treasurer If possible, to ensure we are able to claim the GST back each quarter. The process for this is yet to finalised and streamlined but essentially there are two options:

1. State would purchase the item from state held funds on behalf of the branch. Then the branch would transfer the required funds back to state.
2. The branch purchases the items directly and immediately forwards a copy of the tax invoice to the state treasurer so the GST can be claimed back

**Executive Conference: -**

In Feb 2020 it will be two years since the State Executive gathered together in Perth for a full day conference. The last conference was centred around the new Associations laws; however, the conference was the perfect opportunity for the executive to review what APLA has achieved in the past 2 years and where APLA is headed. Whilst I believe the state executive should hold a conference every year, due to the workload required to organise and run such an event holding one every two years is probably a good alternative. The executive conference gives the executive members the opportunity plan longer term projects and initiatives for APLA as well as reviewing what has been achieved.

**Branch Financials: -**

Last year I raised the requirement that due to governments new Association laws, APLA is now also required to report its financial status annually to the Department of Mines, Industry, Regulation and Safety. This report is a summative report on the total financial affairs of the Association which also includes the branch accounts and bank balances. Branch treasurers need to report their June 30 accounts to the state treasurer **no later than 30 September** to allow time for the overall summary report to be generated and submitted.

In order to reduce the workload on branch treasurers with regards to GST reporting, APLA will normally only claim GST credits for goods / services which are paid for direct from State funds. The exception to this is when branches purchase high value items \$1000 or over that have a GST component in which case a copy of the tax invoice needs to be forwarded to the state treasurer ASAP to enable the GST to be claimed.

**Kurk Brandstater - APLA Treasurer 2016-19**

**(b) Financial Review 2019 Mobile Tax Johnathon Chua**

# Mobile Tax

**ABN 19 569 322 839**

Treasurer  
Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association

26 August 2019

Dear Kurk

**2019 Financial Review**

We thank you for the opportunity to participate in the review of Amalgamated Prospectors & Leaseholders Association (APLA) financial information for the fiscal year ended 30 June 2019.

We have reviewed the financial information used to form the financial report, of Amalgamated Prospectors & Leaseholders Association (the association), which comprises the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2019, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended in giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

The committee of Amalgamated Prospectors & Leaseholders Association is responsible for the preparation and maintenance of the financial information and ***has determined that the basis of preparation is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Association Incorporations Act 2015 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members.*** The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial information based on our review. We have conducted our review to relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform the review to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

The review involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures of the financial information. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of financial information, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, in order to design review

procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.

We believe that the review evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our review opinion.

In our opinion, the financial information and report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of

Amalgamated Prospectors & Leaseholders Association as at 30 June 2019 and (of) its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of the *Association Incorporations Act 2015*.



Jonathan Chua CPA

**(c) Financial Income and Expenditure statements as prepared by Mobile Tax Financial Services**

**(These are x GST figures)**

# Income and Expenditure Statement

Amalgamated Leaseholders and Prospectors Association  
For the year ended 30 June 2019

	2019	2018
<b>Income</b>		
<b>Membership Fees</b>		
Membership - Family	38,453.52	35,710.00
Membership - Full	68,583.63	62,910.00
Membership - Pensioner	27,133.73	22,910.00
Membership - Pensioner Family	26,655.45	25,270.00
<b>Total Membership Fees</b>	<b>160,826.33</b>	<b>146,800.00</b>
Merchandise Sales	376.72	1,676.65
Raffle Income	1,893.05	1,881.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>163,096.10</b>	<b>150,357.65</b>
<b>Gross Surplus</b>	<b>163,096.10</b>	<b>150,357.65</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Interest Income	1,074.23	2,409.38
Other Revenue	1,781.83	500.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>2,856.06</b>	<b>2,909.38</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Advertising	7,244.24	4,583.92
AGM Expenses	2,393.35	2,596.99
APLA Expenses	5,000.00	2,041.89
Bad debts	100.00	-
Bank Fees	3,689.68	3,002.56
Committee Expenses	38.29	-
Consulting & Accounting	440.00	440.00
General Expenses	80.00	-
Honorariums	22,800.00	20,200.00
Insurance	8,075.02	8,250.00
Motor Vehicles	1,077.72	186.35
Membership Card Fees	3,604.20	1,375.00
Office Expenses	1,857.75	423.20
Postage	4,417.19	3,485.75
Printing & Stationery	942.73	743.85
Rent	518.18	-
Subscriptions	15,748.00	14,264.00
Technical Advisor Fees	26,000.00	26,500.00
Telephone & Internet	5,914.77	4,242.23
Travel and Accommodation	3,575.14	6,060.45
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>113,516.26</b>	<b>98,396.19</b>
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>52,435.90</b>	<b>54,870.84</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.



## (d) Financial Asset and Liabilities as prepared by 360 Degrees Financial Services

## Assets and Liabilities Statement

### Amalgamated Leaseholders and Prospectors Association As at 30 June 2019

	NOTES	30 JUN 2019	30 JUN 2018
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>			
APLA Paypal 1		3,052.75	845.38
APLA Savings		200,798.66	150,732.58
APLA TD - 1219		42,528.70	42,006.23
Cheque Account		94,732.73	96,379.70
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		<b>341,112.84</b>	<b>289,963.89</b>
Trade and Other Receivables	3	1,010.00	-
GST Receivable		-	205.08
Undeposited Funds		1,945.00	1,455.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>344,067.84</b>	<b>291,623.97</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Plant and Equipment and Vehicles	7	7,135.63	5,404.20
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>7,135.63</b>	<b>5,404.20</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>351,203.47</b>	<b>297,028.17</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
APLA Visa Card		584.75	(102.35)
Trade and Other Payables	9	5.66	1,885.84
GST Payable		2,856.94	-
Treasurers Contributions		100.94	25.40
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>3,548.29</b>	<b>1,808.89</b>
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>			
Reimbursements Pending		63.80	63.80
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>		<b>63.80</b>	<b>63.80</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>3,612.09</b>	<b>1,872.69</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>347,591.38</b>	<b>295,155.48</b>
<b>Member's Funds</b>			
Accumulated Surplus		347,591.38	295,155.48
<b>Total Member's Funds</b>		<b>347,591.38</b>	<b>295,155.48</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

**Moved that the financial reports be accepted.**

Proposed by Martin Todd

Seconded by Anne Lowe

Carried

**(e) Membership Report as of 31/8/2019 prepared by Treasurer**

With the assistance of Bill O'Connor (Webmaster) and the developers Mantis Technology, we have automated the pro-rata registration fee calculation for new members joining after July 31. The website continues to be our primary source of membership applications and renewals with the number of mailed renewals significantly down on previous years which is good as it reduces the workload and speeds up the renewal process.

**MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS & HIGHLIGHTS:**

The executive has continued the full-page advert in the Gold Gem and Treasure Magazine which has resulted in not only new memberships but also raising APLA's profile Australian Wide. As we push towards 2500 members which is probably achievable within the next year or two. We did a physical mail out to all members who had not renewed by May 30 reminding members that their membership had expired and for them to renew ASAP to maintain their status and help the Association. The number of membership lines as of June 30 was 1424 compared to 1448 as of June 30, 2018 which was a decrease of 24 membership lines compared to last year. However given the turmoil around the departure of the EGPA as an APLA branch and the creation of the new Goldfields branch this was half expected, however the big change in the number of members when you include partners as well which was 2155 as of June 30 2019 compared to 1915 last year which is an increase of 240 members. Active membership lines are calculated by membership type, eg Single, Family, Pensioner, or Pensioner Couple.

The breakdown for memberships by membership type as of 30 June 2019 is as follows

Membership 2019			Membership 2018		
Percent	Membership Type	Number	Percent	Membership Type	Number
41%	Single	590	43%	Single	628
18%	Family	263	18%	Family	257
23%	Pensioner	323	22%	Pensioner	316
17%	Pensioner Couple	243	17%	Pensioner Couple	246
<1%	Life Members	5	<1%	Life Members	3
100%	<b>Total</b>	<b>1424</b>	100%	<b>Total</b>	<b>1448</b>

The breakdown of memberships by state as of 30 June 2019 is as follows:

Membership by State 2019			Membership by State 2018		
0.3%	ACT	5	0.4%	ACT	6
0.5%	NT	7	0.7%	NT	10
0.7%	TAS	11	0.8%	TAS	11
0.5%	International	8	0.7%	International	10
4.4%	QLD	63	4.2%	QLD	61
4.6%	SA	65	4.6%	SA	67
5.4%	NSW	78	6.3%	NSW	91
8.3%	VIC	118	8.0%	VIC	116
75.1%	WA	1070	74.3%	WA	1076
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1424</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>1448</b>

The breakdown by branch as of 30 June 2019 is as follows:

Membership by Branch 2019			Membership by Branch 2018		
36.09%	Goldfields	514	35.6%	EGPA	516
4.7%	Albany	67	5.0%	Great Southern	72
12.1%	Mandurah	173	11.9%	Mandurah	172
35.8%	Perth	510	36.4%	Perth	527
11.2%	Southwest	160	11.1%	Southwest	161
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1424</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>1448</b>

Membership by Branch & Location 2019				
Percent	Branch	Members	WA	Interstate/International
36.09%	Goldfields	514	262	252
4.7%	Albany	67	55	12
12.1%	Mandurah	173	167	6
35.8%	Perth	510	441	69
11.2%	Southwest	160	145	15
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1424</b>		

The breakdown by interest of members as of the 30th of June 2019 is as follows:

Membership by Interest 2019			Membership by Interest 2018		
0.1%	Rockhound	1	0.1%	Rock Hound	1
0.8%	Industry Interest	11	0.9%	Industry Interest	13
0.9%	Other	13	1.0%	Other	15
6.6%	Leaseholder	94	5.7%	Leaseholder	83
31.5%	Prospector	449	29.8%	Prospector	432
60.1%	Metal Detecting	856	62.4%	Metal Detecting	904
<b>Total</b>		<b>1424</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>1448</b>

The updated breakdown for memberships as of the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2019 is as follows:

Membership 30 Aug 2019			Membership 30 Aug 2018		
Percent	Membership Type	Number	Percent	Membership Type	Number
41.9%	Single	620	43.2%	Single	637
18.5%	Family	272	17.6%	Family	259
22.5%	Pensioner	332	21.9%	Pensioner	322
16.8%	Pensioner Couple	248	17.0%	Pensioner Couple	250
0.3%	Life Members	5	0.3%	Life Members	5
100%	<b>Total</b>	<b>1477</b>	100%	<b>Total</b>	<b>1473</b>

The breakdown by branch as of 30 Aug 2019 is as follows:

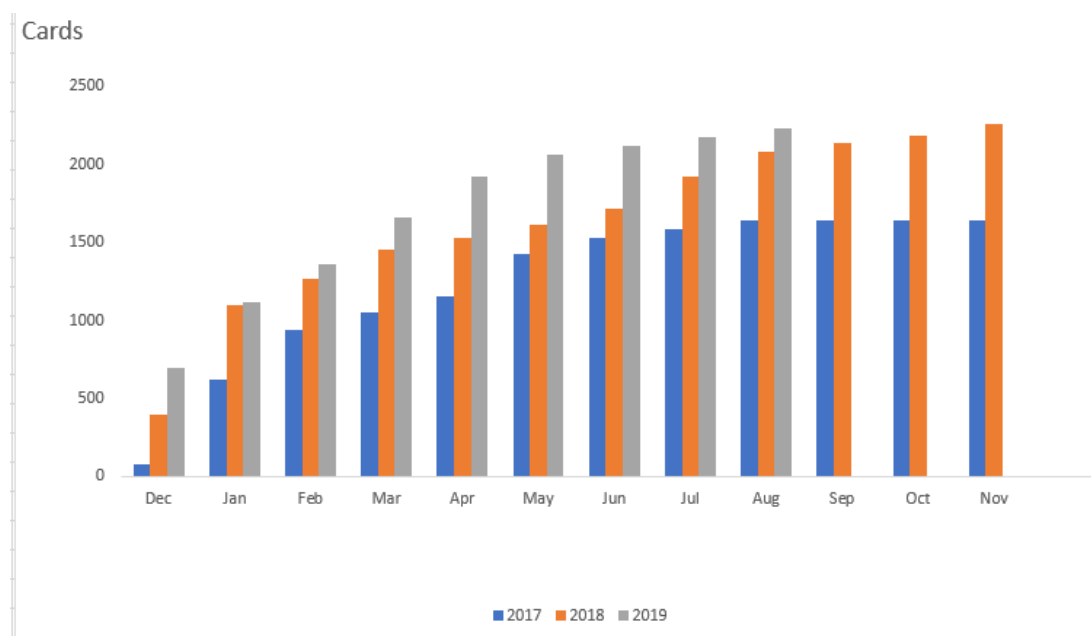
Membership by Branch 30 Aug 2019			Membership by Branch 20 Aug 2018		
35.7%	Goldfields	537	35.7%	EGPA	526
5.0%	Albany	70	5.0%	Great Southern	73
11.9%	Mandurah	178	11.9%	Mandurah	175
36.4%	Perth	529	36.4%	Perth	536
11.1%	Southwest	163	11.1%	Southwest	163
<b>Total</b>		<b>1477</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>1473</b>

- These are the figures that the rebates for the 2019 year will be calculated on. Rebates to branches will be paid on completion of the AGM.

From the following table which shows the membership growth including families/ partners over the past three years, it can be seen that although the number of membership lines has only marginally increased over the past twelve months Aug to Aug from 1473 to 1477 the actual number of membership cards posted has increased significantly from 2087 to 2228 which is an increase of 141 cards. Of these cards approximately 40 are reissues as the originals were never received or lost so we have still seen an increase in members of about 100.

	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
2017	79	626	942	1056	1157	1427	1533	1583	1640	1640	1640	1640
2018	397	1095	1269	1456	1530	1616	1721	1919	2087	2135	2181	2263
2019	693	1115	1357	1661	1920	2060	2116	2176	2228			
2018 Increase	318	469	327	64	373	189	188	336	447	495	541	623
2019 Increase	296	20	88	38	390	444	395	257	141			

The following graph shows a comparison of membership cards including family members mailed over the year.



As of the end of August there were still 467 members who had not renewed their membership from last year, this is in comparison to only 199 the previous year. This is a large increase and the breakdown by branch as shown below.

Branch	Not Renewed						WA	Interstate
	2019	Industry Interest	Leasholder	Metal Detecting	Prospector	Other		
Albany	26			21	5		22	4
Goldfields	214	2	12	132	63	5	114	100
Mandurah	35			28	7		30	5
Perth	159	2	3	88	65	2	119	40
Southwest	33	1	2		14		25	12

All these members have been contacted by email and or mail with no response, prior to archiving these records a final renewal notice and email survey will be sent to these members, and if no response is received

the records will be marked for archiving to ensure our membership information is current and up to date. Last year's mailout to non-renewing members picked up over 200 members that had simply forgotten to renew their membership. So, I am hopeful that a similar letter sent this year will have a similar response, however, members must take some responsibility themselves as renewals and reminders are sent in December and early in the new year.

Treasurer Kurk Brandstater.

**5(e)Motion: Proposed the Membership Report be accepted:**

**Proposed John Plummer**

**Seconded Robert Clare**

**Carried unanimously**

**PROGRESS and FUTURE ACTIONS AS OUTLINED IN LAST YEARS 2018 REPORT:**

- As previously mentioned APLA has previously tried to get an insert added to the Miners' right Pack without success but given that you now receive commercial advertising with your vehicle license renewal this needs to be revisited with DMIRS, this will be a priority to test the waters over the Christmas / new year break so that we can hopefully get something sorted by the start of the 2020 prospecting season, and the release of the 2020 "7 Golden Rules".
  - *Due to other workloads this has not been progressed at this stage.*
- We still need a couple of responsible volunteers who are great with Facebook and other social media platforms to put their hands up to help run these platforms and reduce the load on the current site Admins.
  - *The Facebook page is still being managed primarily by the President (Les Lowe) with some assistance where possible from other exec members.*
- A targeted campaign to get more Lease Holders as APLA members.
  - *A letter was sent to approximately 1400 Private Lease Holders inviting them to join APLA. The response was very low with only about 1% of those contacted actually joining APLA.*
- Introduction of Corporate membership.
  - *This has not progressed any further and at this stage due to other constraints.*
- Continued Advertising in Gold Gem & Treasure.
  - *This has been maintained and the intention is to continue with the full age Advert in the Magazine as it helps to raise the awareness of APLA around the county.*
- Renewal letters will be emailed / posted out by the start of December.
  - *This was completed with all renewals being sent by Mid-December, and the aim will be to maintain this timeline ongoing.*
- Follow up contact for un-financial members to be streamlined with reminder emails to be sent at the end of each month from January to April.
  - This will be done thru the website mailing program.
  - *Integration into the Website mailing system has not been possible for this, as the website mailing system is only able to email to members who have opted to receive emails.*
  - *Due to other workloads reminder emails were only sent twice to outstanding members, which may partly account for the higher number of non-renewals.*
- The feasibility of accepting Credit Card payments over the phone for membership renewals is currently being investigated.
  - *This can be done however currently is a slow process and due to normal work commitments outside of APLA will only be done in special circumstances.*
- Follow up on un-financial members to include a reminder letter to be posted in May each year.
  - *One follow up letter was sent to members in May, and a final one is scheduled to be sent early September.*

- The new Mantis Mail Mailing program is in the final stages of testing and Branch Secretaries will soon be able to email members simply by logging in and selecting the required list for their branch.
  - *This is now able to be used by all branches – Web master can provide more information if required.*
- Envelopes for cards and letters are still manually printed or stamped with APLA’s details.
  - *We now have pre-printed envelopes to reduce this workload. 5000 have been ordered and will be used once existing plain envelopes have been used. This print should last roughly 1 2 years*
- Addition of a “Preferred Name” field in the APLA Database so that Membership cards can be printed with your “preferred First Name and Surname”
  - *Now Complete for Main Member – yet to implemented for additional family members.*
  - *This means that your membership card, emails, and correspondence will show your preferred name rather than your full name as entered in the Database. Eg William John Smith, could be Bill Smith if that is the preferred fist name.*

### 2019/20 PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MEMBERSHIP PROCESS:

To further streamline the membership management the following actions will be completed over the next 12 months:

- Renewal letters will be emailed / posted out by the start of December.
- Follow up contact for un-financial members to be streamlined with reminder emails to be sent at the end of each month from January to April.
  - *At this stage this will have to be done manually using a separate mailing program.*
- Addition of a “Preferred Name” field in the APLA Database for the second member in a family or couple membership so that Membership cards can be printed with your “preferred First Name and Surname” for both members and not just the primary member.
- A final letter reminding members that they have not renewed their membership will be sent to all current non-financial members prior to the AGM.
- 2020 Membership Stickers will be provided with your membership card again next year. Please display it proudly and use it as a talking point to talk to people who don’t know about APLA.
- Continued targeted contact with lease holders to increase their numbers within our ranks.
- Once the new Laptop for the treasurer / Membership Officer is setup and operational, many of the routine tasks that need to be completed will be able to be scheduled and marked off once completed.

### HOW HARD CAN IT BE?

The website improvements and online accounting continue to streamline the process for managing the membership database. Unfortunately, no amount of streamlining can update your address if you move unless you do it or you email the membership officer and ask them to do it for you. Likewise, bank payments with the reference of “APLA” or “Membership” do not tell me who’s membership it is paying, so the five members this year that paid with that or no reference are probably still waiting for their membership cards. If you have paid your money and haven’t received your card within a few weeks email me or send a message to the treasurer’s phone with your details and I can follow it up.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP:

Members can not only help grow membership numbers, but you can also make the treasurer’s / membership officer’s job easier by doing a few simple things:

- When paying your renewal fees:

- o Please just enter your MEMBERSHIP NUMBER then your Initial & SURNAME in the reference:
- o Eg 11255 B Bloggs

- If you have moved, please update your address details in the web database before paying your membership because this is the address that your membership card will be sent to – or if that's too hard for you to do, send an email to the treasurer with your details and the required changes.
- If you want to change membership type eg Single to Family, or Family to Pensioner Couple etc.. Contact your branch membership officer or send an email to the treasurer with the details including your membership number, and contact phone number so I can call you if needed.
- If paying by Bank Transfer, Credit Card, or Paypal, make sure you log on and select renew membership thru the website as this creates the required notice, so we can match the payment up.
- If a friend or relative is making the payment for you make sure they put your details in the reference or at least send an email to the treasurer saying who made the payment and who they were paying for. I don't know that Rosemary Smith is the daughter of John Jones (but is now married), or that your best mate Fred Jackson is making the payment for you "Tim Matthews" because you don't have a Paypal account.
- Don't cancel your cheque or dispute the charge on your CC or Paypal after you get your membership card as this will cancel your membership payment and leave you un-financial. If this happens repeatedly then I will propose that your membership is not re-approved.
- DO NOT Leave paying your renewal until just before your big trip, because it takes time to process each membership. Plus, cards are normally printed and posted in batches, so the delivery of your new card could take anywhere from 2 – 6 weeks depending on how and when you pay your renewal. PAYPAL is quickest. December to March cards are pretty much printed every week, April to June generally every couple of weeks and July onwards once a month.
- Log in and check your details in the database
- Talk to other prospectors you meet about APLA and what it stands for and what it does for our members and the rights of all prospectors. Without APLA fighting for our rights, the freedoms we enjoy now will be gone in a flash.
- Carry some APLA flyers in the car with you to give to people. – Email the Sec for a PDF version so you can print your own.

Kurk Brandstater - APLA Treasurer & Membership Officer 2016-19

### **APLA of WA Inc nominate Johnathan Chua Mobile Tax financial Services to prepare 2020 financial review.**

Kurk discussed that we have a new merchandise officer from Perth Branch Barry Main, thanked long running John Plummer for his great contribution and looking after merchandise in the past.

### **6.Subscription confirmation:**

**Proposed that the Subscriptions payable by members remain at the existing price of:**

**Full Member – Individual \$110pa. Family (2 adults and 2 kids under 16) \$150pa. Pensioner Couple \$110pa. Pensioner -Individual \$80pa.**

**Proposed by Greg Young**

**Seconded by James Allison**

**Carried**



## 7. Honorariums

**Motion: That the APLA honorarium be accepted as presented with the only increase for the Vice President \$1500.00**

President \$3000 Vice President, Secretary \$5000 Treasurer \$10000 TDP Editor 1800 Webmaster \$3000 - remain the same for 2020

**Proposed Martin Todd                      Seconded G Young**

**Carried unanimously**

**APLA of WA Inc noted that The Technical Advisors subcontract payments remain the same for the 2020 year. \$26000.**

### 7(a). Financial—Raffle

**Motion: That the proceeds of the Raffle on the 21/09/2019 be paid into the APLA nominated NAB bank account.**

**Proposed Bill O'Connor                      Seconded Brad Fowler**

**Carried**

## 8. 9:30AM—Delegates State Executive and Office bearers -

**Delegates: Notification of Office bearers**

President	Les Lowe	Secretary	Marise Palmer
Vice President 1	Kevin Price	Treasurer	Kurk Brandstater
Vice President 2	Vacant		

**APLA Branch elected State Delegates.**

ALBANY	GOLDFIELDS	MANDURAH	PERTH	SOUTH WEST
Gerry Gregson	Julie Bradley	Alan Branchi	Marise Palmer	David Birch
Noelene Smith	Lindsay Stockdale	Les Lowe	Kurk Brandstater	Brad Fowler
	Mark Askham	Kevin Price	Greg Young	Judith Smith

**Motion: “To elect and accept the office holders of the Association and other committee members. rule 53(c) (Note these positions were elected by State Executive Committee rule 34(9) & Delegates as elected by branch above)**

**Proposed Bill O'Connor**

**Seconded Terry Heritage**

**Carried unanimously**

## 9. Constitution changes and amendments to By-Laws.

The Secretary ran through the changes made in both Constitution and By-Laws. In particular the smaller branches desire to reduce the Quorum from 15 – 7 committee members at branch meetings. This had been requested by smaller branches wanting to make sure they had a quorum at meetings. S 51(c) Constitution change from elect to ratify in State AGM. S52 Branch AGM - insert setting up a new branch which referred to the By-Laws. S63 Financial statements, S67 Executing documents in particular the Associations does not have a common seal. A Common Seal will not be used.

Reminded members the Constitution and Special Resolution had been sent out to members within 41 days with plenty of time to respond before the AGM. By Laws changes for Financial provisions for BAS reporting. By- Law 11.3 New Branch set up procedures. BL12.2 Branch Financials to facilitate BAS reporting. BL 14.1 changes to Code of Conduct and other small changes as sent out to each member. It was pointed out this is a special resolution and as such 75% of members present were required to vote in favour to accept the changes. Discussion took place with Les Lowe talking for the changes and John Plummer talking against the By-Law changes for code of conduct. The special resolution motion was voted on.

### SPECIAL RESOLUTION Motion:

1. That the current APLA Constitution be rescinded and
2. That the new Constitution, be adopted and presented to the Commissioner for acceptance.
3. That the current By-Laws be rescinded, and new By-Laws be accepted and adopted.

Proposed by Greg Young                      Seconded by Hugh Walley                      carried by 99%

## 10. Life Member Motion: That Kevin Price be accepted as a Life Member of APLA of WA Inc.

Proposed by Les Lowe                                      Seconded by Tony Pilkington                      Carried

Les Lowe spoke in favour of Kevin Price as a Life Member and explained that he was a wiseman on his shoulder in the room of government offering advice.

## 11. Tabling of Presidents Reports—

STATE PRESIDENTS	LES LOWE
GOLDFIELDS	TIM BATES
PERTH BRANCH	KURK BRANDSTATER
MANDURAH BRANCH	ALAN BRANCHI OR NOMINATED PERSON
SOUTH WEST BRANCH	DAVID BIRCH OR NOMINATED PERSON
ALBANY BRANCH	GERRY GREGSON OR NOMINATED PERSON
WEBMASTERS REPORT	BILL O'CONNOR
DATUM POST REPORT	STEVE PALMER

## President's Report – Les Lowe –

### President's Report to APLA's Annual General Meeting 21st September 2019.

Welcome to yet another Annual General Meeting of our Association. It's been another busy year and while the nature of the problems change as time goes by, the workload stays the same. The frustrating part is none of raft of new legislation affecting prospecting and small-scale mining has yet been released. This creates an atmosphere of doubt and mistrust with the government departments tasked with producing the changes. Consequently, next year will be very demanding on the resources of APLA.

While APLA has assisted many of its members with Special Prospecting Licence applications, Programmes of Work applications, Warden's Court matters and other diverse ad detailed technical issues within DMIRS, by far the largest problem is that of the relationship of prospectors with pastoral leaseholders. It has created a mountain of correspondence with DMIRS but has led to little or no support from them. APLA strongly urged a prosecution in one instance but DMIRS refused to take the case to court. The confrontational issues continue, but legal advice tells us that we are unlikely to see DMIRS take any pastoral leaseholder to court over any of them. This is very disappointing when APLA has put so much effort into solving the current impasse. Meanwhile, APLA is heavily involved in discussion with DMIRS and the Pastoral & Graziers Association (PGA) to arrive at a solution. However, APLA has witnessed a greater presence of DMIRS officers out in the field attempting to resolve PLH issues and issuing "move on" notices to people that are prospecting without authority or permission. We need more of this as the numbers of errant prospectors increases year on year.

Another big shock was the huge increase in the fee for a Section 40e permit. APLA has been heavily involved in the S40e problems for the last two years after our members that hold Exploration Licences complained about the poor rate of reporting returns from Sect40e permit holders. That led to an investigation and an overhaul of the system that eventually led to the increase. Justification for the increase was by way of "Cost Recovery". However, simple maths tells us that 40e applicant will now pay approximately the same "fee for access" for 10 graticular blocks that an Exploration Licence holder pays for the right to explore and dig up one block. That goes some way to quieten the outcry from EL holders. But the reporting rate needs to improve or we'll be facing another inquiry in the coming years.

APLA membership continues to improve and our prospector education camps are proving to be a major success story. These camps have been noted by DMIRS and the PGA as an example of excellence in how prospectors should behave. However, it is a sad fact that APLA's influence can't and doesn't reach everybody and we still have large numbers of people out there that continue to show complete disregard and contempt for mining tenement holders, pastoralists and the mining laws of Western Australia. APLA supports any moves by DMIRS and the Gold Stealing Detection Unit (GSDU) in their attempts to put an end to illegal mining and gold stealing from other the tenements of other prospectors.

The past year saw the departure from the APLA stable of the Eastern Goldfields Prospectors Association (EGPA). This came as a result of changes to the Associations Act, with which APLA had to comply. EGPA felt they couldn't continue under those required changes and chose to go its own way.

EGPA now offers support to tenement holders that derive a living from prospecting and small- scale mining. However, APLA and the EGPA retain a working relationship for the future of prospecting in all its various forms.

We look forward to another very active year ahead and I offer a personal immense vote of thanks to the APLA team that keeps us operational and financially secure. From Executive level to the branch delegates, volunteers and members, thank you all for the time and effort you put in.

Best wishes and good luck for next year,



LES LOWE.

### **Goldfields President – Tim Bates**

Thanks everyone.

This year the new Goldfields branch was formed. A big thank you to Marise and Steve Palmer and Greg Young for getting the branch and committee established.

Although we are a new branch, we are carrying on the work now alongside the EGPA.

Thank you to those committee members who put their hands up and stepped forward to run our new branch. With me is Vice President Julie Bradley, Treasurer Peter Curtis, Secretary Rob Laing, and Committee Members Lindsay Stockdale, Mark Askham and Don Leicester. New Branch Delegates are Julie Bradley, Lindsay Stockdale and Mark Askham.

We have had some interesting guest speakers this year. Thanks to Kirk Brandstater; Wayne Hitchcock from DMIRS; Richard Mancuso from Natural Gold Nuggets and Jewelry; Matt Cook from Finders Keepers; and Lindsay Stockdale... And a quick reminder to Goldfields members our local businesses continue to give their support to APLA so if you're cashing in your hard-won prizes remember to think local and keep the money circulating here.

We had a fantastic turnout to our most recent branch meeting with an attendance of 28 which was greatly appreciated. Your interest in what's happening in a constantly changing environment keeps a pulse in the community and helps us to understand and act on your behalf.

We're looking forward to an exciting year ahead. We're currently organizing a field day and annual dinner. Keep an eye on the APLA website for further information and we hope to see you there!

**TIM BATES President.**

## South West Branch

### Nominated person Brad Fowler

I'd like to commence my report from the South West branch of APLA by thanking retiring President of our branch, Ken O'Keefe. Despite having little prospecting & APLA experience Ken stood for the President's position when we could not get a nomination for the job. Under his leadership the Branch has continued its strength & growth commenced under Tom Cousins.

Meetings for the branch are held on the fourth Wednesday every second month at the Capel Golf Club with good numbers attending. We have been treated with new members, but experienced successful prospectors, Brad & Michelle Fowler conducting courses on using your GPS, filling in a 40E online & sharing with us their success in large coil deep nugget detecting. We also recently had Andrew Mathews from Lithium Valley Rocks outline his new Gold tourism venture at the old Donnybrook Goldfields. It is our intention to source more guest speakers to address our meetings on topics of interest through the year.

The branch again held a successful field day at Dardanup which was well attended. We had guest speakers in Bob Cooper on bush survival, Kurk Brandstater on Happy Prospector updates and Brad Fowler demonstrating deep nugget detecting with large coils. We also had a competition area set up for people to test their detecting skills and test pits available for testing detectors. The day was well supported by Minelab, with representative Jason Hosking attending, The Prospectors Pick and other relevant trade displays. The club has had good feedback from those businesses who displayed at the day and it has been pleasing to hear that many of the attendees have supported those businesses by purchasing products after the day.

Another well attended camp was held over the June long weekend. Whilst not a lot off gold was found the 40 attendees enjoyed the outing with great prizes available for those who found gold and a well-stocked raffle. We like to thank Minelab, The Prospectors Pick, Nugget Finder coils, Whiteys Tackle, ARB and all others who donated the prizes.

On behalf of the branch I would like to acknowledge the hard work the State executive, and in particular President Les Lowe, does on a volunteer basis for the benefit of all members.

We, as an organization, are facing trying times with access, attempts to dilute our rights and price increases for services so I urge all members to get behind APLA in our determination to stand up for your rights.

David Birch

President

APLA South West Branch

## **Mandurah Branch**

21/8/2019

*Presidents Report- Nominated Person Les Lowe.*

Firstly I would like to thank our hard-working committee of Gerry Lowke, Bob Wilson, Ann Lowe, Craig Walker, John Krokosz, Darryl Kelly, Gordon Pilmoor, Jean Branchi and Christine Watson, you have worked for the benefit of all members and it is a credit to you.

Our bi-monthly meetings are being well attended with an average of 60 to 65 members. Many ideas are forthcoming which the committee has taken onboard to allow the branch to grow. Welcome packs have been made available to new members with positive results & feedback.

Our end of season lunch at the Meadow Springs RAAFA Club was again a huge success; excellent meal along with exceptional staff made it a memorable event. A bonanza raffle was run with many prizes. Many thanks to all who donated prizes with special thanks to Minelab and Reeds being our major donors.

An article in the Mandurah Mail had my phone ringing for the next few weeks with people wanting to know about APLA , at the March meeting we had 20 new people at the meeting , some joined and came on camp with us.

Camp 2019. Along with a mining company an area was located approx. 30km south of Sandstone, a little less gravel than last year but promising ground. An updated set of rules was adopted for camp with member safety paramount, along with upholding what APLA stands for. Tag system was used, hang on way out and remove when returning made it very easy to see if anyone was missing, our Safety Officer was pleased, positive comments from many members said they felt safer with all at camp behind it 100%.

Many volunteers came forward and organised competitions and games to keep all busy when not detecting. Thanks to Jenny, Christine, Darryl & Des. A show was arranged by Dianne Lowke which was well presented and enjoyed by all; the men not to be outdone had their chance later in the week. Well done to all who participated.

Various objects were found along with numerous gold nuggets. Prizes were awarded each night for best find as well as best nugget, and on the last day overall prizes were awarded, special thanks to Minelab for their generous donations and Reeds Prospecting for the use of the Minelab banner. Thanks to John Deepröse our official photographer during the camp.

I will also take this opportunity to thank all Delegates for the excellent work they do in maintaining APLA.

To finish I would like to thank the Ladies in the kitchen at each meeting and all who help out to make things travel smoothly.

Alan Branchi

## **Perth Presidents Annual Report 2019- Kurk Brandstater**

Welcome once again to all Perth branch members and guests. It is amazing how fast time flies by, and as I now approach the end of my fourth year as the Perth Branch President I am very appreciative of the efforts of the branch executive, committee and general members that have supported me over that time because without that support I would have not been able to do my job and our branch would not have had the successes it has had over those four years.

Firstly, my apologies for not being able to attend the last meeting and this Perth AGM, however whilst I am still working full time in a couple of positions gaps for holidays and or prospecting are few and far between so I must take them when I can.

The Perth branch has continued to flourish with Bi-Monthly meetings at the Lapidary club with most meetings having in excess of 60 members plus some visitors which equates to just over 10% of the Perth members, however if you look at just Perth based members its about 30%, so again a big thank you to all those members who make the effort to come along and participate in the branch meetings.

Many thanks to the members who volunteered for executive positions or other committee as without you APLA and the Perth branch of APLA would not be able to function. There is always things to do but being able to share the load reduces the workload on any one individual. Firstly, a big THANK YOU to the outgoing executive and committee, the branch could not and would not function without the tireless efforts of those members who volunteer their time and knowledge to fill the various positions.

For the executive, James Alison, as Vice Pres, Marise Palmer as Treasurer and Susan McKenna as the secretary you have all put in large numbers of hours in support of the branch and your efforts have ensured that the branch has run smoothly.

When I started to write this Presidents report I looked back over my previous three president reports and in my first report I said thanks to the Committee members and other volunteers, in particular Greg Young and Greg Eller for your tireless efforts with researching and finding areas for camps along with those members who assisted you run the camps your efforts are again what makes this branch work, again in the second report and the third, and now here we are at a fourth report and both myself and APLA are again deeply indebted to the two Gregs because you guys put so much energy and effort into the APLA and the branch, with organising not only a beginners camp but also the branch camp that have again proved to be a great success.

Likewise we have had Linda and Team in the kitchen, and Steve Palmer and team who organise the raffles each meeting along with the merchandise not just for the past year but for the past four years, so you guys have been stalwarts of APLA and the branch again without people like yourselves there wouldn't be newbies camps, general camps, sausage sizzles and everything else that you do so you are all to be commended on the efforts you put into the branch and the association as whole.

### **The Year as it was:**

From the moment I took over the reins of the Perth Branch from the long serving John Plummer four years ago it has been full on. As part the role of being president and delegating all the tasks to my fantastic committee members I have continued as one of the branch State Executive members and retained the Treasurer & Membership Officers' role at the state level. While my job as President hasn't required that much input from me over the past year because the committee have filled in and picked up the slack on my behalf when required, when I have been away for work, holidays or prospecting, the State Executive job has kept me completely flooded with things to do, and in the background the Perth branch has had a very full years' worth of activities and events.

Over the past year we assisted at the Reeds open Day when they moved to their new shop, and raised money for Telethon, as well as the RFDS.

We had a few days at the Perth 4WD and Adventure Show in early November on the Reeds Prospecting stand handing out fliers and talking to visitors about APLA and what it does for them as prospectors.

This was followed closely by yet another very successful APLA Open day which saw around 300 visitors come through the doors throughout the day for the various presentations and informative talks. This was the sixth open day held at the venue which has proved to be a continued success with new members being signed up on the day as well as a number in the following weeks. In addition to the onsite raffles on the day we also held a registered lottery with first prize being a Minelab GPX5000. The purpose of the Raffle was to raise additional funds for the branch to assist with training members and offset the costs of the public Open Days. The Raffle was a great success and the fact that it was won an APLA member was a bonus.

Steve Palmer team organised a great members social day early in the new year which like the meetings was well attended despite the gloomy weather, so thank you Steve and team for your efforts.

We scheduled three GeoMap training nights but only ended up with one being held due to lack of numbers. This is partly due to the lack of promotion for the courses by myself as I was snowed under with other commitments, and I think also due to the fact that there are a number of other options to learn GeoMap now, with Reeds offering a Prospecting 101 course which combines a bit of Geology with the basics of GeoMap, as well as Gold prospecting WA (Bill O'Connor) online courses, the one on one training I provide through our business and the free overview and help provided to members on the camps.

If there is demand for the APLA run courses we will offer them again in the New Year, for other interested members. I am sure that those who attended learnt a fair bit from the night. These training sessions were on a user pays basis with the Perth branch subsidising the cost as well as the training being provided at a discounted rate. In addition, we have other members in the room providing assistance to the those that need it throughout the night.

As previously mentioned, Greg Young and Greg Eller and team again put in a stellar effort to organise a newbies camp, the Perth branch camp, as well as arranging ground for members who attended the AGM last year.

Aside from branch activities and issues the executive has had a busy year with a new Mining Legislation Bill, raising its head, Pastoral Lease and rangelands access issues, the introduction of the new ASPLA Constitution and By-Laws at last year's State AGM just to name a few of the issues. In addition a huge number of hours continues to be put out into improving the APLA website, managing and increasing membership and producing the APLA newsletters. This is all done by members giving up their own time for the association so a big thank you to all those involved.

In summary the Perth branch is continuing to grow and is very active. The next twelve months will be a pretty full year with this planning for year's 4WD show and Open Day that is fast approaching.

In closing I once again wish to personally thank everyone that has put their hand up to help in some way or another not just over the past 12 months but at any time during their APLA membership because these people make APLA what it is and we are lucky to have the number of members who continue to put their hands up to take up committee positions, assist with shows and open days and put together activities for their fellow members.

So, a very big thank you to those members, and I would strongly urge any member who wants to get more out of prospecting and APLA to become involved with your branch because if more that get in help then a lot more can be achieved.

Finally, due to my heavy workload and other commitments I will not be nominating for the position of president again for the incoming executive, I have however nominated to remain on the state executive as a delegate and if elected will hopefully complete the task of automating as much of the treasurer and membership officers job as possible before handing it over to someone in the next couple of years.

The incoming executive and committee will need your help as members to make these events run smoothly



There will be exec and committee positions that need to be filled, please don't just sit back and do nothing put you hand up and help us to continue to grow so we can continue to fight for all prospectors' rights.

**Kurk Brandstater**

**Perth Branch President 2016,2017,2018,2019**

**Minutes of APLA Albany Branch – 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019.** Read out by nominated person Marise Palmer.

## Albany Branch meeting.

### Previous meeting minutes:

Accepted

### A/Treasurers Report:

Current: \$2106.65 in NAB account.

Accepted

**Inwards Correspondence:** Considerable emails from branch executives received in relation to DMIRS view that PLH can/not erect signs, charging fees, locking gates and to prevent metal detectorists from prospecting on PLH's.

**Outgoing correspondence:** A letter of thanks to Minelab, for providing camp prizes at Easter.

### Important Business – Election of Office Bearers.

<b>President: Gerry Gregson</b>	M: A Roberts	S: N Smith
<b>Vice Pres: Dave Hammond</b> (absent)	M: G Gregson	S: A Roberts
<b>Secretary: Bruce Smith</b>	M: A Roberts	S: J Burton
<b>Treasurer: Arthur Williams</b> (absent)	M: G Gregson	S: J Burton
<b>Com mem1: Andy Roberts</b>	M: J Burton	S: G Gregson
<b>Com mem2: Brian Rimmer</b>	M: J Burton	S: G Gregson
<b>Delegate1 : Noleen Smith</b>	M: G Gregson	S: J Burton
<b>Delegate2 : Gerry Gregson</b>	M: A Roberts	S: N Smith

**Motion put :** That only 7 members be required to form a quorum at meetings.

Moved: G Gregson, 2<sup>nd</sup>:J Burton

### General Business: -

1. PLH phone numbers are now available from DMIRS offices.
2. DMIRS advise of 7 golden rules.
3. State AGM to be held in Leonora on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019.
4. Section 40e's cost more from 1 July. Now \$90 and take 3 to 6 weeks for approval.
5. Executive staff payments to be discussed at the next meeting.
6. Discussion as to whether an invitation to Lapidary group participation at next meeting.

**Our next regular meeting for 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019 in the Men's Shed.** (same date as State AGM)

Photo attached.

B. Smith, Secretary Albany Branch, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

(E&OE)



### **Webmasters report 2019**

**Webmaster Report [www.apla.com.au](http://www.apla.com.au) 2018/2019**

#### **Main changes this year 2018/2019**

- **Blog has been built but at present only the Webmaster and President have ability to create the posts. Members can however comment on blog posts.**
- **APLA Facebook page has been growing in use and apart from some issues with unapproved advertising has become a very useful communication tool for members.**
- Access **to MantisMail for Branches** secretaries has now been provided and every Branch has a secretary member who has access and can send emails to their members
- ○ Training Has been provided to all Branches .
  - Templates created for APLA and every Branch to use as a guide for emails.
  - Branches can now send their emails and specify what group they want to target e.g.
    - Financial Members.
    - Non-Financial members.
    - And other specific lists relating to their branches

**(Note that there is significant risks with this under US Canspam Act and Australian Spam Act 2003 so introduction will be carefully monitored – there has been no abuse that can be seen such as using the email lists for non-APLA Purposes)**

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### **Current System Changes in Progress in Conjunction with the Treasurer**

- To be completed as required during the membership- accounting period.
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### **Maintenance of the Email Alias System for Executives and experimentation with a Contact Us Form Ongoing.**

An interactive form has also been used on the “Pastoralist Incident Reporting” page.

### **Handover to New Webmaster - Garry Carrol**

I will be handing over the webmaster duties to Garry Carrol at the AGM this year. Garry has had extensive experience in the IT industry and he will bring many new ideas and innovations to the position. Garry is a member of the Perth Branch of APLA.

Several meetings have occurred between Garry and I to facilitate the change and it will be seamless. I will however be available to assist Garry in creating content for the APLA website as required or if required.

### **Bill O’Connor**

### **Webmaster 2018/2019 - Contact Bill O’Connor <mailto:webmaster@apla.com.au>**

The Secretary Marise Palmer said Thank YOU to Bill O’Connor for his innovative and technical know-how and as a long-standing volunteer on both Perth Branch and State executive of APLA. He was Perth Secretary 2013 then State Secretary 2014 then State Treasurer for APLA 2015 then Webmaster 2016- 2019. He is a valued Life Member . Bill has indicated that he will help with just being an email or phone call away for Garry Carrol.

## **Report The Datum Post, AGM 2019**

TDP has had a new editor since 2015., with six editions a year. Articles have ranged from gold production and mining to prospectors out in the field and industry matters.

TDP has tried to keep the newsletter as informative as possible with the latest news realises on Western Australian, Australian and World gold news, whilst retaining a balance between leaseholders, non-leaseholder prospectors and pastoralists. We have updated a contact List at the front of TDP for all branches and state executives. We will be putting our advertising rates in the next issue on a permanent basis.

A few dedicated readers have continuously submitted articles over the years but reports from APLA Branches have generally been poor. An email is sent out 2 to 3 weeks before each issue to Presidents and Secretaries of local branches requesting articles, or other relevant information. Replies have been few and far between, please if you have anything that may be of interest to members email them to the editor.

TDP has not become a sounding board for personal gripes or complaints (leave that to Facebook) but has tried to inform members of the BIG Picture. Whatever affects Leaseholders or Pastoralists will affect all prospecting members.

An introduction of a Letters to the Editor and Advertising page has generated contributions from members, so continue forwarding any to TDP. Please remember...

**DISCLAIMER: The Datum Post takes no responsibility for articles or advertising material published in its newsletter. Opinions expressed are those of the original authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or the association. Persons acting on any article or advertising published in The Datum Post do so at their own discretion**

It is the editor's intention to update TDP header in the near future. So, if you have a good photo of a poppet head, abandoned mine or picture submit them to TDP, to see if they can be used in this new header.

Remember contributions from members is what keeps TDP interesting, so please send in any articles, photos or other paraphernalia so we can share with the readers. Even a good day on your lease. New technical equipment.

**Steve Palmer**

**Editor The Datum Post 2015-2019**

**aplanews@apla.com.au**

**11.55pm State AGM closed**

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

I, Les Lowe of 7 Fourth Avenue, Shoalwater, and I, Marise Palmer of PO BOX 2737 Ellenbrook, certify that:

- a. We attended the annual general meeting of the association held on 21st September 2019 in Leonora.
- b. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2019 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.
- c. The Constitution was passed by majority of over 75% in agreement at the AGM and being submitted to DMIRS.

Signed by President Les Lowe 7/10/2019



Signed by the Secretary Marise Palmer 07/10/2019

*Marise Palmer*

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**The State Conference commenced after lunch at 12.50 pm**



Minelab GUEST SPEAKER

Everything Minelab. Jason Hosking

**DRAWING OF MINELAB RAFFLE Prize FROM MEMBERSHIP DATABASE. SA Winner- Joanne Banks Goldfields Branch.**

This was drawn from all the membership base of APLA of WA Inc as at the 18<sup>th</sup> September by random number.

Figure 1 **MINELAB** GPX 5000 Membership Draw. Value RRP \$5400



**Announced by MINELAB representative - Jason Hosking**

Jason advised members that Minelab had closed down in South Australia. Minelab are constantly improving their equipment and servicing. For this side of Australia servicing can be done through your local dealer or with Minelab service dept in Esperance.

Marise Palmer the secretary thanked Jason for his interesting talk and keeping members up to date. Several questions from members were answered.

**GUEST SPEAKER**                      **Patching session - Glyn Morgan a prospector of 40 years.**

### **BASIC PATCHING FOR GOLD IN WA**

By G. Morgan

You must approach the finding of gold in an ordered and methodical way. Random chance does not play any part in a professionals search for gold.

#### **1. RESEARCH**

An understanding of the geological and historical supplies the basic necessary information in the search for a patch.

##### **Geological**

A basic understanding of the geology (ie **how, why and where minerals and metals form**) is critical in all facets of prospecting. It supplies potential mineral shed areas, gold formations and **statistical** information etc.

1. Workshops - **Bob Fagan series is brilliant**
2. Books and Maps
3. GSWA etc
4. Proprietary software programs

##### **Historical**

The mineral history of both yesterday and yesteryear supplies a footprint of previous finds, exploration, types of gold and gold flows.

1. Geoviewer and WAMEX (DMIRS)
2. Maps
3. Books and Battye Library
4. Mining Companies etc

#### **2. AREAS TO PROSPECT**

**What is the point in finding a potential mineral resource if you cannot mine it?** Always take a copy of your miner's right.

Ground that can be legally worked.

1. Vacant Crown Land
2. Exploration tenements (40e)
3. Your own tenement
4. Agreements with tenement holders.

#### **3. PATCHING CONCEPTS**

The main type of gold we chase is alluvial which will hopefully lead up to a mineable resource i.e. Shaft or Open Cut mine. (Current Gold)

Many patches have arrived not derived from their present position so you must be able to **interpret the gold found** and where it was found. (Old Gold)

The gold found at 100 mm in the ground was not always there but UP there! Remember that the current maps do not tell you about geology 1 kilometre above where you are standing. The question is where has this gold gone?

Gold takes a long time to break down so all the gold shed should still be out there. Consider the Deep Leads locally where the alluvial gold wash was up to 40 metres deep. If the gold cannot go down then it must be mobilised outwards in river systems. Remember that we had a tropical period about 100 million years ago.

What happens in river systems? The heavier materials are sorted to the bottom. This is mainly iron which will rust. This causes these beds to reweld themselves together. These old rewelded systems are very difficult to erode so the ground around erodes leaving a series of hard capped hills.

When out patching always look and consider the land form from the perspective of **time**.

What is the point of trying to find a patch in close proximity of old workings where thousands of people have looked before? Most big new patches of gold will be found either in **under looked** areas or further out from current positive geological zones.

#### 4. **STARTING THE SEARCH**

At this point it is critical to understand that all you have done is **increased the odds of finding gold**. You must have done your research and have areas worth investigating which have potential gold targets. Carry a comprehensive printed map with these targets marked.

Assessment of an area is critical before you start as it shows the gold potential, any historical footprint, **recent footprint** and familiarizes yourself with the area for safety.

Look for:

- a. Old shafts and dryblowings
- b. Drill holes and soil sampling
- c. Old flow lines etc

GPS these points and place them on your map.

#### 4. **FINDING THE FIRST OFFENDER**

A basic understanding of where gold concentrates and potential shed points are essential in finding gold.

- a. Streams and rivers
- b. Bottom of hills
- c. Shed points
- d. Old flow lines.

Detecting for patches is not rocket science. Correct patching revolves around **minimizing** time between targets, **maximising ground coverage** and **systematically** working the area to find the first piece in the puzzle.

RESEARCH + HOG + DOG + WOG = GOLD

Always have a start point in your program of works, which will be the higher priority areas.

Work these areas methodically.

I use the pace principal when loaming 1 pace = 1 oz.

Use your skills to assess the best approach to loaming but flow with the country.

Then do it to the **plan**.

What you must understand is that once this area is loamed you must then move on and accept there is easier gold to find.

**Detecting aspects** associated with loaming.

**Remember metal detectors do not find gold they are just a sampling tool!**

What is the most common size of a gold nugget? Very small, (~ 85 % < 10grams) so set up your patching around finding the smaller gold nuggets.



Coil selection is about **ground coverage**.

Metal detector selection is about a quiet and all terrain machine.

Detector modes are about sensitivity and stability.

## 5. **IS IT A PATCH**

Finding the first gold nugget in an area is very important as it justifies all your efforts. Test the area for multiple targets but be a bit patient here and try to understand that the first piece might be a just that or could be a small or very large patch.

If multiple targets are found try to find the scope of the shed. This will help you in designing the detecting of this patch. GPS this point onto your map for future reference.

**Detecting aspects** associated with finding the gold in a patch.

Always chain a patch at least three ways.

Use different coils and timings on cross chain if the patch allows.

Always chain right around the patch.

Always tight loam around the chained zone (investigate all the local flow and shed patterns)

## 6. **SERIAL OFFENDER**

The first patch or even single piece indicates that the area might be auriferous, **the type of gold** and potential shed patterns. This will increase likely local area's so do a reappraisal of your planned target areas then add them to the list. This will mean that you might have to **relook** at areas already loamed.

If the area develops then try and find a pattern of loaming that suits the gold being shed. But be aware gold comes in many disguises so be fluid in your approach.

## 7. **MINE**

The goal of all this prospecting is to develop a mineable resource. So always carry extra water, a clean set of gold pans, dolly pot and sample bags. Remember that you are always looking for **future gold** the stuff that has not been eroded and diluted.

**Remember Gold does not move fast, so every day you are looking for the patch is a day closer to finding it!**

The Secretary thanked Glynn Morgan for his time as Guest Speaker at the APLA AGM. Glynn really brought the place to life with his presentation on patch hunting which was excellent. I'm sure there'll be some prospectors from the audience that will have a different view on prospecting after your talk.

### **GUEST SPEAKER                      Prospecting with Blue Balls -Tony Pilkington**

Tony advised members with a PowerPoint presentation on his newly adapted equipment the Blue Balls or ball mill impact crusher he had been working on over the last couple of years for processing gold. He advised members on the process and not to forget to lubricate the water. It is designed to put through several tonnes.

The Ball Mill works basically on the principle the mill rotates off a 3phase motor or similar and usually controlled by a variable speed drive so you can increase or decrease the motional speed of a ball mill. This rotates the drum through a type of gear possible ring gear. The balls start to move inside the drum. Crushing the rocks and when wet it becomes a slurry, where it is grinded down. The Rock gold ore are feed into the mill consistently on a conveyor from a crusher. They exit the ball mill when small enough into a classifier. In the mining industry we may use grinder mills to liberate minerals from baron rock in order to find gold. A type of Hydro classifier was used to separate the gold from the slurry.

After Several Members ask questions from the audience.

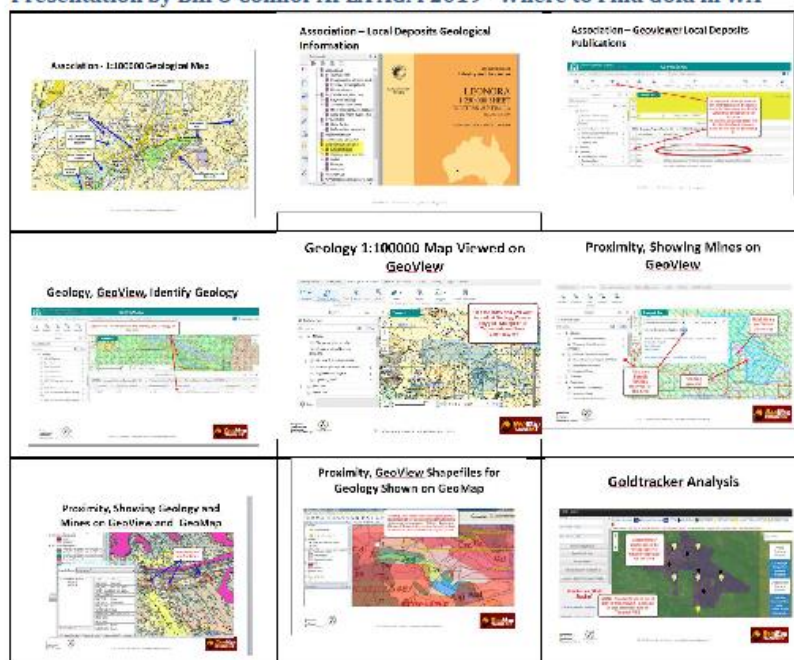
Les Lowe thanked Tony Pilkington for his time as guest speaker to the AGM and reminded that whether you are a recreational detector or a leaseholder we are all the same.

Bob Fagan explained to members that representative sample is related to the size of the sample, eg 1kg at assay lab if its representative you should be able to go back to the spot and hopefully get the same result. If not then the sample is not big enough. So several 1kg can give your different results. So take a larger sample to assay.

### **GUEST SPEAKER**                      **Where to find Gold - Bill O'Connor**

Aimed at people who are new to gold prospecting, so we look at targeting where the gold is easier to find. There are some other places to target other than around old gold sites. Secondary Gold and alluvial gold are still around. Dissolved gold is weathered down over time with things like rainwater events, or as a result of evaporation bringing the gold out from its source rock. 100 of millions of years later being placed. The secondary places where a form of gold can be sometimes found in the laterite, calcrete. So, the primary source is near by then as a metal detector you trace where the gold may be. The technology available now is amazing to help you locate these areas. Tengraph web free and online, Geomap offline, Geoview online and free. Shape files keep you UpToDate with where you are allowed to be and of course updated daily. The rock types and deposits, Geological structure by proximity, old gold mines, dry blowing areas etc. Use WAMEX. So, make sure you set it up including the drill holes. By reading the data you can tell whether is worth going into that area. Archean rocks and gold. By association gold will be told in the map area by the Geology and you can look for similar geology. Goodview you can search for information by selecting the Geo catalogue. Explanatory notes. It will take you into the bookshop to download in PDF format. Geoview will help you identify the geology, on pending you can go they're some are pending for 8 years. Shows Bedrock geology and greenstone beds. Salt lakes calcrete, the third method is **proximity**, so you are more likely to find it around old gold mines. You can target those.

#### **Presentation by Bill O'Connor APLA AGM 2019 - Where to Find Gold in WA**



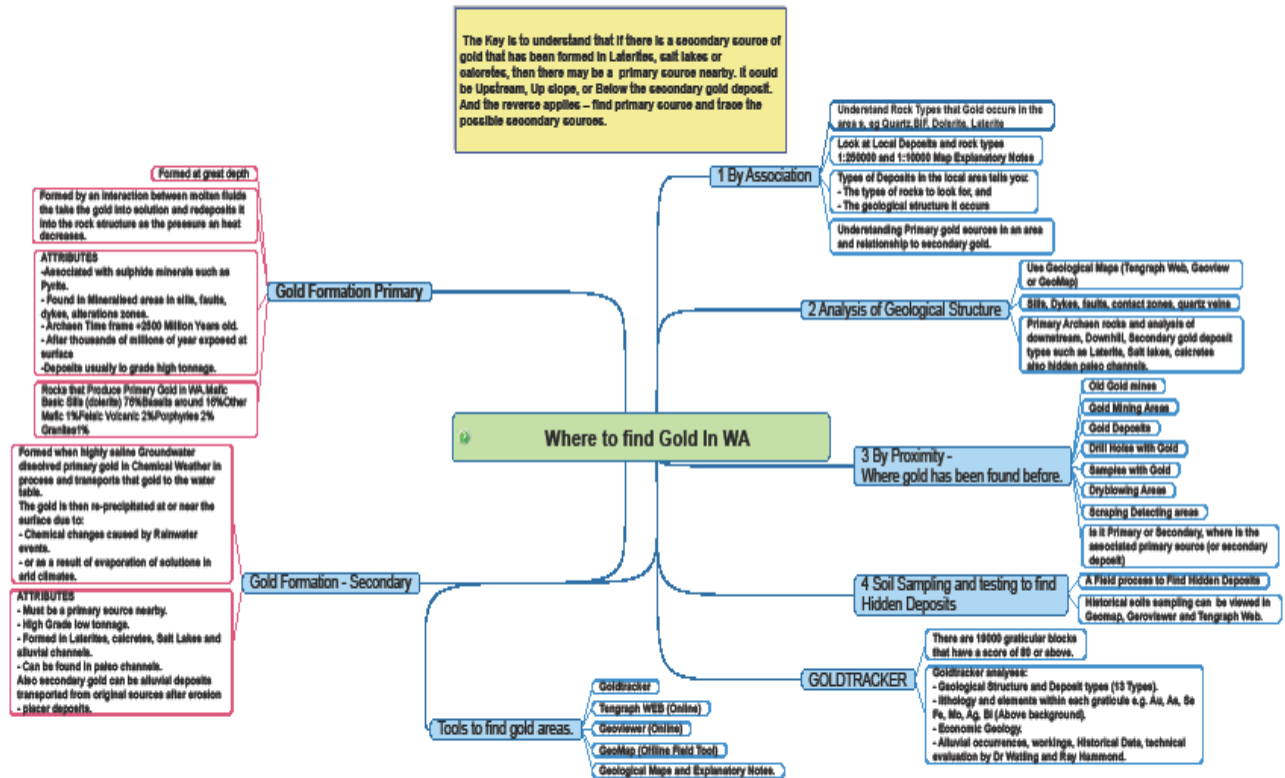
Contact Bill O'Connor [www.gold-prospecting-wa.com](http://www.gold-prospecting-wa.com) (see Contact Us Page) For newsletter signup just go to website and sign up on the form on any page.

Website, [www.gold-prospecting-wa.com](http://www.gold-prospecting-wa.com)  
[www.geomap-training-wa.com](http://www.geomap-training-wa.com),

Email [billandsueoconnor@bigpond.com](mailto:billandsueoconnor@bigpond.com)

W R O'Connor and U E Kaschner  
"Helping you find Gold Nuggets in WA"  
0407062505 Home 08 93051496

# Where To Find Gold in WA - APLA 2019 AGM Presentation Bill O'Connor



Geoview will work on any browser now it was updated earlier this year.

Members ask Bill several questions on his interesting talk.

(APLA Life Member) DR Bob Fagan’s Teachings to learn more about Geology and Gold Geology in WA. • Available at Metal Detector Outlets. • He has a new product launched here at our AGM. Donated some CD’s with valuable knowledge.

**GUEST SPEAKER**

**LES LOWE—Industry update on improving interactions between  
Prospecting and Pastoralist and industry matters**

LL spoke about the incident report that is now available on the website for members to use should they experience any problems with access into Pastoral Leases. Mobile phone numbers are available from DMIRS. After our complaints this year Dmirs has been proactive in the field to go towards resolving some issues with pastoralist.

Carbon Farming known as Human Induced Regeneration a bit like pregnancy Permits are apply for these permits WA pastoralist have not shown much interest and 80% has gone to eastern states. Cattle farming in this area is not making money so its alternative income stream. We are concerned if they start a carbon farm will we still have unfettered access. After several meetings the general feeling is that pastoral stations will

grow the trees and they get paid for them like carbon trading. If a pastoral lease holder takes up this carbon farming but the mining sector will be able to go in there. It will not affect prospectors at this stage.

### **Aboriginal Native Title and Heritage Industry Liaison Committee (ANTHILC)**

The big issue within this committee is a major piece of legislation regarding the protection of Aboriginal Heritage. It involves a total rescinding of the current WA Aboriginal Heritage Act and a whole new Act. Full consultation has been undertaken and full details can be obtained from the Dept of Lands Planning and Heritage (DLPH) website. APLA has been heavily involved in this right from the start. However, it seems that our concerns and those of the corporate miners have largely been ignored.

Aboriginal affairs minister Ben Wyatt has managed the complete rewrite of the aboriginal heritage act, we are expecting this early next year 2020 and we think they are being a bit optimistic that it will get through in time. Until we see the green bill, we do not know what we are getting into, although general feeling is it's NOT in our favour. We have made a stakeholder submission and gone to various workshops.

Ongoing

### **GASA Geraldton Area Settlement Agreement**

The Noongar people sold their native title rights from South West Australia and now they operate under an ULUA Indigenous Land User Agreement. "The GASA is a similar principle.

The GASA suggest that existing granted mining leases will be excised but contains no assurances that existing pending and future license or lease applications will be excised in a similar manner. This leads APLA to believe that any and all future tenement applications can be overridden or vetoed by the existence of GASA project in the same areas. This is "right of veto" by another means. In previous discussions with ANTHILC we were given assurances that GASA will never override or dilute the rights available under the WA Mining Act". We would have unfettered access. Whether this is true remains to be seen. Trying to buy an area roughly from the Abrolhos Islands to Geraldton to Yalgoo. The deal was State Govt would pay 2.3 billion with no more negotiating they get reserve lands instead but the mines dept wanted it all excluded from the take over of the land. They were not interested in doing the deal. Only mining licenses with 21 years tenure will be excluded. We have lost the expiration of Exploration Leases and Prospectors leases its not agreed to but will be soon.

Native Title grants take a hold in Kalgoorlie and Sandstone right through the goldfields area, this is where it is heading. Recreational operators and leaseholders will be affected.

The Green movement of National Parks are insidious, and they are out to fence off all of the land from prospectors. In Victoria, WA is the last state standing with the rights we have in the mining act and recently the Eureka Echo complaining about taking away 600,000 hectares turning into parks with NO access. No prospectors. The Victoria mines minister then is saying she supports the mining industry in the next page which is contradictory. We don't want the green movement to take a hold over here.



## GUEST SPEAKER      Geo View —Kurk Brandstater

Kurk spoke on the ease of using GeoMap and Geo view and ran through the operation of the GeoMap. Talked about Happy APP and GeoTracker.

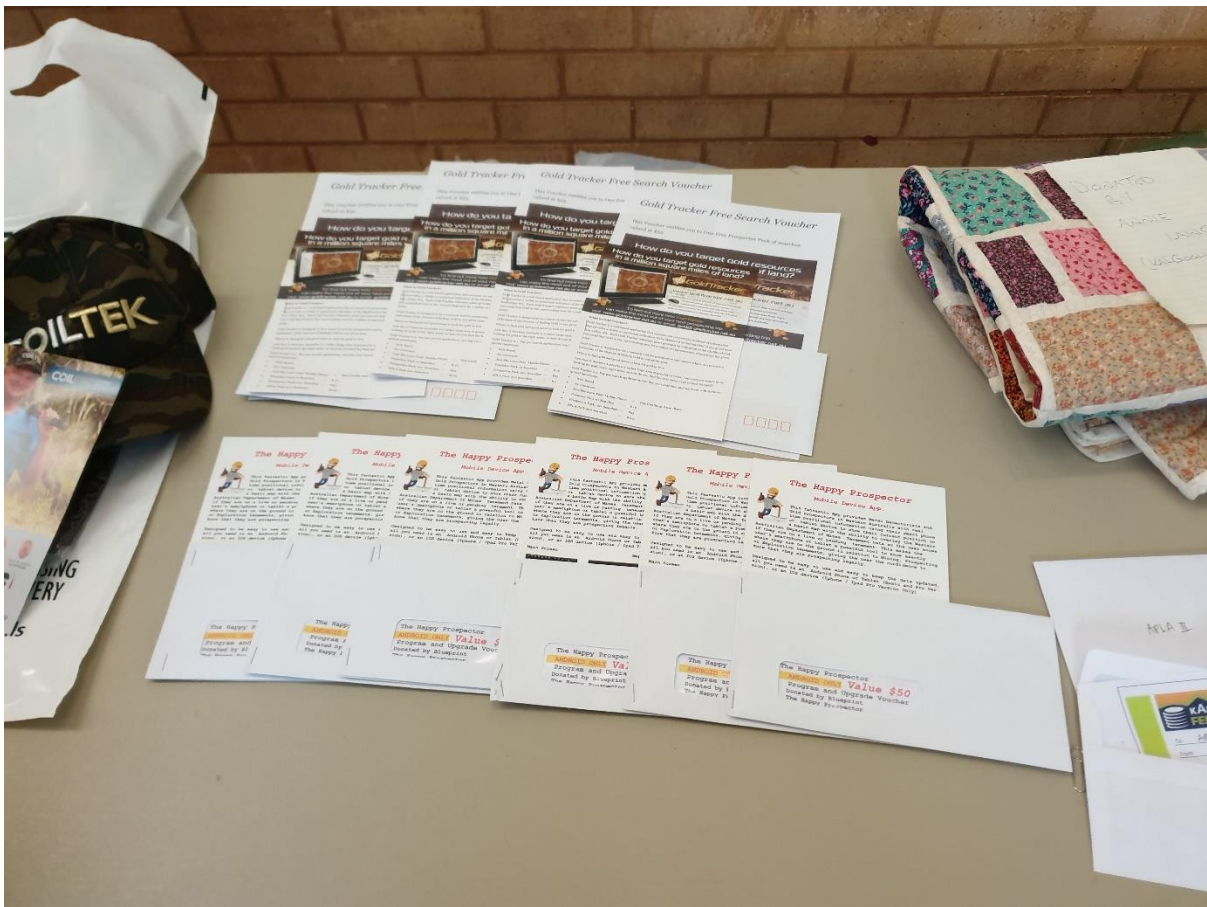


Figure 2 Happy Prospector and Gold Tracker donated by Kurk Brandstater Perth Branch

**3.00pm DRAW OF ATTENDANCE PRIZE**

Winner-Gary Sprunt Perth Branch Member – 14 x9” Inch Coil Tek with ML2300 Kit. Value \$375.00 coil conversion \$70.00. Don't forget to register it with CoilTek Gary and thank them.



Conference closed at 3.15pm.

Sponsors for this event:







Figure 3 donated by Perth Branch Member



Figure 4 donated by Perth Branch Lindas embroidery



Figure 5 Reeds Prospecting Perth



Figure 6- raffle volunteers and merchandise



[www.gold-prospecting-wa.com](http://www.gold-prospecting-wa.com)

Free tips and information to help you find gold



**Udo Kaschner**  
Ph: 08 99631156  
Mob: 0428936961

**Bill O'Connor**  
Ph: 08 93051496  
Mob: 0407062505

or contact us through [www.gold-prospecting-wa.com](http://www.gold-prospecting-wa.com)



Figure -GOLD PROSPECTING WA.COM metal detecting bag x 3 GPX5000 and control box cover. Value\$125 + control box cover \$39.00 each. Total \$492.00

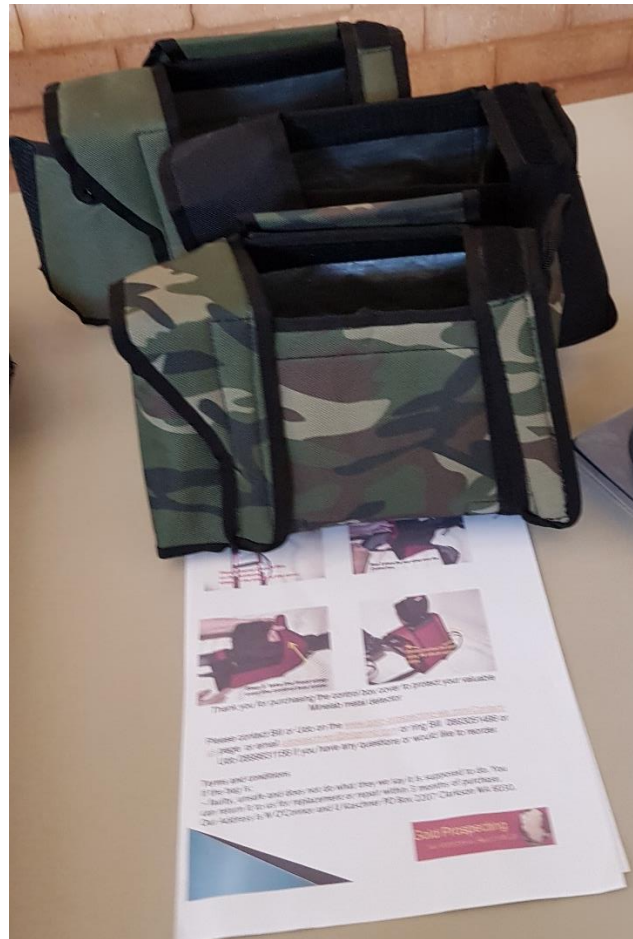




Figure 7-Donated by Prospectors Pick South West branch



Figure 8 donated by Goldfields Branch -Robs wife kindly donated handmade quilt.





Figure 9 Prospectors Patch Garrett superstore -2x gold scales and panning and more



Figure 10 FINDERS KEEPERS donated a coil and Gold extreme SDC accessory pack 11 inch. \$375



Figure 11 Goldfields branch wash bucket kit



Figure 12 NUGGET FINDER 17x 13" evolution top coil. \$570





Figure 13 Coil Tek 14 x 9 gold extreme with conversion Kit for MLSDC2300 RRP \$375.00 + \$70

Thankyou Coil Tek. APLA members support our sponsors.



Figure 14 Altronics - Donated by Brian Lowe please support our sponsors.

Thankyou to Altronics in Perth, Cannington, Myaree and Balcatta - APLA members support our sponsors

Figure 15 Gold Prospecting WA - courses 3 of Value \$174



Figure 16 REEDS PROSPECTING Perth GPZ 7000 cover 2 xharnesses 12 scoops with drink bottles,oki straps and hats Value \$650

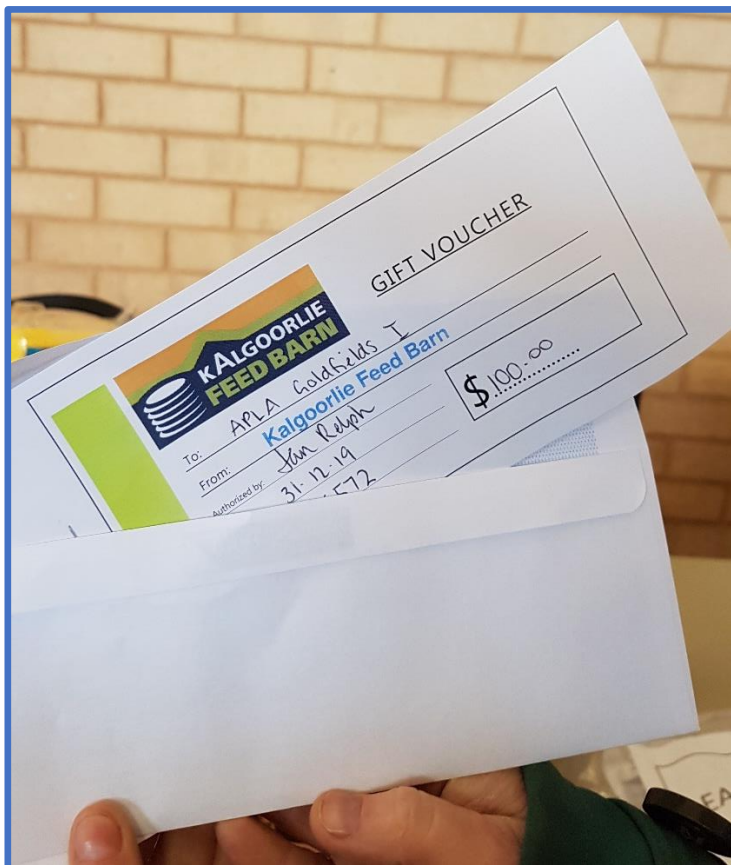


Figure 17 APLA Goldfields - Kalgoorlie Feed Barn 2x \$100 donation. Thank you





Figure 18 Donated Mandurah Branch Les Lowe who will take orders 04438679782

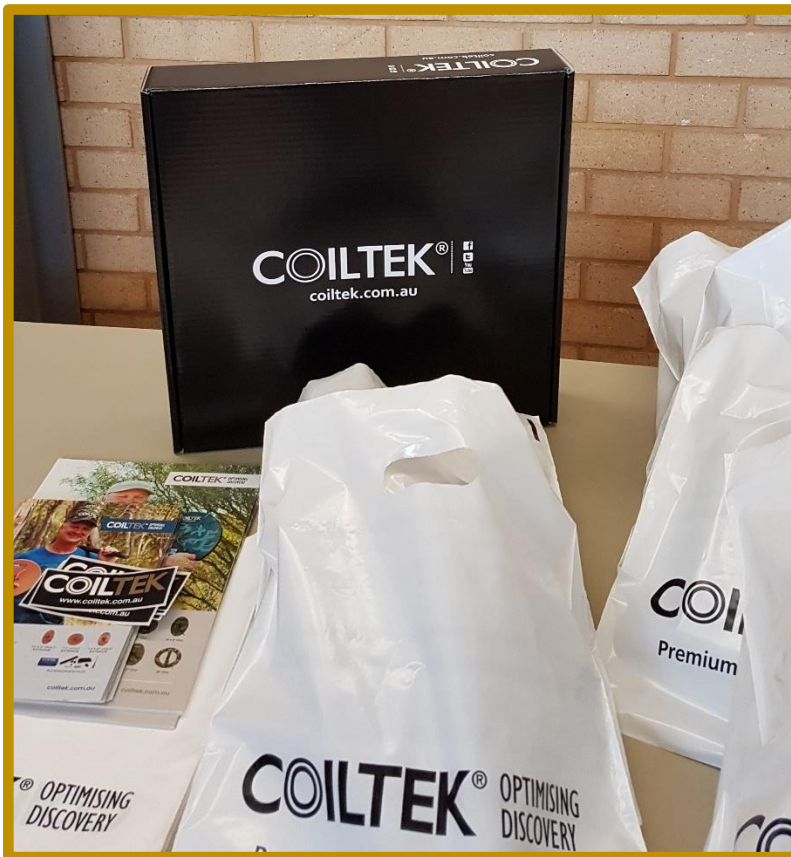


Figure 19- COILTEK promotion pack. hats, coil and literature. 17 x 11" mono elite- Don't forget to register and thank your sponsor. Value \$459.00

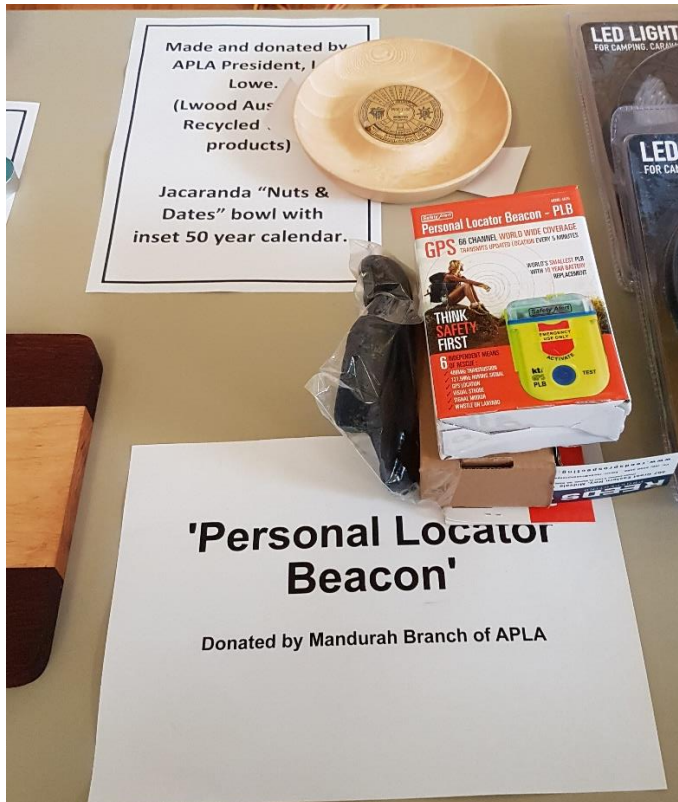


Figure 20 PLB donated by Mandurah Branch value\$ 300



Figure 21 Donated by Natural Gold Nuggets- call Richard for some great gold rates and beautiful pieces, call in next time you're in town and mention APLA.





Figure 22 natural gold nuggets advert

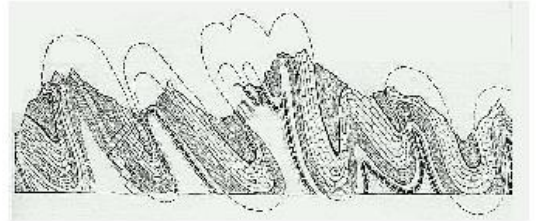


**About the author**

Dr Fagan has been a geologist for over 45 years, and most recently, twenty years lecturing in all aspects of geology in the Department of Mineral Exploration and Mining Geology at the Western Australian School of Mines in Kalgoorlie, a division of Curtin University in Western Australia. Dr Fagan has a PhD in geology and has a solid background in the geology of most parts of Australia and New Zealand and is the author of numerous technical articles, and papers and has run extensive courses on various aspects of geology and exploration geoscience to industry. He is an active prospector, leaseholder and small miner in WA and has a comprehensive knowledge of gold in the primary and secondary regolith environments.

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Annual General Meeting and Conference  
APLA of WA Inc held 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019  
Secretary Marise Palmer-sec@apla.com.au



**A**malgamated  
**P**rospectors and  
**L**easeholders  
**A**ssociation of W.A. Inc.



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Since 1904