

The Annual General Meeting of the Down to Earth Cooperative Society Ltd will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 22nd November 2018 at CERES, 8 Lee St, Brunswick.

AGENDA

- Minutes of previous AGM
- Financial Reports
- Other Reports
- Opening of Director Positions
- Election of Directors
- Motions to be voted on
- Close

There are four (4) positions for Board of Directors.

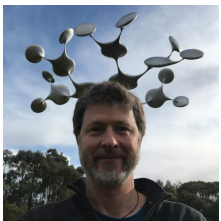
Re-standing board members:

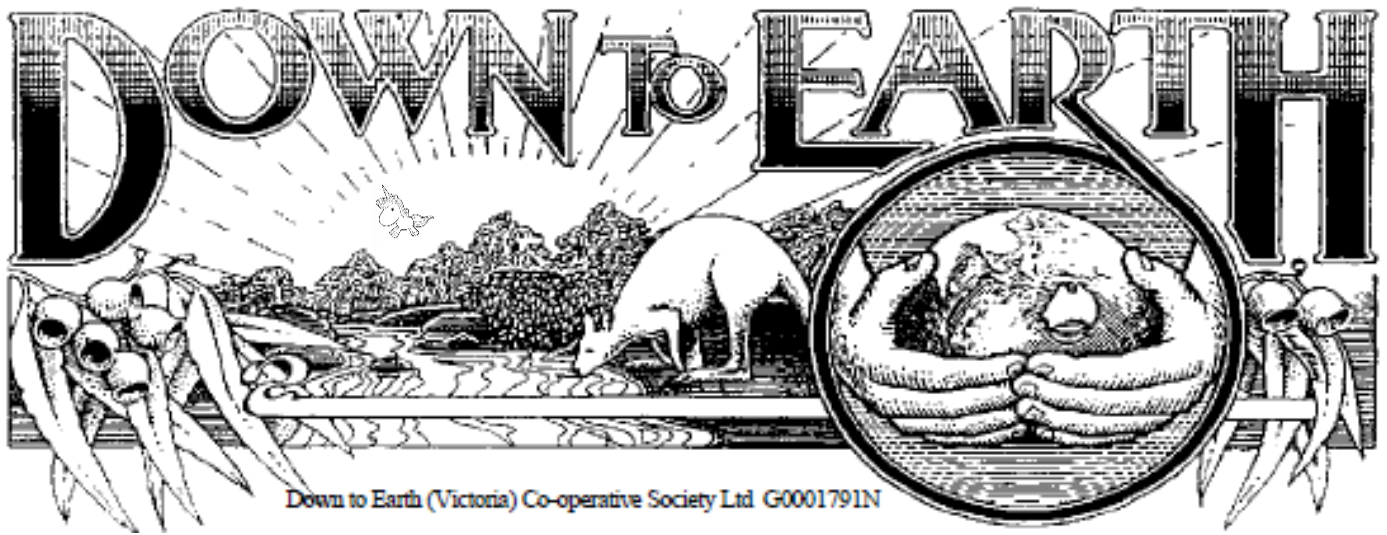
Kate Shapiro, Martin Schwarz, Mark Rasmussen

Re-tiring board member: Don Royal

Retained board members: David Cruise, Coral Larke, Troy Reid

Nominations for 2018 election:





Motion by Steve Poyton. Supported by Trevor Pitt and Lars Nissen

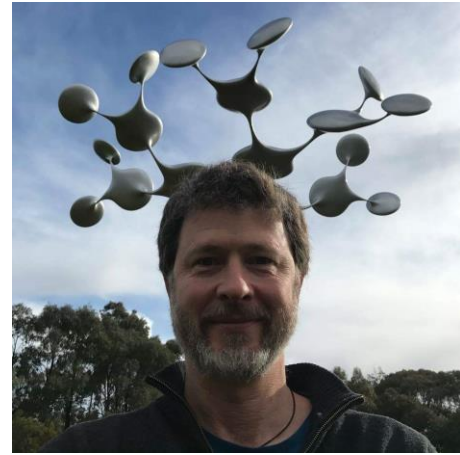
1. That Marty is empowered to seek independent legal advice about the legality of sound recording devices on our camera's.
2. That cameras are installed on the DTE property to protect DTE assets.

(With the understanding that existing cameras will be removed if the motion is not passed.)



Grant Waldram

After 30 ConFests, I still remember the sense of awe and acceptance I felt at my first one, and it completely changed my life. I believe its aims of acceptance and social innovation can be an inspiration for everyone as much as they were for me. I became involved with First Aid in 2006, and have over the years worked on Communications, Fires safety, Arts, Toilets and Water, always with the intention to help preserve and further the ethics and social values of the festival. I hope to ensure our community continues to set examples for new approaches, both technological and social in a world where they seem more and more needed.



Kate Shapiro

I am a current director and co-facilitator of First Aid. As I write this, I am working on our compliance and permits for Easter 2019. I love our festival and want us to implement things in ways that are consistent with our community values. I wish to foster an environment of participation, inclusiveness, and community in all that we do.

Kathy Ernst

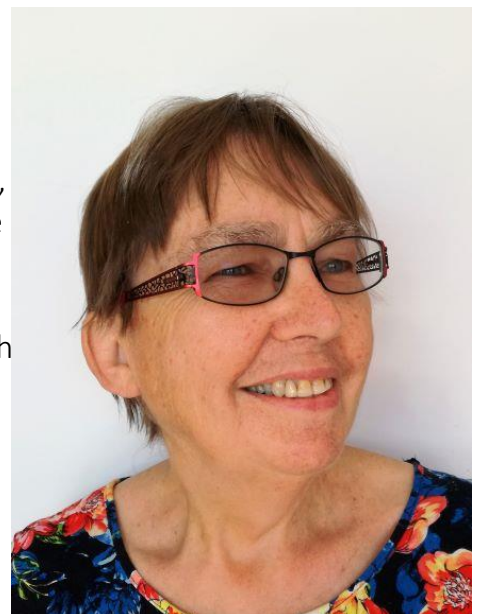
I love ConFest. My love of ConFest is what inspires me and I want ConFest to continue forever.

I want to ensure that ConFest remains true to its origins as a Conference Festival exploring alternatives. ConFest is a genuinely non-commercial grass roots event where community, inclusiveness, diversity and participation are central to our core values.

As a director, I will take seriously my responsibility to ensure that DTE complies with Government regulations and meets high standards of financial accountability, transparency and community expectations for safety and wellbeing.

Just as importantly, I will ensure that we foster the growth and continuation of our self-organizing, bottom up structure of DTE where everyone can participate and everyone is heard.

ConFest has changed our lives for the better. Let's ensure that the magic of ConFest continues.



Kristen Tunney

Since my first ConFest in 93/94 I've been to over 35 ConFests. In '05 I joined the Gypsy Kitchen and was one of its facilitators for 11 years, in '07 I became a DTE member. Over the years I've done a range of volunteer work for DTE and ConFest: toilet crew, graphic/web design, feeding volunteers, digging trenches, wrangling paperwork, making signs and pulling weeds among others. Recently my main work has been coordinating the Villages, Workshop and Activity spaces at ConFest: approximately 40 spaces of different sizes at Woorooma ConFest '18. I've also been working on the membership committee to set up some clear and simple processes to better manage our paperwork.



I am passionate about ConFest, it's been an important part of my life for almost 25 years, I believe in it as a unique opportunity for humans to learn about themselves and others, and to become better humans in the process. I had the privilege of watching my daughter grow up at ConFest and I want to make sure the amazing experience that is ConFest continues to be possible. I have a lot to be grateful to DTE for, and I intend to continue giving my effort, energy, love and skills in the future, to help it evolve into the vibrant and diverse community organisation that its founders aspired to.

Mark Rasmussen

My vision as a DTE Director

I believe that a Director of Down to Earth has a huge responsibility to help manage the Organisation to continue to perform its primary task of hosting ConFest each year. I have just completed my first term of two years as an elected Director. During this period I have been involved in bringing in some changes to the way DTE operates, to make it easier for volunteers to take on a role and be part of the group that puts ConFest on. I have supported the introduction of on-line meetings to enable people to attend meetings and have a say, no matter where they live. I have supported many of the large projects, including the recent ConFest Site relocation, and the new ConFest water supply project. I would like the support of DTE Members to help me continue my work by electing me as a Director for another two year term. I enjoy working as part of a team to make DTE and ConFest better, and to make the Organisation a better place for all members. I have a vision to provide more opportunity to use both DTE properties at Bylands and Woorooma for members to participate and enjoy the space all year round.

If re-elected as a second-term Director, I would like to see the return of a Summer ConFest at Woorooma. I would work with Council and other agencies to achieve Summer ConFest 2019.

This is the commitment I would make to the DTE Members. Thank you for your support.

Regards, Mark Rasmussen.



Martin Schwarz

I have been a ConFester for 23 years, and over that time i have watched ConFest change in several ways. But what has never changed is the beautiful atmosphere our community can create. I have been involved with numerous festivals and have never found another like it. I was hooked from the moment i arrived for the first time. This crazy group of people that i now call my family. My life considerably changed then, and the ripples from that still shape my decisions today.

I have completed my first two years as a director, and am now looking towards what can be done over the coming years. I have been actively working towards developing a new ConFest community in the Northern NSW region and are hoping to get a festival going at a site we have located next year. This is not something i wish to run, it is more about developing opportunities for others to come together and build something grand.

It is obvious that many of the members feel that they have not been listened to by the current board. It is essential to ensure that the community and the member's voices are heard.



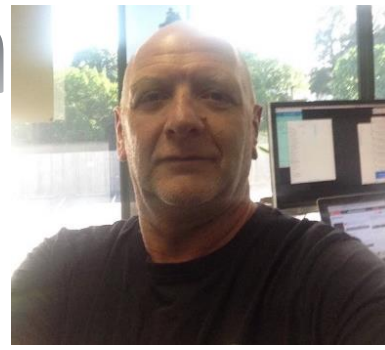
Peter Tippett

I was a teenager when I first went to ConFest. It opened a new and amazing world for me. I would like the unique spirit of ConFest that I experienced as a teenager to continue long into the future so that generations to come can experience the joy of ConFest.

I believe it is the people that make ConFest what it is . Our amazing ConFest Community; our members, volunteers and the wider community, come together each year to create the most unique and special festival in the world. This is what I want to support. I would like to see DTE become a more inclusive and safer environment for volunteers to contribute. We can bring some of the ConFest creativity and spirit into other areas of DTE. Needless to say, I fully support the return of a summer ConFest.



Robin McPherson



My recent contribution to DTE was to get Board members to attend the ICDA Conference, helping them to further their knowledge on what it means to be a good director of a Not For Profit co-operative. A board that opens itself to understand what the responsibilities are, of its legal, ethical and financial responsibilities knows how to enable the community within a sound framework.

I have twenty years of experience in organising gatherings and developed an understanding that an effective board does not dominate the community. It enables the committees and does not interfere with committee decisions, hence, I encourage Self Organising systems. This does not mean One Self does all the Organising, it means to create frameworks, models, containers which empowers people.

My approach to board matters would be to seek relevance, if a matter is more OC or CC I will request it be forwarded accordingly. I would focus on the board, the co-operative and its governance and redefine what the board is involved in and what it is not. In time the board should be in a substantially different position in relation to the other DTE entities such as CC, OC, Market and ConFab as well as external organisations where necessary.

I have been a board member of Arts Nexus for four years, one of FNQ's leading Arts/Culture organisations I also have the experience of being a director of two organisations, regarding experience as beneficial to the role. My actions over the last few years has been to bring transparency and good governance to DTE. Most importantly I would like to think DTE could begin the journey back to being an organisation in service to the greater 7000 ConFesters, not just unto ourselves.

Steve Gregory aka Scouse

I pledge to remain bi-partisan and fair in my judgements if elected to the Board. My only desire as a DTE Volunteer is to act in the best interests of the Co-op, its Members and our ConFesters and all my skills and Licences, 18 years of built up knowledge of almost all areas of ConFest setup, running, pack down & maintenance and administration skills will always be available and given when required. Sincerely Steve Gregory 1619



Taisha Reed



Embracing our need for evolution through self exploration. In hosting a conference Festival we can invite all aspects of potential evolution into play- Spiritual, Intellectual, Sensual, Physiological & so on. Drawing on shared knowledge from all ages, genders & all cultural backgrounds, new ways of life can be planted, adopted & grown to positively shape our connections, lives, communities & world. From this platform all concepts of growth, thrive. It's my vision to nurture this effective evolution, inspire exploration, & introduce ways & means of integrating these lessons into our everyday life.