Mental Health Carers NSW

# MHCN Annual General Meeting (AGM)
# Agenda & Minutes
# 27 November 2025

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| **Venue:** | Windeyer Room, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts (SMSA)<br>280 Pitt St, Sydney NSW 2000 | |
| **Date & Time:** | Thursday, 27 November 2025<br>2.00 - 4.00pm | |
| **Board:** | Anne Stedman (President), Lynda Walton (Vice President), Andrew Pryor (Treasurer), Elizabeth Preistley (Secretary), Chris Avent (OBM), Douglas Holmes (OBM), Matthew Floro (OBM), Raja Gopalan (OBM). | |
| | **Attending:** Jonathan Harms, Laura Knight, Alex Brown, Jade Curran, Madeleine Fabian, Richard Baldwin, Armie Farooqui, Prasheela Karan, Ellie Christen, Anne Stedman; Andrew Pryor; Chris Avent, Douglas Holmes; Matt Floro, Raja Gopalan, Ian Bickerton, Simon Johnson, Alex Li, Nikkie Shoveller. | |
| **2.00pm** | Welcome | Jonathan Harms, CEO |
| **2.10pm** | Acknowledgement of Country &<br>Acknowledgment of Carers & Lived Experience | Jonathan Harms, CEO |
| **2.15pm** | **Apologies** – Lynda Walton, Elizabeth Priestley, Melissa Goldman, Alyce Cannon, Sue Hellier, Vicki Warner, Margaret Coles. | Jonathan Harms, CEO |
| | Confirmation of minutes of 2024 Annual General Meeting - proposal to accept. Accepted unanimously. Moved by Chris Avent and seconded by Anne Stedman respectively. | Jonathan Harms, CEO |
| | Opening of Annual General Meeting:<br>President's Report.<br>• Anne Stedman spoke about the lack of Mental Health services and supports for carers in the community, the passing of Jenny Learmont, her time as staff member at MHCN as well as what she will be offering as President going forward and the dynamic make up of MHCN's team, improving our ability to reach a wider cross-section in NSW. She touched on the Strategic Plan and how it assists in the running of the organisation, keeping us on track and preventing role creep. | Anne Stedman, President |

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| | Anne Stedman also noted the increase in MHCN's membership and how seeking sustainable funding sources in the future will strengthen MHCN's position. Anne Stedman farewelled Elizabeth Priestley as well as acknowledged the sterling efforts of Jonathan Harms as CEO and MHCN's staff, thanking, in addition, NSW Health as our major funding body.<br>• The President's report was adopted unanimously by the meeting attendees. | |
| **2.30pm** | Presentation of 2024 – 2025 Annual Report & Strategic Plan, Year in Review.<br>• Jonathan Harms presented an overview of the Annual Report including mention of the 50th Anniversary Celebration, acknowledging Laura Knight's contribution and continued with a tribute to Jenny Learmont. Jonathan Harms also acknowledged the progress of each team and recognised each staff member individually, including the Board's hard work as volunteers. | Jonathan Harms, CEO |
| **2.40pm** | MHCN Staff Year in Review:<br>Staff coordinators touched briefly on their achievements for the year and on current and upcoming projects, including:<br>• Prasheela Karan, PAT,<br>• Alyce Cannon, DAFP,<br>• Jade Curran; CDT/SET,<br>• Madeline Fabian and Melissa Goldman were introduced as a new staff members of the CDT/SET teams, and<br>• Laura Knight, BOSS. | MHCN Team Coordinators and Madeleine Fabian |
| **2.50pm** | Presentation of 2024-2025 Annual Financial Report:<br>• Approved Financial Report and Audit report - moved by Andrew Pryor, seconded by Chris Avent and carried by the meeting attendees unanimously.<br>• Confirmed appointment of auditors of Thomas Davis and Co to continue for year ended 30 June 2025 and 30 June 2026 as carried in last year's AGM. | Andrew Pyror, Treasurer |

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| | • Move resolution to file Financial Report with Department of Fair Trading - moved by Raja Gopalan, seconded by Matthew Floro. | |
| **3.00 pm** | Sharon Grocott confirmed the re-election/election of:<br>• Anne Setdman as President,<br>• Matthew Floro as Secretary,<br>• Chris Avent as Ordinary Board Member (re-elected) and Nikkie Shoveller and Simon Johnson as Ordinary Board Members (new). | Sharon Grocott, CEO, Wayahead |
| **3.05pm** | Eunice Lonergan Carer Respite Grants Draw. The following carer's names were drawn at random:<br>• Emily Legg,<br>• Hahn Tran,<br>• Jemma Brown,<br>• Kelly-Ann Veale,<br>• Lisa Zulfiqar,<br>• Margaret Cracknell,<br>• Matthew Cruz,<br>• Michelle Rossi,<br>• Ula Lewellyn, and<br>• Virginia Barry. | Jonathan Harms, CEO |
| **3.10pm** | General Business, including questions and comments taken. | Jonathan Harms, CEO |
| **3:15** | Break | NA |
| **3:20** | A presentation from BEING's CEO was given with time for questions afterwards. Giancarlo de Vera covered his own lived experience and BEING's mission for a human rights lens on the review of the Mental Health Act. | BEING, CEO, Giancarlo de Vera |
| **4.00pm** | AGM Close | All |

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