



## Minutes of the General Meeting held on Sunday, September 30 2018 hosted by Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society

Present: Names removed from Web minutes for privacy reasons.

Apologies: Names removed from Web minutes for privacy reasons.

The Meeting commenced at 2.00pm. Heather Arnold, President of the Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society, welcomed all present and spoke about the renovations to the Museum which has meant they have been closed all year. Libby welcomed Roger Clark, President of the newly formed Grantville History Group and also President of the the Bass Valley Historical Society. Roger is the publisher of the Waterline News <https://www.waterlinenews.com.au/> and the Western Port Times <http://www.grantvillehistory.com.au/>

### Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the May 2018 meeting were accepted on the motion of Robyn which was seconded by Lyne. Business Arising: Nil.

### Reports

#### President - Libby Skidmore

George Bass was born at Aswarby in Lincolnshire and Libby has been communicating with members of the community, St Denys' Church in Aswarby has recently been restored and Bass Valley Primary and Aswarby school are now 'twinned' (You can read more about this here <https://www.sleafordstandard.co.uk/news/aswarby-church-with-links-to-australian-explorer-celebrates-completion-of-restoration-work-thanks-to-heritage-lottery-fund-1-8643780>)

Art displays, in the form of lights, have been installed in the Waterline towns – Luminous Galleries – read about them here [http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/Visiting/Arts/Luminous\\_Galleries](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/Visiting/Arts/Luminous_Galleries)

#### Correspondence - Heather Arnold

Bass Valley Historical Society flyer - Dinner Meeting 9/9/2018; Grantville History Day 6/10/18 flyer; newsletter July 2018, September 2018\*\*Brighton Cemeterians The Cemeterian September 2018\*\*Chelsea & District Historical Society newsletter September 2018\*\*Dromana & District Historical Society flyer newsletter June 2018\*\*Friends of Cheltenham & Regional Cemeteries *Raves from the Graves* July 2018\*\*Hastings Western Port Historical Society newsletter June 2018, September 2018\*\*Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp Historical Society newsletters June 2018, July 2018, August 2018, September 2018\*\*Lang Lang & District Historical Society Newsletter July 2018\*\*Leongatha & District Historical Society - Shingler Memorial Lecture and Dinner flyer; newsletter September 2018\*\*Mordialloc College Alumni Association *Ventured* July 2018 September 2018\*\*Mornington & District Historical Society newsletter June 2018, August 2018\*\*Narre Warren and District Family History Group newsletter *Spreading Branches* August 2018\*\*Nepean Historical Society newsletter *The Nepean* June 2018, September 2018\*\*Phillip Island & District Genealogical Society *Reflections* August 2018\*\*Rye Historical Society newsletter *White Cliffs* July-September 2018\*\*Somerville Tyabb and District Heritage Society newsletter June 2018, September 2018\*\*Wonthaggi and District Historical Society newsletter *The Plod* June 2018, July 2018, August 2018, September 2018, Annual Memorial Dinner flyer

## Treasurer's Report – Heather Arnold

| Income to 30/6/2018 |          | Expenditure to 30/6/2018  |          |
|---------------------|----------|---------------------------|----------|
| Subscriptions       | \$420.00 | Hosting Societies         | \$200.00 |
| Interest            | \$187.67 | Consumer Affairs          | \$ 56.90 |
|                     |          | Seminar                   | \$170.00 |
|                     |          | RHSV m'ship and Insurance | \$183.30 |
| Total Income        | \$607.67 | Total expenditure         | \$610.20 |

Bank balances - Investment account \$8,576.18; everyday account \$624.88. Total \$9,201.06  
Heather moved that the report be accepted; this was seconded by Robyn and carried unanimously.

### Seminars

Cemetery Seminar – Springvale Botanical Cemetery have offered the Bamboo Room for the seminar, seats 50, projector and screen already in the room. Room hire is \$200.00. They can also provide tea, coffee and morning and afternoon tea, price to be confirmed. We cannot provide our own catering. Bruce moved the motion *that we book the room and the catering*. This was seconded by Audrey M and carried unanimously. We have also expressed an interest in hosting a History Victoria Support Group seminar - Lynne B to follow up. To coincide with the Dandenong High School centenary in 2019 we will hold an Education seminar.

### **Forthcoming events**

- The launch of a book on the history of World War One soldiers from the Pakenham area, written by Patrick Ferry, will be held on November 11 at 11.00am at the War Memorial at Pakenham (cr John and James Street)
- Phillip Island & District Historical Society Annual Dinner is on Saturday, November 24 and the guest speaker is Mike Cleeland - Dinosaurs of Bass Coast  
<http://seha.org.au/event/dinosaurs-of-bass-coast>
- Wonthaggi & District Historical Society Annual dinner is on November 30 - the theme is Wonthaggi & District Hospital School of Nursing 1912 – 1967  
<http://seha.org.au/event/wonthaggi-district-historical-society-annual-dinner>
- Dandenong & District Historical Society Christmas lunch – December 2 at 12.30pm at the Dandenong Club <http://seha.org.au/event/dandenong-district-historical-society-christmas-lunch>
- Bass Valley Historical Society Dinner is on Friday, December 7 at the Corinella Hall. The theme is 'Show and Tell' <http://seha.org.au/event/bass-valley-historical-society-dinner>

### **Sharing – issues, useful information or items of historic interest**

Libby raised the issue that a delegate has requested that the SEHA have a 'code of conduct' that applies to all attendees at meetings and that this should be distributed to all delegates. Bruce pointed out that as we are an Incorporated Body our Constitution and meeting procedures already cover this. Lynne said that a separate document could, in her experience, just give a person ammunition to snipe at other members and it is not a panacea. John said that we are all volunteers and if you don't enjoy it as a volunteer then perhaps you need to find another outlet for your time, however all participants should be respected. In the end it was decided that we do not need a separate 'code of conduct' and that all delegates need to abide by our existing rules.  
Action: Secretary to write to the party involved.

Gaye reported on the ongoing revitalisation of the Phillip Island Heritage Centre - the plans are basically back to square 1. Christine Grayden was awarded a Museums Australia Victoria Lifetime Achievement Award for her work as Curator on Churchill Island. The Museum has been redesigned and now both looks and works in a more streamlined manner. The *Phillip Island and San Remo Advertiser* has had a series of articles on the history of Phillip Island, to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first land ballot. The meeting decided that the Secretary should write to the *Advertiser* on behalf of the SEHA encouraging them to publish the articles into a single

volume. The latest edition of *Coast* magazine has a feature on Phillip Island history including an interview with Gaye and other Island residents. You can read it here <https://coastmagazine.net/>

Audrey D reported on an inappropriate development planned for the block next to their Museum in Pakenham - over development of the site, inadequate parking provision etc. They are hosting an event to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Shire of Berwick on October 10.

Jenny reported that the Society is involved with a bus trip highlighting the history of Dandenong on October 13 as part of the Seniors Festival. At their AGM to be held on October 21 Carmen Powell will be stepping down from all her roles. Carmen is a Life Member, former President and currently edits the *Gipps-Land Gate*.

Robyn reported that Springvale are still in their temporary premises and will not relocate in the new Springvale Library until mid 2020.

John talked about the Shackleton Exhibition currently on display at Hastings Western Port <https://www.anmm.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/shackleton---escape-from-antarctica> Their coffee morning where the subject of the Wonnangatta Station murder was discussed was very popular. Shirley Davies has donated the porch from the original Latter Day Saints Church in Hastings - it is 130 years old and was moved to a family property after the building was demolished. It has been re-erected in the Museum grounds; however the local Council is being very bureaucratic about the process. John told us about the Latter Day Saints (LDS) in the Hastings region - his grandfather, Ashton Woolley, was a member of the Reorganised Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints. Ashton had met an American LDS preacher in Queensferry and became converted and took the religion back to Crib Point where he lived. Lance Hodgens has written a book on the LDS in Hastings *A Town divided in two*.

Heather reported that it is 100 years since Carlo Catani died and there are various exhibitions celebrating his life. Catani was a Public Works Department engineer who worked on the Koo Wee Rup Swamp and reclaimed the St Kilda foreshore amongst other activities

Libby spoke about Traces magazine (the successor to *Inside History*) <http://www.tracesmagazine.com.au/>

### **General Business**

Note from Secretary: General Business sort of got mixed up with my new Agenda item which I have called Sharing - might have to re-assess all this for the 2019 meetings.

**Meeting finished at 3.30pm. The next meeting will be held on February 10 2019, hosted by the Berwick Pakenham Historical Society.**