



**Minutes of the General Meeting held on Sunday, May 5, 2019
hosted by Phillip Island & District Historical Society**

Present: Names removed from Web minutes for privacy reasons

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The Meeting commenced at 2.30pm, following a presentation on Mary Potter's Nature Notes by Christine Grayden. Libby thanked the Phillip Island & District Historical Society for hosting our meeting and organising such an interesting guest speaker.

Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the February 2019 meeting were accepted on the motion of Robyn Robie which was seconded by Bruce Proctor. Business Arising: Moorabbin Historical Society - Box Cottage is not closing.

Reports

President - Libby Skidmore

Libby reported on Bass Valley matters including the forthcoming Dinner meeting and the change in the editorship of the *Waterline News* and the *Western Port Times*, due to the ill health of Roger Clark. Their new President, Jane Hendtlass, is settling in well and has lots of ideas.

Correspondence - Heather Arnold

Correspondence received since the February 2019 meeting: Bass Valley Historical Society flyer Dinner Meeting 14/6/2019; newsletter May 2019**Brighton Cemeterians *The Cemeterian* March 2019, Notes March 2019, April 2019, May 2019**Chelsea & District Historical Society newsletter February 2019**Dandenong & District Historical Society *Gipps-Land Gate* April 2019, Dinner Invitation 15/6/19**Dromana & District Historical Society - AGM notice**Frankston Historical Society newsletter February/March 2019**Hastings Western Port Historical Society newsletter March 2019, report for meeting**Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society newsletters March 2019, April 2019, May 2019**Mornington & District Historical Society newsletter February 2019**Rye Historical Society newsletter *White Cliffs* April - June 2019**Somerville Tyabb and District Heritage Society newsletter March 2019**Wonthaggi and District Historical Society newsletter *The Plod* February 2019, March 2019, April 2019.

Treasurer's Report – Philip Harris

Income to 30/4/2019		Expenditure to 30/4/2019	
Subscriptions	\$420.00	Seminars	\$ 54.85
Interest	\$181.05	Consumer Affairs	\$ 57.80
		Hosting Society	\$ 50.00
		RHSV Insurance	\$188.30
Total Income	\$601.05	Total expenditure	\$350.95

Treasurer's Report - Philip Harris continued

Bank balances - Investment account \$8,757.23; everyday account \$693.93. Total \$9,451.16
Philip moved that the report be accepted; this was seconded by Veronica and carried unanimously.

Project Officer - Lynne Bradley per Heather

We have organised the Cemetery Seminar for Sunday, October 13 at the Cranbourne Library Complex. It will be held in conjunction with the Narre Warren & District Family History Group and will be advertised as part of the City of Casey Aging Positively Festival.

Sharing

- Bass Valley Dinner Meeting will be held on June 14. Guest speaker is Colin Robinson, Victorian Re-enactment Society, The Battle of Waterloo. All the details are here - <http://seha.org.au/event/bass-valley-historical-society-dinner-meeting-3>
- Dandenong & District Historical Society Annual Luncheon is on June 15. Guest speaker is Martin Culkin - retired Principal of Dandenong High School. All the details are here <http://seha.org.au/event/dandenong-historical-society-annual-luncheon> Jenny reported that the guest speaker at the April meeting was Stana Sargood who spoke about the Dandenong Festival of Music and Art. The Gartside Cup, which is now housed at the Historical Society, was awarded each year to the best school choir in Dandenong.
- Gaye reported that earthworks for a new roundabout have unearthed over 1,300 Aboriginal artefacts. They are currently being researched. It is the largest collection of artefacts found on the Island in one group and remarkable for being inland rather than on the coast. Bruce reported that an Open Day at the Phillip Island Museum was well attended.
- Robyn attended the book launch of *Along the Line: Caulfield to Oakleigh Rail Stories* published by the Glen Eira Historical Society. Springvale had supplied some photos for the book.
- Veronica reported that Mordialloc was coming along well - has some new members, including a new Secretary.
- Lyne and Jane - the family History Group are celebrating 30 years on May 11. They are holding a cemetery tour at Bunyip on October 20. Their guest speaker at the June 15 meeting is Heather Sheard author of *Women to the Front: Australian Women Doctors of the First World War*. The Guest speaker at the August 17 meeting is Carol Rosenhain author of *The Man who carried the Nation's Grief: James Malcolm Lean MBE & The Great War Letters*
- City of Casey Heritage Festival was held at the Fishermans Cottage in Tooradin on May 4. Attendance was moderate, but enthusiastic. Nine Heritage Groups attended and had a great day networking. Cranbourne Shire Historical Society hosted the event and did a magnificent job. The City of Casey had 10 *Connies Cards* made up for the event - read about them here http://www.connies.com.au/swap_cards/ The Connies is a collective of tram conductors and performers who tour festivals and shows etc, dressed in period Tramways uniforms. They entertain and educate *creating and distributing beautifully crafted collectable swap-cards that bring environmental, social, historic and cultural themes to your community.*
- Koo Wee Rup Annual Luncheon is on May 26. The guest speaker is Mat Bowtell who volunteers his spare time and funds to design and make open-source prosthetic devices for those who cannot afford them. All the details are here <http://seha.org.au/event/koo-wee-rup-swamp-historical-society-dinner-guest-speaker-mat-bowtell>
- John gave an extensive report on Hastings Western Port's activities –
 - The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council has nearly completed a Place Making 2018 project to enhance the Historical Society's premises. Part of this project was to create a Historical Walk around Hastings and this has been achieved by the placement of eight points of interest telling the story of Hastings. Honouring the fruit and fishing industries of Hastings, steel cut outs of the Johanna fishing boat and the 40 Pounder Armstrong Gun have been made and placed in the front of the museum together with four fruit trees of the type that were originally planted in the orchards.
 - The Morning Coffee on February 14 looked at the Hastings Festival/Western Port Festival which has celebrated 50 years. The May 9 Morning Coffee is a presentation by Jenny Bryant OAM and her work rescuing and caring for wildlife, specifically

Koalas. Jenny has built a hospital facility on her property in Tyabb where she carries out her rescue work.

- The Society laid a wreath at Hastings on ANZAC day - which was well attended.
- The Society is still in the process of working through the 'hoops' from the local Shire after gaining a grant for the restoration of the 134-year-old Church Porch from the now demolished Regorganised Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints building. They are hoping to have the Church Porch finished and relocated to their premises by October 2019.
- Phillip reported on the Dandenong High Ex-Students Association. The school is 100 years old this year and there will be an Open Day on November 23.
- Gaye promoted the new book on the Phillip Island Cemetery *At home on the hill* by Pamela Rothfield. It is a look at the 73 people buried in the first 30 years of the cemetery from 1870 to 1900. [More information *Waterline News* April 2019 pages 36 and 37
<https://www.waterlinenews.com.au/files/Waterline-News-APRIL-2019-std---a.pdf>]
- Paula McCarthy sent me a report from the Mordialloc College Alumni Association –
 - We await the outcome of our latest grant application to PROV for assistance with oral history interviews. I will be attending a couple of Oral History Victoria training sessions to learn about interview processes and skills - especially in case our grant application is not successful.
 - We completed the digitisation of 1000s of slides and negatives and now the task is to date, identify and cull. We will load images onto our website and Victorian Collections, but a challenge is to source a suitable watermarking process to protect provenance of the images.
 - War Service Honour Board - the collection of names of those who served who attended the school continues to be a tedious and onerous project. The list is exceptionally long and is nowhere near complete which is causing frustration and delay. The project was suggested by and, is in part funded, by a 92-year-old former student and so we are anxious to try and complete it.
- Robyn had a cautionary tale about the need to maintain your computer back-ups – the golden rule is 'more than one copy in more than one location'

Meeting closed at 3.50pm. The next meeting will be held on August 4, 2019 at 1.30pm. It was going to be hosted by Chelsea, but their Museum is still undergoing renovations and will not be ready, venue is thus to be confirmed.