



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and the General Meeting held on  
Sunday, August 4, 2019  
hosted by Springvale & District Historical Society**

Present: Names removed from Web minutes for privacy reasons

Apologies: Names removed from Web minutes for privacy reasons

**The Annual General meeting commenced at 2.00pm**, following a presentation by Colin Robinson, President of the Springvale & District Historical Society. [You can read a report of Colin's talk, [here](#)]

### **Welcome**

The President, Libby Skidmore, welcomed us to our 53rd Annual General Meeting and thanked Springvale for hosting the meeting.

### **Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting**

A motion to accept the 2018 Annual General Meeting Minutes was moved by Robyn and seconded by Bruce. Motion carried. There was no Business Arising from the Minutes.

### **President's Report – Libby Skidmore**

This year has held several events that made us think of our society's future. Sadly, we lost our president Roger Clark. His enthusiasm and passion for community history will be greatly missed. I was led to think of the things we should do to make our group strong in the face of change.

1. Have we involved the new members to our community. There are always new families retiring here or moving here for work, school or play. Can we help them share our interest in local history, the place where they live, the local landmarks, the school, the old houses, the park, the trees and gardens, even the cemetery?
2. Have we encouraged new (and younger) members of our group to join the committee and sub committees that may hold their interest, archives, family history, interesting people of the past, displays and talks and walks to explore their new homes.
3. Have we considered succession planning? At Bass Valley we neglected this and after two deaths, a care home stay and the recent resignation of the president we are now in the position of starting again or falling into the same old habits and mistakes.
4. Are we keeping up with the constant demands of our archives? Have we returned documents to sources that require them, the Education Department for instance? Is it necessary to get an outside report that will highlight the tasks ahead.....and who will do them?
5. Policies. What policies do we need? Casey Cardinia have shared a lot on the SEHA website, accession, cataloguing, display, etc. Do we need a policy for our volunteers, for our social media pages, and most necessary these days a privacy policy?
6. Lastly and vitally ....Are we still enjoying what we do? Self-assessment is important. We should not let our hobby become a chore with all the paperwork and accountability requirements that we are faced with.

## Treasurer's Report - Philip Harris

Annual Financial statement for 2018/2019.

Income to 30/6/2019		Expenditure to 30/6/2019	
Subscriptions	\$420.00	Hosting Societies	\$100.00
Interest	\$181.05	Consumer Affairs	\$ 57.80
		Seminar	\$ 54.85
		RHSV m'ship and Insurance	\$188.30
Total Income	\$601.05	Total expenditure	\$400.95

Bank balances - Investment account \$8,757.23; everyday account \$643.93. Total \$9,401.16

Philip moved the motion that we adopt the Annual Statement of Accounts. This was seconded by Leonie. Motion carried unanimously.

### Election of Office Bearers

All positions were declared vacant. Dawn moved the motion that the outgoing committee be re-elected, this was seconded by Leonie and the motion was carried.

The Office bearers for 2019/2020 are -

President: Libby Skidmore

Senior Vice-President: Veronica Hahn

Junior Vice-President: Robyn Robie

Secretary: Heather Arnold

Treasurer: Philip Harris

Project Officer: Lynne Bradley

### Review of Annual Subscriptions

Philip moved that the fees remain at \$20.00, this was seconded by Lynne and the motion was carried unanimously.

**Meeting closed at 2.10pm and was immediately followed by the General Meeting.**

### Minutes of the previous general meeting

The Minutes of the May 2019 meeting were accepted on the motion of Bruce which was seconded by Veronica. Business Arising: The question was asked if the SEHA is accepting membership from School Alumni organizations. The answer is that the SEHA welcomes all groups with a Heritage focus such as Historical Societies, Museums, Family History Groups, Alumni Groups and organizations which look after heritage buildings such as Mechanics' Institutes.

### Reports

#### Correspondence - Heather Arnold

Correspondence received since the May 2019 meeting: Brighton Cemeterians Notes - August 2019\*\*Chelsea & District Historical Society newsletter May 2019\*\*City of Moorabbin Historical Society report August 2019\*\*Dromana & District Historical Society – Newsletter May 2019, invitation to Main Ridge water tank mural unveiling 23/7/19\*\*Friends of Cheltenham & Regional Cemeteries newsletter *Raves from the Graves* May 2019\*\*Hastings Western Port Historical Society newsletter June 2019, report for meeting\*\*Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp Historical Society newsletters June 2019, July 2019\*\*Lang Lang & District Historical Society newsletter June 2019\*\*Mornington & District Historical Society newsletter May 2019\*\*Narre Warren & District Family History Group newsletter *Spreading Branches* May 2019\*\*Phillip Island & District Historical Society newsletter May 2019\*\*Rye Historical Society newsletter White Cliffs July - September 2019\*\*Somerville Tyabb and District Heritage Society newsletter June 2019\*\*Wonthaggi and District Historical Society newsletter *The Plod* May 2019, June 2019, July 2019. Email from a member of one of our affiliated societies re the contact details on an Historical Society Facebook page. Business arising from the correspondence - the President of the Historical Society concerned, said that the Society will investigate and remove the contact details. This led to a general discussion on the issue of Facebook with Lynne saying that the SEHA has a role in helping Societies get into Facebook. The Secretary has prepared a paper covering various aspects of starting and operating a Facebook page. View it [here](#), on our website.

## Treasurers Report – Philip Harris.

The only addition to the Annual Financial report which was tabled at the Annual General Meeting was that Philip moved a motion that the \$50.00 hosting fee be donated to Springvale & District Historical Society. This was seconded by Leonie and carried unanimously.

## Project Officer - Lynne Bradley

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, History Week and the Seniors Festival. All the details are here <http://seha.org.au/event/cemeteries-bringing-history-to-life>

## **Sharing**

- Bass Valley Dinner Meeting will be held on September 6. Guest speaker is Andrew Orr – his topic is 'The Archaeology of the Bass Valley'. All the details are here - <http://seha.org.au/event/bass-valley-historical-society-dinner-meeting-9>
- Phillip Island meeting is on August 14 at the Phillip Island RSL. The theme is 'Show and Tell'
- Hastings Western Port report - there is now heritage walk around the Museum area. One of the posts is at the site of the church building of the Reorganised Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Salmon Street, this was built in 1887 in time for a conference to be held on 31 December 1887. This church remained at Hastings until 1952 when it was moved to Frankston. The little porch attached at the front of the church building has been donated to the museum and plans are for it to go into the museum grounds, when all the permissions have been given by the Shire. Further signage posted on an information board is at the site of Harry's House (part of the museum precinct) that belonged to Janet and the late Harry Firth who donated it to the Shire for the use of the Society.
- Leonie gave an update on the Chelsea Museum at the Court House that has undergone an extensive renovation. It is not yet finished but there was an official opening on July 23. The Chelsea Historical Society has been told that they cannot have a permanent office in the new building but can stay where they are for the time being. They can only have temporary exhibitions at the Court House now and the Council will be hiring out the building to other users. If the Society wants total use of the building, they will be required to pay all out-goings, including Rates, thus will be up for around \$12,000 per annum.
- Robyn reported that Springvale are expected to re-locate to the newly constructed Springvale Community Hub in mid-2020.
- Heather attended the Association of Eastern Historical Societies conference in June – her report is here <http://seha.org.au/association-of-eastern-historical-societies-conference-2019>
- Veronica reported that Mordialloc have been busy digitising their collection and they have received a grant from the City of Kingston for a new computer and printer.
- Lynne reported on the activities of the Family History Group. Lynne also reminded us that August is Family History Month and that Historical Societies should be tapping into this 'market' They received a \$1,000 grant from the Department of Social Services to purchase sophisticated book editing software. They are also 'agents or 'network partner' for *Be Connected* a Commonwealth Government initiative to help people get on-line <https://beconnected.esafety.gov.au> The group will receive \$2,000 if they get 30 people to sign up in 12 months. They will also participate on 'Get on-line' week in October. <https://aus.getonlineweek.com/>
- Gaye mentioned the passing of two Society members - Alice Robinson and Alex Davis, both long standing and generous members of the Phillip Island & District Historical Society.
- City of Moorabbin Historical Society report included an update of the years event. They operate the Box Cottage Museum in Jasper Road in Ormond, built in the 1840s and named after William and Elizabeth Box who occupied the property from 1868 to 1908.

**Meeting closed at 3.45pm.**