**EVANDALE HISTORY SOCIETY INC**

**MINUTES - MONTHLY MEETING - 21 JULY 2022**

**Attendees:** Barry Lawson(President), Bob Strachan (Secretary), Laurie Wotherspoon (Treasurer), Stephanie Dean, Charlie Watson, Jenny Carter, Judy Heazlewood and Jen Gadsby (guest).

**Apologies:** Sally Wilkinson, Neil and Lyn Louis, Maria Lawson, Lois Wotherspoon, Chris and Heather Leggett, Cameron Richards, Tennille Cox’Williams, Stephanie Kensitt, Susan Hodson, Tony McCormack, Kim Polley and Jan Foote.

**Minutes of previous meeting held 16 June 2022:**

**Laurie proposed** the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. **Seconded: Charlie Carried.**

**Business arising from the previous meeting:**

**Kennedy-Murray Vault.** Laurie updated the meeting on progress. The bronze plaque is currently being manufactured in Melbourne and the sandstone plinth will be made by Dunn Stone Launceston. Laurie has reduced the specifications slightly for the plinth and Dunns are looking for a suitable piece of stone in an attempt to keep the cost down. **Action: Laurie to provide updates as necessary.**

**Murray Family information board – Pioneer Park.** Jen Gadsby (Principal EPS)spoke to the meeting about the School’s desire to engage with the community (through the EHS) on a local history project. The concept of the proposed informative signboard (similar to the one in the Uniting Church yard) to be developed for placement near the site of the old Anglican Church in Pioneer Park relating mainly to Kennedy Murray Jnr was discussed. Jen thought it would be a suitable project probably for Years 4-6. Teacher Marcella Glachan will lead the project from the School and Barry, Laurie and Jan will be the Society’s contacts. **Action: Laurie, Barry and Jan to engage with the school and keep the Society updated on progress.**

**Federal government $3 million Culture, Heritage and Arts Regional Tourism (CHART) program.** All IT equipment now purchased and awaiting to be configured once the History Office is re-organised/tidied up. **Action: Barry** **to provide update as required. Note a work-party may be required to re-arrange the office space.**

**Painting and repairs to Evandale water tunnel diorama. Barry** has not seen Rod for some weeks. He will try and contact him by phone. **Action: Barry to monitor progress and report back.**

**Walk-around Evandale booklet.** **Barry** has spoken to Sue Bedford who will drop-in a copy of the *‘Walk-around Evandale Bus Tour Notes’* to the Community Centre. **Action: Barry to confirm we have the Notes**.

**Boer War data update. Kim** has provided the results of her extensive research on the District’s Boer War veterans. A copy of the spreadsheet was circulated. Please **DO NOT** circulate outside the membership at this stage without talking to Kim. Any suggestions/amendments to Kim please. **Kim** **to update on any feedback.**

**Firearms license. Laurie** has paid the licence fee ($168.96). Discussions with the Firearms Registry - Tasmania Police indicate under current legislation there is no special provision for discounted licence fees for inoperable museum firearms. **No further action on this item.**

**Die for Harry Murray medallions.** There was general agreement that the Society examine costs for a new batch of 50 Harry Murray medals.George H Lilley Melbourne who makes the Penny Farthing Championships medallions has been suggested. New member Tennille is also looking at options. **Action: Bob** **to make inquiries of George H Lilley for indicative costs and design options.**

**Donation from Buffalo Lodge in memory of Peter Cruse.** Laurie said the Society had received a donation of $304 in memory of Peter Cruse. The Buffalo Lodge Evandale has also made a donation of $1000 to the Society in memory of Peter. As previously agreed the Society will act on the earlier proposal to have a picnic table and chairs purchased and placed in the small park on Russell Street (adjacent the Clarendon Arms) in memory of Peter and Teecie. Jenny suggested that if funds permit a stone bench for the Pioneer Park rose garden would be appropriate. **Action: John and others to meet with Leigh McCullough (NMC) next week to discuss the best way forward for the proposal (no commitment to be made by the Society without final approval of the members).**

**Kennedy Murray Crypt – replacement.** Bob has had some correspondence from new member Tennille Cox’Williams concerning her family’s desire to have a replica of the original Kennedy Murray Snr crypt installed in Pioneer Park close to the original location (at the family’s expense). Tennille provided an image of the crypt prior to it being destroyed. Tennille plans to visit Evandale this year and will engage further with the members. **No further action at this stage but Tennile please update on any progress.**

**De-humidifier for Murray Room.** Sally had noted the humidity in the Murray Room was over 80% and that the high moisture level was detrimental to the condition of the exhibits. She has researched de-humidifiers suitable for the room size. Indicative cost for a high-volume domestic dehumidifier is around $670. Such a device would need to be regularly emptied of water (possibly daily to start). There was agreement in principle that we should probably acquire one. **Action: Barry will discuss with the Community Centre first, to ensure volunteers are happy to check and empty the water.**

**Financial report: Presented by:** **Laurie.** **Moved: Laurie, Seconded: Charlie**

**Correspondence Inward:**

**15 June 2022 email from Steve** confirming receipt of 4 x Murray medals and transfer of $110 on 3 June 2022.

**15 and 16 June and 12 July 2022 email from Tasmanian Police Firearms Registry – Survey** (not reviewing legislation on business practices to improve safety security of firearms). No response provided – survey now closed.

**20 and 30 June 2022 email from Kerry Riley to Lyn** regarding Riley family research .

**3 July 2022 email from Joan Crawley. Joan** had previously provided us a copy of her book *Bounty Immigrants to Tasmania: Elizabeth Oliver and Osborne Allen*provided an updated digital copy with corrections.

**Approx 3 July, 17 and 18 July 2022 email from Don Garden Melb University****/Federation of Australian History Societies.** Seeking concurrence to place our Society’s contact details on their website. Bob has concurred.

**10 July 2022 email from Julie Fitzpatrick** – questions on James Pearce bricklayer at Clarendon 1836-38 and 1841. Wanting to know when ‘Lymington’ was built by James Cox. – Holding email sent by Bob 18 July. **Action:** **Jenny will respond.**

**Email from Jessie Cummington (Ontario Canada)** Had lived locally, her father killed on HMAS Sydney and wanted to know why we had HMAS Sydney memorabilia in the Murray Room. Action: **Barry to check and respond.**

**Correspondence Outward:**

**17 July 2022 email Bob to Don Garden** re concurrence to include EHS details on Federation of Australian History Societies’ list.

**18 July 2022 email Bob to Joan Crawley** thanking her for updated copy of her book *Bounty Immigrants to Tasmania: Elizabeth Oliver and Osborne Allen.*

**18 July 2020 email Bob to Julie Fitzpatrick** re James Pearce telling her someone would contact her **(Jenny).**

Correspondence be accepted. **Moved: Bob.**  **Seconded: Laurie. Carried.**

**Research:**

**Lyn: NTR**

**Jenny: NTR**

**New and General Business:**

**Laurie:** mentioned he had been contacted by Mr R Jury, a retired civil engineer interested in the Evandale-Launceston water scheme (possibly a book being considered). Laurie spent several hours talking to him. There may be follow-up contact. Action: **Laurie to remain the Society’s contact on this matter.**

**Barry:** brought in a number of books and pamphletsfrom Jo Archer and from the estate of John Daley. It was agreed those relevant to Evandale would be filed with the records collection. Barry mentioned John had left a sizable donation of money to the National Trust with a preference to the money being utilised on the Clarendon gardens.

**Barry:** talked about the need toconvert our non-digital sound and film records into digital format. This was agreed in principle. **Action: Barry to look at what is involved and report back.**

**Barry:** thanked Laurie for making the new flag staff for the Aboriginal flag. Flags can be obtained from the local member’s office.

**Barry:** Welcomed to new member Judy.

**Next meeting: Thursday 18 August 2022 at 10:30.**

**Meeting closed at: 11:45 am**