**EVANDALE HISTORY SOCIETY INC**

**MINUTES - MONTHLY MEETING – 16 FEBRUARY 2023**

**Attendees:** Barry Lawson(President), Bob Strachan Secretary, Laurie Wotherspoon (Treasurer), Stephanie Dean, Lyn Louis, Sally Wilkinson, Judy Heazlewood, Bruce Argent-Smith, John Lewis, Charlie Watson.

**Apologies:** Maria Lawson, Lois Wotherspoon, Chris and Heather Leggett, Cameron Richards, Tennille Cox’ Williams, Stephanie Kensitt, Susan Hodson, Jenny Carter, Tony Mc Cormack.

**Minutes of previous meeting held 17 November 2022:**

**John** proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. **Seconded: Bruce**. **Carried.**

**Business arising from the previous meeting:**

**EPS History Project/Murray Family information board – Pioneer Park. Laurie** provided an update on this project which now includes students undertaking wider Evandale history topics – however most have a link to Kennedy Murray. Laurie has suggested that when the projects are complete the information relevant to the Murray family could be extracted and used for the proposed Murray Family information board. Laurie proposed that he seek, on behalf of the Society, a Community Grant from the State Government funds for the information board. There was general agreement to this proposal. **Action: Laurie** **to provide periodic updates and produce a submission for a Community Grant for the proposed Murray sign/information board.**

**New IT Equipment. Barry** advised the new IT equipment and relevant software has now been installed by Harry Heathcote and is operational. It was emphasised the equipment and software is available for use by all members of the Society. **This item is now closed.**

**Donation from Buffalo Lodge in memory of Peter and Teecie Cruse**. Concern was expressed that we seem to be getting no feedback/action from the NMC concerning the placement of the table and seats in the small park opposite the old Beltana Butchery. **Action:** **Laurie** undertook to chase up with Council and report back to the next meeting.

**Converting non-digital video images to digital format. Barry** reported no more progress on this matter. He stated he has the relevant videos (for digitalisation) at his home. **Action: Barry to keep the Society updated on progress.**

**Historic Trees.**  **Barry** spoke about his project to identify significant trees in Evandale. **Barry** said the NMC is now conducting similar research across other Northern Midlands towns. **Barry** said he would make his research results available to the Council. He also mentioned the CEO of the National Trust has recently said that the National Trust intends to recommence its interest in registering trees of historic value on its Tasmanian register. **Action: Barry** **to provide updates as required.**

**1929 Flood Marker. Laurie** stated the 1929 flood marker which he had identified prior to Xmas appears to have been removed. **Stephanie D** said she thought it might be on the ground close to the original location. There was discussion about putting in place a more noticeable and permanent marker. **John proposed** we examine what type of marker would be most appropriate. **Laurie seconded. Carried**. In the meantime Laurie will try and relocate the missing marker. **Action: Laurie to provide an update at next meeting.**

**Hawley Stancombe. Bob** read an email from **Tony** concerning the 1965 book-launch of Hawley Stancombe’s book *‘Highway in Van Dieman’s Land’* by the Chairman of the National Trust Clifford Craig at Franklin House.

**Financial Report: Presented by:** **Laurie.** **Moved: Laurie. Seconded: Sally Carried**

**Correspondence Inward:**

**28 November 2022. Email Rosemary Cameron (RHSV) –** RHSVHeritage News. Members wanting a copy speak to **Bob.**

**29 November 2022. Email from Lisa Mitchell Queechy High School teacher.** *My Grade 9 HaSS class at Queechy High have created a brochure of some of the soldiers on the Nile War Memorial for our Term 4 History studies. I have attached a copy for you to look at and I was wondering if you would be interested in having copies of the brochure available in the Visitor Information Centre or Historical Society for members to look at. I’m sorry I did not know of your society before students began the project.  The class is small and quite challenging but this assignment is the hardest they have worked all year.  I fear it may not be up to your standards but for this cohort of 14/15 year olds it has been quite an achievement.*

*I hope you may consider our brochure worthy of sharing with others.* **Note: the pamphlet was also sent to the Community Centre and has been reproduced and is on display. Lyn said there is an error in the information concerning PTE Smith. Lyn will contact Lisa Mitchell regarding a correction.**

**30 December 2022. Email from Caroline** visiting Evandale over Xmas.*Interested in any leads on**Hannah Murphy (my 5 times great grandmother) and her partner Timothy Daley / Daly who were involved in a dispute with their neighbours John and Elizabeth Barefoot / Barfoot in 1829.*  Response sent by **Bob** 14 February asking whether she wanted us to conduct any research.

**10 January 2023. Email from Georgia McGrath (Menzies Medical Institute).** *I’m from Menzies and just wanting to have a chat about the ‘Communities for Walkability’ project that we are hoping to run this year in Evandale.*

*The project has been started in nine Tasmanian towns involves community members auditing their town to identify features that made it easier or harder to be active and walk from place to place. There is more information about the project on our website:*[*https://walkrural.com.au/*](https://walkrural.com.au/)

*We are currently looking for community members in Evandale who might be interested in getting involved in the project! I am just wondering if you know any groups or contacts from your community networks who may be interested? I would be happy to send through a poster and happy to chat if you have any further questions.*

**Bob** responded on 14 February 2023 and referred the email to Geoff Divall. **Note: Geoff has circulated to Community Centre members, some who have expressed an interest in the project. Barry said we might be able to include Evandale’s historic locations in a walking route. EHS members who wish to be involved in the project are encouraged to speak with Geoff.**

**14 January 2023 Email from FAHS. Newsletter 205 outlining impact on Trove of cut-backs to the NLA** – The newsletter suggested that history societies and individual write to Minister for Arts. If you want a copy of the FAHS newsletters ask **Bob.** **Barry** indicated he would write to Brain Mitchell MP on behalf of the Society expressing the importance of Trove to historical research by History Societies, individual researchers and others.

**8 February 2023. Email from Patricia Deering.** *I am hoping to find out how to go about putting a plaque on an ancestor's grave. My ancestor is William Antone/Antonio. He died at Snake Banks 1891 Are you able to help with info on how to do this. Grave is presently not marked.*  **Bob** has sent holding reply.

**Also received via Geoff from Community Centre:**

*Name: Patricia Everitt/Deering
Email Address:**patricia-peter@bigpond.com* *Phone Number: 0448321525*

*Location: Ocean Grove Vic 3226*

*I am research family history and would like to find the plot where my great grandfather is burried. We would like to put a plaque of some sort up/ This is what I know about its location so far. " From Trove: - The funeral of the late Mr William Antone will leave his residence at Snake Banks, This Day (Monday), June 22, at 12 noon, arriving at the English Church, Evandale, at 3 p.m. Friends are respectfully invited to attend. J Donaldson Undertaker, Evandale. Are you able to help further my information and are you able to inform me of regulations we will need to know in regard to doing this?*

**Note: Snake Banks is near the punt crossing near Perth. Lyn identified that the Antone family plot is registered as D45 in the Anglican cemetery. Bob will write to Patricia and advise.**

**Letter to Barry from Susan Lanroy?** Enclosing photos of WW1 grave site of PTE William Ernest Whitcombe. **Barry will respond.**

**Letter Margaret Benson to Barry.** Information about her ancestors Jeramiah Colling b 1829, Ellen Colling b1837 and Patrick Collins b 1858. **Barry** will reply and arrange for the material to be placed in the records collection.

**Correspondence Outward:**

**29 January 2023. Email Lyn to Jannette Jackson.** Providing research results on Saggers family.

**14 February 2023. Email Bob to Patricia Deering** holding email regarding plaque for ancestor’s grave.

**14 February 2023. Email Bob to Caroline** re Murphy/Daley.

**14 February 2023. Email Bob to Georgia McGarth re** Communities for Walkability’ project.

**Various ANZAC Day related emails from Bob.**

**Bob proposed correspondence be accepted. Seconded: Sally. Carried**

**Research:**

**Lyn:**

**Saggers family. Inquiry from Jannette Jackson.** Several members of the family buried at Evandale (Anglican cemetery). **Note: Stepanie D** provided some additional information on the Sagger’s family (to be placed in the records).

**George Millington  - Mary Francis.** Inquiry from Christine Attfield. No family records for Francis. From microfilm records: George Millington & Mary were married in Launceston 25 Mar 1839, they had 1 child - male born Launceston 8 July 1843. No Evandale connection.

**Greg Nisbet** called into ECC and asked if the History Society would be interested in Deddington School Attendance Records from 1860-70. Lyn had phoned him twice and got a recorded message that the phone is not taking calls. Greg’s details provided to Lyn.

**New and General Business:**

**Tour Group visit to Evandale and engagement with EHS - 3 February 2023. Barry and Laurie** provided feed-back on what appears to have been a very successful and much appreciated tour. It is still unclear whether this was the trip originally proposed by Smith’s Travel for 17 March 2023. **Bob** **proposed** a vote of thanks to **Laurie, Barry Stephanie D and Lyn** for their assistance with the tour. **Sally seconded**. **Carried.**

**ANZAC Day 2023 update. Bob** provided an update on planning for ANZAC Day 2023 which seems to be on track. Since the meeting the Air Force cadets have confirmed they will be available for the Main Service but not the Dawn Service. **Bob** sought views on (1) whether we should continue with a religious component to ANZAC Day and (2) whether we should have a breakfast after the Dawn Service and/or a morning tea after the 11 am service. **After discussion it was agreed that if we could not secure Gant Maynard to say prayers we would abandon the prayer component.** In regards breakfast/morning teathere was a general feeling that the Society did not have the capacity to organise either unless another organisation could assist. **Bob** will talk to Perth Lions Club about their offer to help with morning tea after the 11 am service – a final decision could then be made.

**Volunteer Guides – Clarendon House.** At the moment Clarendon House is only open to visitors on the weekend and by appointment – this situation is due to insufficient volunteers to act as house guides. If anyone is interested in becoming a guide (or knows of suitable persons) please let **Barry** or **Bob** know. The commitment would probably be 10 am – 4 pm one day a fortnight. Also, the National Trust is always seeking people to help in the garden. The Garden Group volunteers meet each Monday morning. If interested please speak to: **Stephanie K, Bob or Barry.**

**Possible donation – Diary of Francis Wish-Wilson ship voyage UK to VDL. Barry** spoke about the possible donation by Marlene Klintworth of Francis Wish-Wilson’s diary of his travel to VDL. Marlene will discuss with her family. Marlene has said that in any event she would provide a facsimile copy of the diary and a typed version for the EHS records.

**Recent articles in *The Examiner* concerning Evandale. Stephanie D** produced several recent newspaper clippings concerning Evandale Verandah Festival, Penny Farthing Championship and Frank Long. **Stephanie** also spoke about 2026 being a possible 200 year celebration of the construction of Cambrock, Fallgrove and Briar Hill (also capture of Mathew Brady).

**Newspaper Clipping – funeral COL Sidney Hawley 1950. Lyn** produced some interesting newspaper cuttings concerning the funeral of COL Sidney Hawley in Evandale 1950.

**Gun Licence. Laurie** spoke about the current legislation covering weapons held in museums. Submissions are currently being called for concerning changes to the legislation. **Laurie proposed** he write to the Gun Registry outlining his thoughts that the current legislation concerning inoperable museum weapons is too restrictive. **Barry seconded. Carried.**

**Cannons from Cambock.** Laurie spoke about one of the cannons from Cambock - Andrew Barclay), previously thought lost now purchased by Gary Grant (Evandale). Gary apparently has copies of some of Barclay’s papers.

**2022-23 Evandale Calendars.** **Barry** donated a copy of the 2022 and 2023 Evandale calendars to the EHS records.

**Proposed redevelopment of Pioneer Park. Barry and others** spoke about the NMC’s proposal to redevelop Pioneer Park. There was general agreement that the existing graves area should not be disturbed. Members of the Society are encouraged to raise concerns/ideas with Barry, Bruce and or John.

**Next meeting: Thursday 16 March 2023 at 10:30.**

**Meeting closed at: 12:30 pm**