**EVANDALE HISTORY SOCIETY INC**

**MINUTES - MONTHLY MEETING – 20 JULY 2023**

**Attendees:** Barry Lawson(President), Bob Strachan (Secretary), Laurie Wotherspoon (Treasurer), Stephanie Dean, Tony McCormack, Sally Wilkinson, Paul Kenny, Julie Kenny, Lyn Louis, and Steve Plowright.

**Guests:** Sue Field and Sam Adams(Perth History Society).

**Apologies:** Jenny Carter, Judy Heazlewood, Bruce Argent-Smith, Maria Lawson, Lois Wotherspoon, Bruce and Ally Argent-Smith, John Lewis, Charlie Watson, Chris and Heather Leggett, Cameron Richards, Tennille Cox’ Williams, Stephanie Kensitt, Jan Foote, Susan Hodson, Susan Bedford and Kim Polley.

**Minutes of previous meeting held 15 June 2023:**

**Laurie** **proposed** that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. **Seconded by:** **Sally** **Carried.**

**Business arising from the previous meeting:**

* **EPS History Project/Murray Family information board – Pioneer Park.** Laurie advised no further feedback from the school on the research project is expected until third term. **Action: Laurie to update on progress.**
* **Donation from Buffalo Lodge in memory of Peter and Teecie Cruse.** Work has commenced (and may have been completed) on thetable and seats for Buffalo Park. It was agreed we should provide and affix a suitable plaque in memory of Peter and Teecie. **Action: Laurie to develop a concept and words for a brass plaque that can be attached to the table or seat.**
* **Converting non-digital video images to digital format**. Barry reported no progress on this project during the previous month. **Action: Barry to keep the Society updated on progress.**
* **Historic Trees.** Barry reported his phone containing approximately 60 images of Evandale trees required repair and in the process the images were sadly lost. **Action: Barry to provide updates as required.**
* **1929 Flood Marker.** Laurie said the fence near the marker has now been repaired. Barry and Laurie will try and position the marker before the next meeting. **Action: Barry/Laurie to provide update as required.**
* **Hart Family file**. Tony has spoken to Michael and the borrowed material will be returned shortly. **Note this agenda item will remain open until the material is returned.**
* **Inclusion of Perth Tasmania historical records and Items by EHS.** Sue Field and Sam Adams were guests of the Society and spoke about the formation of the Perth History Society and the work that they have done to date. Sam gave an interesting talk on the Society’s social media and digital presence. Barry and others spoke about our work. It was agreed by all that there are benefits for the two Societies to work together (possibly with the newly formed Longford History Society). It was agreed we should swap minutes of meetings to enhance awareness of what is happening in the Perth-Evandale historical space. **Action: this agenda can now be removed.**
* **Banking arrangements and Cheque account.** Laurie has spoken to several banks without finding a suitable arrangement to meet our requirements.It was decided to maintain the current arrangements until the Treasurer’s appointment changes (probably next year). **Action: this agenda can now be removed.**
* **HMAS Sydney material in Murray VC Room**. Bruce volunteered to develop a suitable [military themed] display to replace the HMAS Sydney photo in front of the fireplace in the Harry Murray VC Room. **Action: Bruce to update as required.**
* **Morven Park Hedge.** Barry advised he made a submission about retaining the hedge. He was told by one Councillor that he would not support retention of the hedge but would propose a white picket fence be installed instead. The members felt this would be a good outcome. **Action: Bruce to update as required.**

**Financial Report: Presented and moved: Laurie**  **Seconded by: Lyn. Carried.**

**Correspondence Inward:**

* **22 June 2023 email from Rosemary Cameron Exec Officer RHSV** enclosing RHSV newsletter (22 June 2023). If anyone wants a copy of the Newsletter let Bob know.
* **4 July 2023 email from Rosemary Cameron Exec Officer RHSV** enclosing RHSV newsletter (4 July 2023). If anyone wants a copy of the Newsletter let Bob know.
* **5 July 2023** **email from Rosemary Cameron Exec Officer RHSV**:

*The RHSV last increased its membership fees in 2018 and, earlier this year, Council reluctantly decided to introduce an increase equivalent to the CPI increase over the last 5 years. This was flagged for discussion at our AGM last week.*

*Price increases are never welcome but we strongly believe that RHSV membership remains excellent value and competitive with similar organisations.*

*The new membership figures will come into operation on Tuesday 1st of August and, until then, all members have the opportunity to renew their membership at the old rates - be extra smart and take out a three year membership at the old rates.*

Current annual subscription for an Affiliated History Society is $75. The new rate after 1 August is $90 or three years for $240.

Note we need to maintain membership of the RHSV to access out public liability insurance. **See new business below**.

* **14 July 2023 email from John Cole** seeking information on:

Four of the children of Maria Mansfield (born 5 July 1825 in Hobart, Tasmania) married to Convict William Owen (born on the 19 October 1833 in London, England) on the 25 December 1856 in Morven, Tasmania. They had ten children. William passed aged 46 on the 3 September 1880 and Maria passed aged 68 on the 4 November 1893. Both are buried at Saint Andrews Anglican Cemetery in Evandale, Tasmania. John is seeking marriage, departure from Tas or death information on:

* William Henry Mansfield Owen was born on the 31 March 1856 in Evandale.
* Marian Alice Owen was born on the 16 October 1872 in Morven.
* Anna Owen was born on the 23 October 1874 in Morven.
* Eliza Jane Owen was born on the 23 October 1874 in Morven.
* **15 July 2023 email from Anne Radband UK** as follows:

*Hello. I am in the UK, but next year will satisfy a lifelong ambition to visit Australia. My great grandfather James Walden(1831-1934) was a director of the Ben Lomond mining company which I believe is close to your location. He was a well known merchant in Launceston and lived to be 103. Despite extensive research I still know very little about my Australian roots, as his son, my grandfather Eustace Vivian Walden b. Launceston 1874, would not discuss his past with his british family, for reasons that are now becoming clearer to me! My husband and I will be exploring Tasmania for 7 days by campervan at the end of March 2024, before going to the mainland to explore other family links. I would love to visit the site of the mine if it is accessible, or search any records about his history. I have found a few articles on Trove that mention his link with the Ben Lomond tin mine. I was wondering if you could tell me if it is possible to visit the site of the mine, and if any records are held anywhere in Tasmania that I could access for any further information about James Walden in Tasmania, and his mining connection. Thanks in anticipation Anne Radband.*

**Note: The location of the tin mine was discussed and it believed they are in the vicinity of Avoca. Lyn will email Anne and provide her details of the Avoca History Society. Bob will send Anne a link to the Australasian Mining History Association**.

* **16 July 2023 email from Don Garden Tasmanian History Societies.** Copy of FAHS Newsletter No 55 also notice of FAHS conference at Georgetown on Sunday 12 November 2023 – *Convicts and Convictism in Northern VDL*. Cost is $40 and includes morning and afternoon tea and lunch. Let Bob know if you would like to attend and he will send you the application form.
* **17 July 2023 email from Sarah Godfrey Campbell Town Museum**:

*Hi my name is Sarah and I'm a volunteer at the Campbell Town Museum.*

*We are researching and gathering information on convicts that had a connection to Campbell Town either they married, died, gave birth, lived, worked or assigned there. (Not just because they may have a brick in the trail through town).*

*During my search of properties I came across information of a Topographical map of Avoca & Campbell Town that is held by the Evandale History Society.*

Just wondering whether if we're able to get a copy of this map?  I believe there is a map at the museum but not sure if it's the same.

**Note: Lyn will check the map drawer and advise Sarah if we hold the map.**

**Correspondence Outward:**

* **17 July 2023 email Bob to John Cole** – holding response.
* **17 July 2023 email Bob to Ann Radband** - holding response.
* **17 July 2023 email Bob to Sarah Godfrey**- holding response.

**Bob proposed correspondence be noted. Seconded by: Tony.**   **Carried.**

**Research:**

**Lyn: Research for John Cole on:**

* William Henry Mansfield Owen was born on the 31 March 1856 in Evandale.
* Marian Alice Owen was born on the 16 October 1872 in Morven.
* Anna Owen was born on the 23 October 1874 in Morven.
* Eliza Jane Owen was born on the 23 October 1874 in Morven.

**Jenny:**

* **Research request via telephone call to ECC from Lynette Ross** interested in William Grant and his wife Caroline Grant. **Note: Lynette Ross met with Barry at the Community Centre during the week and was provide with copies of relevant records.**

**New and General Business:**

* **Destruction of St Andrews Anglican Church hall by fire on 17 June 2023.** The Society was saddened to learn of the destruction of the St Andrews Anglican Church hall (1907) by fire on the evening of 17 June 2023. The fire is believed to have been caused by an electrical fault. Other than the porch, the building has now been demolished. It is not known if the hall will be rebuilt.
* **Establishment of Longford History Society.** It is proposed to establish a history society in Longford. NMC have made space available in the Longford library building to house the Northern Plains historical collection, previously stored at Clarendon House.
* **NMC funded visit to Clarendon House and Patterdale October 2023**. The NMC will provide a free bus for members of the ECS and History Society who wish to visit Clarendon House and Patterdale in October. If you are interested in attending there is a list in the Community Centre.
* **Renewal of subscription for affiliated society membership with the RHSV. Bob proposed** the Society take out three years affiliate membership with the RHSV to take account of the current membership fee which will rise on 1 August 2023 – cost $240. **Seconded:** **Paul.** **Carried.**
* **Evandale Heritage Walk Booklet.** Barry said the Evandale Village Heritage walk booklet has now been updated. **No further Action.**
* **Loan of 7 EFTS material for Tasmanian Aviation History Society seminar Launceston 18 September 2023. Lyn** said she had been asked by the Tasmanian Aviation History Society for the loan of some of our 7 EFTS material for their upcoming seminar to be held Launceston 18 September 2023. **Lyn proposed** we lend some photographic material and the Reg Dean uniform and manikin but not the aircraft models. **Seconded:** **Sally**. **Carried**. **No further Action.**
* **Items of interest.** Stephanie Dean mentioned the village is getting a doctor and nurse. She mentioned planning permission is being sought for work on 23 Macquarie Street. Stephanie spoke about the book ‘*Lines in the Sand*’ by Evandale resident Dean Yates. She also circulated photos of 23 Macquarie St, 17 High, 18 Macquarie St and 34 Barkley St.
* **Joseph Lytteton.** Paul circulated some images of paintings by Joseph Lytteton of the Macquarie and Sout Esk rivers.
* **Tony McCormack auto biographical notes.** Tony advised he has written draft autobiographical notes *A Willodean McCormack.* He has asked Laurie to review.
* **State library Assessment rolls back to 1858.** Tony said the State Library now holds Assessment Rolls back to 1858 showing all major land holdings at that time.

**NOTE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW PAYABLE $10 or $15 FAMILY.**

**Next meeting Thurs 17 August at 10:30 am.**

Meeting closed at: 11:50 am .