

Friends Of Churchill Island Society Inc.

FOCIS

NEWSLETTER

ABN 78667051020 INC. No. A 002 19007W

Dates to remember:

*Meetings for the rest of the year:
Saturdays May 14; August 13;
November 12.
1.30, Churchill Island Visitors Centre*

*Working Bees: April 16; September 10;
19 November. All 8.00 am to 10.00am.*

*The Speakers for our general meetings will be
Rebecca Sanders in May;
Victorian Conservation Trust DVD
in August;
David Maunders on Grant's diary
in November.*

FOCIS PLANNING MEETING REPORT

20 FEBRUARY, CHURCHILL ISLAND VISITORS' CENTRE

THE FINAL TASK PUT TO PARTICIPANTS OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20 2016 WAS TO COLLECTIVELY EXPAND A LIST OF WHAT THE GROUP THOUGHT WERE KEY ACTIONS FOR EACH OF THE FIVE KEY ISSUES LISTED.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE LISTED BELOW:

EXHIBITION SPACE:

1. Development of phase 1 of Nature Park
2. Designing displays as required – rotational
3. How can FOCIS folk help with point 1?
4. Need to communicate with NP early on to allow us to accommodate our exhibitions
5. How to ensure our 'rights' to space are protected over time (so we don't get tossed out)?
6. In an ideal world a museum in 5 years? Yes/no?
7. Development of a digital application to promote heritage of the island

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

1. Establish a realistic target for minimum membership levels
2. Get agreement to the minimum target
3. Establish and implement a plan to grow membership beyond agreed minimum level for viability



MEMBER INVOLVEMENT:

1. Plan to provide a wider range of opportunities / reason for members to attend and contribute to FOCIS
2. Conduct 'recruitment events/days'
3. Plan and implement ways to 'cherish' / nurture current members and recognise their diverse contributions
4. Encourage 'face-to-face' contact with existing and potential new members rather than relying on email / newsletter only
5. Develop and publish a 'welcome pack' for new members
6. Conduct an analysis of current membership home localities to define focus area for new member recruitment. what's our 'catchment' area?
7. Seek to develop / improve relationship with local / visiting schools through our links with ature Park staff / activities.

FUNDING:

1. Need to establish clear fiscal goals and priorities for FOCIS funding
2. Need to be able to adequately estimate costings for various projects
3. Need to establish sources of funds/grants to support our projects
4. Need to align those sources of funds with our relevant projects
5. Obtaining tax deductible status implies the need to effectively publicise its availability to prospective donors.

ENGAGING NATURE PARK STAFF:

1. Develop a clear understanding of the needs of PINP and how we might assist them achieve their goals.
2. Seek feedback / understanding from PINP on how they currently regard FOCIS
3. Review and update the 'memorandum of understanding' that exists between FOCIS and PINP as required
4. Remind PINP that our curator and other members are available for training / briefing of PINP staff.

THE WORKSHOP CONCLUDED AT 4:00PM WITH THE ISSUES RAISED BEING REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE FOR FOLLOW UP AND ACTIONING AS APPROPRIATE.

SLIDING KEELS

I expect most of you have heard about the 'sliding keels' that were a feature of the Lady Nelson, the ship Lt. Grant came to Churchill island on in 1801. Well most of the small sailing boats you see about the waterways have 'sliding keels', or as we know them Centre Boards. They provide the resistance to the sideways push of the sails and translate it to , hopefully, forward movement.





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There have been a number of significant FOCIS events since the last newsletter. The Strategic Planning meeting on 20 February was facilitated by Ross Baxter and sixteen members contributed. The key future actions are included elsewhere but I have arranged a meeting with Matthew Jackson in June (we are both away before this) to discuss the actions which relate to the Nature Park.

FOCIS made a useful contribution to the community Open Day on 6 March which is covered in our curator's report

On 17 March, Christine and I met with Gerard Reinmuth and colleagues from Terroir Architects to give FOCIS ideas about the Function and Events Centre which they are about to start planning. Also present were Mark Reilly of TRACKS, who wrote the key area plan and Damian Prendergast, Major Projects Officer of the Nature Park. The Function and Events Centre is part of Stage 1 of the key area plan.

We had a very positive discussion covering the flexible operation of the centre and its use for temporary exhibitions. We also discussed our use for meetings and IT and AV facilities. Gerard suggested the possibility of some ongoing displays. We discussed at length the tension between a 500 seat building, possibly extendable, with plan requirements about size and appearance of the building. I think we presented issues of interest to members, even the issue of toilets.

I am sorry to miss our next meeting in May but I urge you to be there when Rebecca Sanders will share some of her research on a walk around the precinct.

FOCIS President.



Membership Report as at 31 December

Category	30/06/2012	30/06/2013	30/06/2014	30/06/2015	31/12/2015	Increase or Decrease (last 6 months)
TOTAL Paying Memberships	211	198	184	167	168	1
TOTAL Non-Paying Memberships	16	17	17	17	17	0
Unfinancial (Lapsed) Memberships	0	0	22	43	43	0

Treasurer's Report for the 6 Months Ending 31 December 2015

Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2015

Account	30/06/2012 Balance	30/06/2013 Balance	30/06/2014 Balance	30/06/2015 Balance	31/12/2015 Balance (last 6 months)	Difference
ASSETS						
<u>Cash and Bank Accounts</u>						
ANZ Cheque Account	\$773.85	\$1,016.57	\$2,242.22	\$126.65	\$218.73	\$92.08
ANZ Savings Account	\$19,119.44	\$16,254.21	\$5,242.56	\$8,086.33	\$8,645.00	\$558.67
PayPal Account	\$387.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70.29	\$0.00	-\$70.29
President's Advance	\$382.49	\$359.89	\$359.89	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Curator's Advance	\$47.38	\$11.91	\$221.98	\$66.47	\$0.00	-\$66.47
RACV Investment Options 01 (Closed)	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
RACV Investment Options 02 (Closed)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
RACV Investment Options 03 (Closed)	\$0.00	\$31,815.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
RACV Investment Options 04 (Closed)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
RACV Investment Options 05 (Closed)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
RACV Investment Options 06 (Closed)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33,279.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
RACV Investment Options 07 (Closed)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
RACV Investment Options 08 (Closed)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
RACV Investment Options 09 (Closed)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,469.47	\$0.00	-\$12,469.47
RACV Investment Options 10 (Closed)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34,581.87	\$0.00	-\$34,581.87
RACV Investment Options 11	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,692.07	\$12,692.07
RACV Investment Options 12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35,182.07	\$35,182.07
Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	\$50,710.26	\$49,458.49	\$53,346.51	\$55,401.08	\$56,737.87	\$1,336.79
<u>Other Assets</u>						
Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Books	\$0.00	\$4,469.76	\$3,530.88	\$2,989.44	\$2,989.44	\$0.00
TOTAL Other Assets	\$0.00	\$4,569.76	\$3,530.88	\$2,989.44	\$2,989.44	\$0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$50,710.26	\$54,028.25	\$56,877.39	\$58,390.52	\$59,727.31	\$1,336.79
LIABILITIES						
<u>Other Liabilities</u>						
Accounts Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Museum Reserve	\$30,000.00	\$31,815.91	\$33,279.86	34,581.87	35,182.07	\$600.20
TOTAL Other Liabilities	\$30,000.00	\$31,815.91	\$33,279.86	34,581.87	35,182.07	\$600.20
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$30,000.00	\$31,815.91	\$33,279.86	\$34,581.87	\$35,182.07	\$600.20
NETT ASSETS	\$20,710.26	\$22,212.34	\$23,597.53	\$23,808.65	\$24,545.24	\$736.59

Income and Expenses as at 31 December 2015

Category	1/07/2012- 30/06/2013	1/07/2013- 30/06/2014	1/07/2014- 30/06/2015	1/07/2015- 31/12/2015	Difference (last 6 months)
INCOME					
Interest Income	\$2,300.68	\$1,752.30	\$1,915.25	\$881.47	-\$1,033.78
Subscriptions Income	\$4,053.55	\$3,243.75	\$3,270.90	\$2,108.70	-\$1,162.20
Sundry Income	\$0.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Movable Cultural Heritage - Book Sales	\$1,671.50	\$1,247.05	\$694.35	\$0.00	-\$694.35
Movable Cultural Heritage - Donations from Members	\$295.10	\$387.05	\$420.00	\$240.00	-\$180.00
Movable Cultural Heritage - Public Donations	\$315.00	\$452.60	\$810.95	\$306.35	-\$504.60
Movable Cultural Heritage - Grants Received	\$26,000.00	\$1,980.00	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$0.00
Other Movable Cultural Heritage Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$34,636.05	\$9,062.75	\$20,111.45	\$16,536.52	-\$3,574.93
EXPENSES					
Administration - Financial Services	\$110.41	\$99.51	\$112.44	\$32.30	-\$80.14
Administration - Government Fees	\$43.90	\$126.60	\$213.50	\$54.40	-\$159.10
Administration - Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Administration - Membership Admin.	\$878.53	\$738.09	\$458.98	\$666.46	\$207.48
Administration - General Office Expenses	\$325.13	\$947.07	\$505.30	\$503.24	-\$2.06
Administration - Post Office Fees	\$23.00	\$25.00	\$32.00	\$0.00	-\$32.00
Administration - Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Administration - Other Admin. Expenses	\$31.20	\$0.00	\$50.53	\$0.00	-\$50.53
Movable Cultural Heritage - Acquisitions	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$255.01	\$144.50	-\$110.51
Movable Cultural Heritage - Advertising	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$132.88	\$0.00	-\$132.88
Movable Cultural Heritage - Archiving	\$133.07	\$7.70	\$24.30	\$0.00	-\$24.30
Movable Cultural Heritage - Book Publishing	\$5,783.17	\$9.00	\$18.35	\$0.00	-\$18.35
Movable Cultural Heritage - Cataloguing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.70	\$0.00	-\$25.70
Movable Cultural Heritage - Communications	\$93.45	\$35.55	\$0.00	\$67.90	\$67.90
Movable Cultural Heritage - Curating	\$26,660.00	\$200.00	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$0.00
Movable Cultural Heritage - Educating the Public	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	-\$30.00
Movable Cultural Heritage - Exhibitions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Movable Cultural Heritage - Networking	\$193.00	\$601.00	\$326.65	\$192.55	-\$134.10
Movable Cultural Heritage - Newsletter Publishing	\$1,264.42	\$1,059.78	\$783.48	\$392.98	-\$390.50
Movable Cultural Heritage - Presentation	\$87.50	\$0.00	\$194.10	\$54.40	-\$139.70
Movable Cultural Heritage - Preservation	\$83.54	\$1,254.93	\$13.38	\$0.00	-\$13.38
Movable Cultural Heritage - Research	\$77.50	\$16.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Movable Cultural Heritage - Restoration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70.00	\$0.00	-\$70.00
Movable Cultural Heritage - Video Publishing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,744.28	\$0.00	-\$1,744.28
Movable Cultural Heritage - Web Site Publishing	\$0.00	\$54.00	\$66.00	\$66.00	\$0.00
Other Promotional Activities for Movable Cultural Heritage Items	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$35,787.82	\$5,274.73	\$18,056.88	\$15,199.73	-\$2,857.15
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-\$1,151.77	\$3,788.02	\$2,054.57	\$1,336.79	-\$717.78

PHILLIP ISLAND NATURE PARK'S OPEN DAY

FOCIS had a good presence at Churchill Island for the Open Day of the Phillip Island Nature Parks, which is held on the first Sunday of March each year as a 'thank you' to Bass Coast Shire residents and ratepayers, who are admitted free for the day to the various PINP attractions. Thanks to our FOCIS volunteers for the day: Linda Patterson who once again looked after lots of children, all of whom were eager to try their hand at churning butter, rolling dough, crushing herbs with pestles and mortars and scrubbing

Jeff Cole was set up outside Amess Barn demonstrating jinker wheel making and had many interested visitors. Tom and Ruth O'Dea were on the FOCIS and volunteers' table in the Visitor Centre function room, where curator Christine Grayden had a display about Samuel Amess, who purchased Churchill Island in 1872 and had the homestead built. Jan and Ian Jonas were kept busy helping out with the animals for the day and showing them off to the public – everyone loves the ferrets! Meanwhile Margaret and Hagan Geppert were very busy in their role as guides in the house and cottages.



PINP CEO Matthew Jackson with CI volunteer Jan Jonas on the Open Day, Sunday 6th March.
Photo: Sally O'Neill

Linda Patterson with some eager children trying out the old time activities.
Photo Tom O'Dea



CURATORS REPORT

March 2016

I have spent a lot of the last few months researching Cr Samuel Amess, mainly on TROVE. I have discovered several things about him that don't seem to have surfaced before, and intend to write my findings into a booklet for the PINP education staff, who interpret Churchill Island and Amess House very much through Cr Samuel Amess. I did put on a display about him for the PINP Open Day on Sunday March 6, but for a variety of reasons it was not very well patronised. I also had the display in the education pod at the Penguin Parade for the education staff, and several of them took advantage of the opportunity.

Thanks to all the FOCIS members who made the Open Day such a success on Churchill Island: Linda Patterson, who was flat out from 10 a.m. til 2 p.m. with children's old time activities; Jeff Cole who spoke to about 120 people while demonstrating making a wheel by laminating strips; Tom and Ruth O'Dea, who signed up three new members and spread the word about FOCIS; Margaret and Hagen Geppert who were guides for the day; and Jan and Ian Jonas who helped out with the animals and with the staff in various other ways, as they do several times a week.

My thanks to Margaret Geppert and Jenni Wills as ever for the archiving work they do. Recently they have been listing all the archaeological 'finds' from Churchill Island that were boxed by our former student Sandra Kanis, but have never been listed before. They include some items that look to me like aboriginal artefacts - scrapers and worked pebbles - and I will need to have this confirmed.

Unfortunately they were previously stored with very little information about where actually on the island they were found. Now we know that it is actually illegal to move archaeological artefacts from a heritage listed site, or artefacts over 50 years of age from any site, so anything found from now on will remain where it is found.

An aboriginal archaeological survey has recently been undertaken for the whole of Churchill Island, but I am yet to hear any results.

After our previous gardener Dave left, I went right around the garden taking photos as a record of the garden at that stage (January 2016). The last time I photographed the whole garden was about three years ago, and it has certainly changed in that time.

Please consider coming along to our first working bee on Saturday 16 April for a clean of the house and cottages - 8 a.m. til 10 a.m., morning tea, conviviality and all equipment provided. cgrayden@waterfront.net.au m 0400900612.

FOCIS



On Thursday 17 March, FOCIS president David Maunders and secretary/curator Christine Grayden met with representatives of Terroir architects, Tract consultants and PINP to discuss stage one of the CI Key Area Plan. This is for a function centre. FOCIS reps asked for a) temporary exhibition space b) a moderate building without a huge footprint c) built-in ecologically sustainable development and d) a decent sewerage system. We got a good hearing and had some robust discussion.

Pictured are David Maunders; Mark Reilly Associate, TRACT Consultants, Landscape Architects, from Tract (who wrote the KAP); Gerard Reinmuth, Director, Terroir (Architects); Chloe Yuen (Terroir); Christine, Gerard (Terroir); Michael Ford, (Terroir).

Photo Damian Prendergast



The Friends of Churchill Island Society
Newsletter

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