

Friends Of Churchill Island Society Inc.

# FOCIS

## NEWSLETTER

ABN 78667051020 INC. No. A 002 19007W

**Dates to remember: Meetings for 2017.**

11.2.17; 13.5.17; 19.8.17 (note third Saturday); 11.11.17

**Working bee dates:**

8.4.17 (farm machinery 10-12); 14.10.17 (house and cottages); 9.12.17 (vacuuming etc) both 8-10 a.m.



### Merry Christmas

TO ALL FOCIS MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES  
AND THE STAFF AND FAMILIES OF  
THE PHILLIP ISLAND NATURE PARKS.

### FOCIS PRESIDENT'S REPORT 12 NOVEMBER 2016

David Maunders

#### Museums and Galleries Conference 6-7 October

Together with members from the local historical societies, a number of us acted as volunteers for the conference held in Cowes. One hundred people attended the conference dinner at Churchill Island and beforehand were given a tour of the historical precinct by four guides, Christine, Fred Allan, Rebecca Sanders and myself. The conference was well received and delegates enjoyed the visit to Churchill Island.

#### Jan and Ian Jonas

At the AGM, we approved the award of life membership of FOCIS to Jan and Ian Jonas and I have great pleasure in making this award at today's meeting. Jan and Ian have been volunteers for over eleven years, starting by helping Meg McCarthy in the gardens. With Gordon as farm manager, they



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started working 2 days per week with the animals and learned how to milk to help with the milking demonstrations. They showed the ferrets to visitors and took care of George. They now come two afternoons per week to help with cows, goats and grooming the horses. They collect greens from Woolworths for the chooks. I have great pleasure in presenting the award of life membership to Jan and Ian and hope we will continue to see them in years to come.

## Lady Nelson Model



When I visited Flagstaff Hill in August, I saw their model of the Lady Nelson. Since then, approaches by Christine and networking at the conference have resulted in an offer by the builder, David Lumsden, to make another model for Churchill Island for the cost of materials. This will take about six months to complete. David is a noted model ship builder and has recently completed a model of the Enterprize for Museum Victoria. He has already laid the keel and I look forward to reporting on progress.

## Farm Equipment Display

On 26 October, Christine and I met with Catherine Basterfield, Operations Manager of PINP, Toby from the farm staff and Brendan from buildings. We looked at increasing the shed size to cover cultivation, harvest and transport items with wool in the shearing shed and dairy and horse items in the stable. PINP is costing the building and Christine preparing items for signage which will then be costed. Hopefully before long we will have enough information for Therese Howell to prepare a grant submission.

*Manders*



CURATOR'S REPORT 12.11.16

1. New display banners are in place in the Visitor Centre, along with a display case of objects relating to Churchill Island's history. A large mural aerial photograph of Churchill Island is in place awaiting break-out signage regarding the island's flora and fauna, and the adjoining small angled wall features information about the island since the government bought it.
2. The old display stands have been re-purposed. Two went to the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka, Ballarat, and two went to Coal Creek Community Park and Museum.
3. The Museums Australia Victoria museums and galleries conference was held on Phillip Island on October 6 & 7, and on Churchill Island for tours and a cocktail dinner on Thur 6 October. Thanks to David Maunders, Fred Allen and Rebecca Sanders for taking a group each (I took the other) on tours of the historic precinct. Thanks to Margaret and Hagen Geppert for guiding in the house for the delegates. The conference was a great success and as one of the organisers I was very pleased that it ran without a single hitch! Thanks to FOCIS newsletter editor Jeff Cole for also volunteering at the conference.
4. Jeff and I have revamped the horse shoe display in the blacksmiths shop.
5. I was recently able to source a 19<sup>th</sup> century style wig from the US for our mannequin who was hairless.
6. Period Conservation Builders have now given us their audit of the historic buildings. There is a lot that needs doing, totalling over \$100,000 worth. The Nature Parks is applying for some heritage funding which the state government has now made available.
7. Information regarding some of Samuel Amess's most famous buildings is now framed and displayed in the Amess House dining room along with the plans from the Kew Asylum for the Insane.
8. I am now working on the detail of the new farm machinery display, preparing information for our grant seeker Therese Howell. FOCIS is now in a position to apply for grants since we now have tax deductible donation status.
9. Thanks to Margaret and Hagen Geppert for guiding in the house for the delegates.



The old black horse shoe display in the blacksmith's shop has been replaced by a new one including a display of farrier's equipment and explanatory pictures.

Still short of a clinching tool as the gap indicates.

## FRIENDS OF CHURCHILL ISLAND SOCIETY INC

### MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD 12.11.2016 AT THE VISITOR CENTRE CHURCHILL ISLAND

**APOLOGIES:** Sue and Roger Hollingworth; E Rebecca Sanders; John Eddy; Anne Davie; Robyn Holman; Ann Jelly; Edie Johnson; Peter Brookes; Lee Tierney

**PRESENT:** David Maunders; Christine Grayden; Tom O'Dea; Ruth O'Dea; Irene McKell; Terry Holman; Linda Patterson; Marianne Pattinson; Jan Jonas; Ian Jonas; Peter Jelly; Graeme Clausen

#### WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS

#### LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATION:

Ian and Jan Jonas were presented with FOCIS Life Memberships by President David Maunders. Ian and Jan have been stalwart volunteers on Churchill Island for eleven years, starting in the garden then helping out for two days per week with the cow milking and other farm animals. They collect greens from Woolworths to feed to the poultry and other farm animals, groom and exercise the animals, oil the harness, change George the cockatoo's branches, and a myriad of other jobs around the historic and demonstration precinct. They also interact with the island's many visitors, explaining about the animals' roles and behaviour to people who have very little to do with animals at all, let alone farm animals. David presented Jan and Ian with a Life Members certificate, a box of flowers, bottle of wine, and some nice chocolates to go with it.

Jan responded saying how much they have enjoyed their time on Churchill Island, and how lucky they were to have 'found' the island all those years ago. She said they were delighted to be made FOCIS Life Members as recognition for their volunteer work.

**MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING 20.8.2016** Terry Holman/Irene McKell. *Carried.*

#### MATTERS ARISING:

**Farm machinery display:** Christine has been working on putting together notes for our grant seeker, Therese Howell, to try and get grant funding to extend the larger of the two historic farm machinery sheds, put in a concrete floor, and prepare a quality display with signage and QR codes linking to the FOCIS website, of the horse-drawn farm machinery in the two sheds. The c/ee discussed Christine's notes this morning. Christine will review her notes and prepare a costing for Therese.

**PINP REPORT** – written report from Catherine Basterfield

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

1. David reported on the recent Museums Australia Victoria museums and galleries conference that was held over two days in Cowes, and one evening on Churchill Island, where four guides – David, Christine, Fred Allen and Dr Rebecca Sanders – guided four groups of delegates through the historic precinct.


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David, Christine and Jeff volunteered at the conference and attended several sessions. The conference was a huge success, and everyone loved Churchill Island.

2. *Lady Nelson* model. David showed a small souvenir model of the *Lady Nelson* from King Island to whet members' appetites for a quality model being made for us by model maker David Lumsden, who built the model at Flagstaff Hill. Our model will be totally to scale, historically accurate and show the sliding keels. FOCIS is paying for the model, but David Lumsden is only charging us for the materials – approximately \$200.

3. Tool display. Tool donor Wilf Dungan visited recently to see the display of his tools which is on the south wall of the Blacksmiths Shop. He was delighted, and made a further donation to FOCIS towards the farm machinery display. He is also writing down some recollections of using horse drawn farm machinery in his youth for us to use in the display.

#### TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT:

Tom reported that we have 59 unfinancial members. He has written to all of them, but only a few have responded. He pointed out a few matters in the treasurer's report: that we are over-budget for office expenses due to the printing of the Heritage Fund envelopes and flaps which are with the donations box in Amess House drawing room. We were having problems with fluccs our free website host, so Tom has changed to another host which costs \$232 over 3 years. Also transfer domain name registrations \$24.90 for 2 years. Money from the donations box - C/ee decided to place it into Heritage Fund as it is all donations. Tom O'Dea/Ian Jonas *Carried*.

CURATOR'S REPORT: (elsewhere in newsletter)

#### GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Dates for meetings, 2017: meetings – 11.2.17; 13.5.17; 19.8.17 (note third Saturday); 11.11.17  
Working bee dates: 8.4.17 (farm machinery 10-12); 14.10.17 (house and cottages); 9.12.17 (vacuuming etc) both 8-10 a.m.

2. PINP Open Day 5.3.2017. Linda Patterson is still happy to do children's activities. Tom and Ruth will be present for FOCIS/volunteers table, and Ruth will help Linda if necessary. Christine will put out a display of Amess lace.

#### SPEAKER:

David Maunders gave an enlightening talk about the life and activities of Lt James Grant, well known to FOCIS members as the first European to recognise Churchill Island as an island, and plant a garden here. David did not dwell at all on Grant's Churchill Island visit, but told us about Grant's early life in the navy, his trip to Australia in the *Lady Nelson*, his dealings with the NSW governor, his further explorations, and activities in later life. Members thanked him with acclamation.

MEETING CLOSED 2.50 p.m.

## Nature parks report

- Visitation to the Nature Parks attractions has continued to grow at a substantial rate with the Penguin Parade up 14% on last year's visitor numbers and Churchill Island up 2% (1,000 visitors) on last year.
- Plans are progressing for a number of capital projects on Churchill Island including:
  - o Stadium seating for shearing show.
  - o Hay shed and works area tidy up.
  - o Heritage building maintenance program.
- The Nature Parks applied for a grant for the Heritage Building maintenance program in line with the audit received earlier in the year. Funding will be announced in February 2017. This would provide a substantial start to the maintenance program.
- Planning has commenced for the new Penguin Parade facility with Architects appointed and conducting consultation with Nature Parks staff in October. The program is still on track for construction to commence in mid 2017.
- The Nature Parks announced in September this year that it will be looking to exit the Food and Beverage business and look for an appropriate partner to run the café and catering operations on our behalf. The search for the right partner has commenced and we expect to make an appointment early in the new year. Our staff benefits and ongoing work conditions are a key focus throughout this process and we are confident that we will find the best solution for all involved.
- Coming into summer Churchill Island will again host the Friday night Summer Vibes. The evening meals and entertainment were a great success last year and we look forward to building the cafés reputation for great food.

Regards  
Catherine

Catherine Basterfield  
Operations Manager

Christine Grayden thanks delegates and Museums Australia Victoria staff at the conclusion of the MAV conference on Phillip Island in October with MAV Executive Director Laura Miles standing alongside.



## Treasurer's Report for the Period Ending 31 October 2016

### 1. Summary of Results as at 31 October 2016

#### 1.1 Summary of Assets and Liabilities

Fund	30/06/2013 Balance	30/06/2014 Balance	30/06/2015 Balance	30/06/2016 Balance	31/10/2016 Balance	Difference (last 4 months)
<u>The Operating Fund</u>						
Assets	\$54,028	\$56,877	\$58,391	\$61,460	\$61,397	-\$63
Liabilities	-\$31,816	-\$33,280	-\$34,582	-\$35,705	-\$36,257	-\$552
<b>NETT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$22,212</b>	<b>\$23,597</b>	<b>\$23,809</b>	<b>\$25,755</b>	<b>\$25,140</b>	<b>-\$615</b>
<u>The Heritage Fund</u>						
Assets	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$612	\$1,394	\$782
Liabilities	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>NETT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$612</b>	<b>\$1,394</b>	<b>\$782</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$22,212</b>	<b>\$23,597</b>	<b>\$23,809</b>	<b>\$26,367</b>	<b>\$26,534</b>	<b>\$167</b>
Fund	1/07/2012- 30/06/2013	1/07/2013- 30/06/2014	1/07/2014- 30/06/2015	1/07/2015- 30/06/2016	1/07/2016- 31/10/2016	Difference (last 4 months)
<u>The Operating Fund</u>						
Income	\$34,636	\$9,063	\$20,111	\$19,889	\$15,362	-\$4,527
Expenses	-\$35,788	-\$5,275	-\$18,057	-\$16,820	-\$15,924	\$896
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>-\$1,152</b>	<b>\$3,788</b>	<b>\$2,054</b>	<b>\$3,069</b>	<b>-\$562</b>	<b>-\$3,631</b>
<u>The Heritage Fund</u>						
Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$635	\$1,284	\$649
Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$3	-\$3	\$0
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$632</b>	<b>\$1,281</b>	<b>\$649</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>-\$1,152</b>	<b>\$3,788</b>	<b>\$2,054</b>	<b>\$3,701</b>	<b>\$719</b>	<b>-\$2,982</b>

### The Operating Fund as at 31 October 2016

#### 2.1 Operating Fund - Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 October 2016

Account	30/06/2013 Balance	30/06/2014 Balance	30/06/2015 Balance	30/06/2016 Balance	31/10/2016 Balance	Difference (last 4 months)
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Bank Accounts	\$17,270.78	\$7,484.78	\$8,283.27	\$9,884.42	\$9,070.93	-\$813.49
Investments	\$31,815.91	\$45,279.86	\$47,051.34	\$48,586.08	\$49,337.09	\$751.01
Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Books	\$4,469.76	\$3,530.88	\$2,989.44	\$2,989.44	\$2,989.44	\$0.00
Other Assets	\$471.80	\$581.87	\$66.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$54,028.25</b>	<b>\$56,877.39</b>	<b>\$58,390.52</b>	<b>\$61,459.94</b>	<b>\$61,397.46</b>	<b>-\$62.48</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Museum Reserve	\$31,815.91	\$33,279.86	34,581.87	\$35,705.27	\$36,257.18	\$551.91
Other Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$31,815.91</b>	<b>\$33,279.86</b>	<b>\$34,581.87</b>	<b>\$35,705.27</b>	<b>\$36,257.18</b>	<b>\$551.91</b>
<b>NETT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$22,212.34</b>	<b>\$23,597.53</b>	<b>\$23,808.65</b>	<b>\$25,754.67</b>	<b>\$25,140.28</b>	<b>-\$614.39</b>

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## 2.2 Operating Fund - Statement of Income and Expenses as at 31 October 2016

Category	1/07/2012- 30/06/2013	1/07/2013- 30/06/2014	1/07/2014- 30/06/2015	1/07/2015- 30/06/2016	1/07/2016- 31/10/2016
<b>INCOME</b>					
Interest Income	\$2,300.68	\$1,752.30	\$1,915.25	\$1,643.80	\$774.73
Subscriptions Income	\$4,053.55	\$3,243.75	\$3,270.90	\$3,849.75	\$1,587.70
Book Sales	\$1,671.50	\$1,247.05	\$694.35	\$0.00	\$0.00
Donations	\$610.10	\$839.65	\$1,230.95	\$1,395.80	\$0.00
Grants Received	\$26,000.00	\$1,980.00	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00
Other Income	\$0.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$34,636.05</b>	<b>\$9,062.75</b>	<b>\$20,111.45</b>	<b>\$19,889.35</b>	<b>\$15,362.43</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Administration	\$1,412.17	\$1,936.27	\$1,372.75	\$1,966.78	\$1,322.95
Promoting Moveable Cultural Heritage	\$34,375.65	\$3,338.46	\$16,684.13	\$14,828.15	\$14,312.11
Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$288.80
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$35,787.82</b>	<b>\$5,274.73</b>	<b>\$18,056.88</b>	<b>\$16,819.93</b>	<b>\$15,923.86</b>
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>-\$1,151.77</b>	<b>\$3,788.02</b>	<b>\$2,054.57</b>	<b>\$3,069.42</b>	<b>-\$561.43</b>

## Membership Report as at 31 October 2016

Category	30/06/2013	30/06/2014	30/06/2015	30/06/2016	31/10/2016	Increase or Decrease (last 4 months)
TOTAL Paying Memberships	198	184	167	183	157	-26
TOTAL Non-Paying Memberships	17	17	17	17	17	0
Unfinancial (Lapsed) Memberships	0	22	43	33	59	26

## 2. The Heritage Fund as at 31 October 2016

### 4.1 Heritage Fund – Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 October 2016

Account	30/06/201 3 Balance	30/06/201 4 Balance	30/06/201 5 Balance	30/06/201 6 Balance	31/10/201 6 Balance	Difference (last 4 months)
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Bank Accounts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$632.01	\$1,913.41	\$1,281.40
Investments	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$632.01</b>	<b>\$1,913.41</b>	<b>\$1,281.40</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Other Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>NETT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$632.01</b>	<b>\$1,913.41</b>	<b>\$1,281.40</b>

**4.2 Heritage Fund - Statement of Income and Expenses as at 31 October 2016**

<b>Category</b>	<b>1/07/2012-30/06/2013</b>	<b>1/07/2013-30/06/2014</b>	<b>1/07/2014-30/06/2015</b>	<b>1/07/2015-30/06/2016</b>	<b>1/07/2016-31/10/2016</b>
<b>INCOME</b>					
Interest Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Donations to the Heritage Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$635.00	\$1,283.95
Other Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.21	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$635.21</b>	<b>\$1,283.95</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Administration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3.20	\$2.55
Promoting Moveable Cultural Heritage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3.20</b>	<b>\$2.55</b>
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$632.01</b>	<b>\$1,281.40</b>



Satirist John Clarke was the speaker at the MAV conference cocktail dinner, held at Churchill Island. John spoke about the environmental issues affecting Western Port and Phillip Island.

# FOCIS

Committee members of Friends of Coolart visited on 26 November to find out about FOCIS



- DGR status. Tom explained how he achieved it, narrowing aims to movable cultural heritage, changing constitution and getting legal advice,
- use of volunteers. Pat and myself explained about negotiating with Nature Park and defining contributions. Pat talked about Centrelink volunteers.
- events and activities past and present. We shared about concerts, horse festival, community day, things we had initiated or supported.
- group were impressed about what CI offered and many took FOCIS applications saying they would like to bring grandchildren overseas visitors etc.
- Pat is keen to do reciprocal visit for our vols welcomed by Coolart. Catherine says NP is sharing with their staff and perhaps staff might join visit.



The Friends of Churchill Island Society  
Newsletter

If undelivered return to FOCIS  
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Friends of Churchill Island Newsletter

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