

Friends Of Churchill Island Society Inc.

FOCIS

NEWSLETTER

ABN 78667051020 INC. NO. A 002 19007W

Dates to remember:

*Next General Meeting: Saturday 11th
November 2017*

*Working bees:
28.10.17 (house and cottages 8-10 a.m.);
9.12.17 (house and cottages 8 -10 a.m.)*

Speaker for November meeting:

*Christine Grayden:
Journey from Melbourne to Phillip Island
1869.*

FOCIS Annual General Meeting 2016 - 2017

Presidents Report

August 19, 2017

I intend to address much of my report to the five areas identified in the Strategic Planning Workshop in February 2016.

1. The provision and development of an exhibition space.

Before his departure as CEO, Matthew Jackson invited Christine and I to discuss draft plans for the rebuilding of the Visitors' Centre and Museum. Unfortunately, the redevelopment of the Penguin Parade has placed this on the back-burner. We have therefore focussed our attention on the development of an historic farm machinery display by extending one shed. Small extensions to our exhibits have been made: a display of wood working tools has been constructed by Jeff and Christine with donations by Wilf Dungan; a model of the Lady Nelson has been built and displayed in Amess House.

2. Focus on membership levels, recruitment and recognition.

Tom O'Dea, our treasurer has undertaken extensive drafting and consultation to restructure membership fees and categories to make membership sustainable. We are also encouraging frequent visitors to take membership.

3. Strong focus on the effective involvement of members.

We have continued to involve members in working bees and in events such as community day. An historic dress picnic is planned as part of the Phillip Island 150 celebration in 2018.

A number of us have met with and attended workshops with Rachael Ferguson, newly appointment volunteer coordinator for PINP. Rachael is developing a policy and ways of recognising and rewarding volunteer contributions.

1. Funding to facilitate important projects.

Following the approval of DGR (tax deductible status) last year, we have submitted three grant applications to fund the historic farm machinery display. The first of these, to Bass Coast Shire to fund the shed extension, was unsuccessful but feedback encouraged a further submission to the Community Fund, which is pending. The outcome of a submission to the Public Record Office of Victoria is still awaited subject to the approval of the minister.

These submissions were strongly supported by PINP through costing and offers of resources to complete the projects. Thanks are due to John Evans and Catherine Basterfield for active support.

2. Effective engagement of PINP staff in understanding and promoting the contribution of FOCIS to CI.

- I have continued meetings with the CEO and these have now been broadened to include the curator and farm manager;
- I have engaged with newly appointed staff, Rachael as volunteer coordinator and Paul Sandells, visitor experience manager, to explain the contribution and potential of FOCIS;
- We have renewed the contract for the curator with PINP with an increase in funding. Christine has indicated that she will retire at the end of this contract (mid 2018) and so we need to negotiate for the continuation of the curator position.
- I have represented FOCIS at a series of PINP events: 20th anniversary reception at Government House; NAIDOC Week seminar on language; and at the BCSC reception for the Governor-General.

And finally

I wish to thank committee members for their contributions: Christine not only for performing the role of secretary, but also for undertaking the bulk of grant writing; Tom for so much work in financial management and membership administration (and I also recognise the role of Ruth in helping to carry out many of these tasks); Jeff for editing the newsletter and a contribution to wood work on the island; and to Terry, Graeme, Pauline and Irene, who often claim not to do much but whose contributions to committee deliberations have been most helpful.

I am optimistic, almost confident, that next year will see the historic farm machinery display be offered to the public. And after that?



Mander



Some of the Churchill Island residents are not as shy as you might think. Nocturnal Bandicoots released on the island can sometimes be seen in daylight if things are quiet

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST, 2017, 1.30 P.M. AT CHURCHILL ISLAND FUNCTION
ROOM, CHURCHILL ISLAND

1. Welcome: The President David Maunders welcomed the Phillip Island Nature Parks CEO Catherine Basterfield and members and paid respects to all indigenous people living in our community today and their elders past, present and future.
2. Present: David Maunders (Chair), Christine Grayden, Graeme Clauscen, Tom O'Dea, Ruth O'Dea, Jeff Cole, Peter Brookes, Pauline Taylor, Lee Tierney, Marianne Pattinson, Terry Holman, Sue Hollingworth, Roger Hollingworth, Margaret Geppert, Irene McKell, Heather Stewart, David Stewart, Peter Jelly, Linda Patterson, Edith Johnson, Diane Scukovic, E Rebecca Sanders, Catherine Basterfield.
3. Apologies: Richard Farrell, Margaret Farrell, Meg Davis, Alex Davis, Reg Elder, Cathie Robie, Ray Addicoat, Isobel Addicoat, Coral Bourke, Peter Fensham, Christine Fensham, Mary Mitchell, Kim Johnson, Bonnie Taylor, Gaye Cleeland, Robyn Holman, Hagen Geppert, Ann Jelly.
4. PINP CEO's Report – deferred until talk at end of meeting.
5. Minutes from Previous General Meeting held Saturday 13th May, 2017 and previous AGM held Saturday 20th August 2016 moved Pauline Taylor, seconded Terry Holman. *Carried.*
6. Matters arising from previous General and AGM Meetings – Nil.
7. Annual reports from Executive Committee:
 - a. President's Report. (see front page)
 - b. Treasurer's Report. See attached and Spring 2017 newsletter. Tom O'Dea read through his report and answered questions. Moved Tom O'Dea, seconded Graeme Clauscen... *Carried.*
 - c. Membership Secretary's Report. See attached and Spring 2017 newsletter. Moved Tom O'Dea, seconded Terry Holman... *Carried.*
 - d. Secretary's Report, including correspondence.

Inwards:

From David Maunders, notes of meeting held between Catherine Basterfield, David, Christine and Trevor Hayward (Churchill Island farm manager) 9.6.17.

Rachael Ferguson: recruiting Guides for Churchill Island

Public Records Office of Victoria: delay in announcing Local History Grants.

Wilfred Dungan sending A4 photo of a large mouldboard plough poster he has put together for CI, and information on working mouldboard ploughs with a Massey Ferguson tractor.

Lynne Strahan, Greg Hunt, MP's office re updating of organisation details.

Bass Coast Shire Council re updating of organisation details.

Outwards:

Responses to Wilf Dungan, Lynne Strahan and BCSC.

e. Newsletter Editor's report: Jeff Cole reported that he has had some technical issues with newsletter production but they are gradually being ironed out. Thanks to Brian Paynter's staff for printing the last edition of the newsletter. However, they are not really set up to print our quantity of copies. The Phillip Island Printers have given us a good quote for colour copies and we will be doing that from now on. Jeff thanked David and Christine for supplying him with photos for the newsletter.

8. Appointment of Auditor: "That Tom Caulfield be appointed Auditor for 2018", moved Tom O'Dea, seconded Jeff Cole. *Carried.*
9. Determine annual subscriptions taking into account recommendation from the Executive Committee.

Tom reported on his investigation into the financial sustainability of FOCIS, where he found we could continue operating for some years even if we continued to lose membership due to our low fixed costs. However, in the course of the investigation he discovered that our membership fee structure is not fair and that some categories are paying more than their fair share while others are being subsidised. As a result the committee discussed this at length and are recommending the following changes to annual subscription rates:

- a) That rates be per household and not per member
- b) that rates be the same regardless of method of payment
- c) that rates be: family household (with or without children) \$30; single adult household (no concession) \$20; concession household \$15.

"That the rates as recommended be accepted to apply from July 2018" Moved Tom O'Dea, seconded Jeff Cole. *Carried.* (one against)

1. Election of Members of the Executive Committee:

Catherine Basterfield took the chair for the election. Only one nomination was received for each position, so those nominated were declared elected.

President – David Maunders

Vice President – Terry Holman

Secretary – Christine Grayden

Treasurer – Tom O’Dea

Membership Secretary – Tom O’Dea

Newsletter Editor – Jeff Cole

Phillip Island & District Historical Society Inc representative – Graeme Clausen

Friends of Koalas Inc representative – Irene McKell

Phillip Island Conservation Society Inc representative – Pauline Taylor

2. Appointment of committee members with authority to operate the Society’s bank accounts. Moved Tom O’Dea, seconded Terry Holman, “That Tom O’Dea, David Maunders and Christine Grayden have authority to operate the Society’s bank accounts”. *Carried.*

3. General Business.

Election of Life Membership for Dr Rebecca Sanders. Moved David Maunders, seconded Pauline Taylor. *Carried with acclamation.* Dr Sanders’s Life Membership will be presented to her at a later General Meeting.

Election of Honorary Memberships for David and Lynne Lumsden and election of Honorary Membership for Wilfred Dungan. Moved David Maunders, seconded Tom O’Dea. *Carried with acclamation.*

4. Guest speaker: Catherine Basterfield, CEO of Phillip Island Nature Parks, gave a talk on the main features of the Parks’ operations and many successes.

5. Meeting closed 3.30 p.m. followed by afternoon tea.

6. Next General Meeting: Saturday 11th November 2017



Curators Report

May to August 2017

Christine Grayden

Updating register and Victorian Collections cataloguing;

Completed stock-take in house and cottages;

I am assisting National Vietnam Veterans Museum with their accreditation process.

I helped the artists involved set up their display of art works in the CI function room for the Winter Art Trail over the Queen's Birthday weekend.

We have had a donation of an 1880s mantle clock from Lyn Blom, which Pat and I have put on the mantelpiece in the drawing room. Pat's neighbours donated two tall matching Victorian vases, which are on the floor in front of the fire place of the drawing room. Jeff donated a lovely old tea set which I have set up on the kitchen dresser. Wilf Dungan donated a poster featuring a variety of mouldboard plough photos for us to display with the historic farm machinery in the future.

Jeff continues to be a great help on Fridays, cleaning the farm machinery and signage and also checking the Disaster Bin and some collections work.

Margaret Geppert continues to work on the photo collection, typing up labels to be stored with the photos.

Conservation work will soon be done on the house, cottages and half cellar in the next few months. I am liaising with acting Operations Manager John Evans on this, and also needed to speak with National Trust curator Katie Potter about how to deal with their collection items during the work. We have worked out a system.

I met and walked around with Jenny Gardiner from Creative Hat Interpretations.

I met and walked around with Paul Sandells, new PINP Operations and Visitor Experience manager.

I attended two excellent workshops organised by Bass Coast Shire's Josie Kent. Jeff also attended. One was on conservation of items, including large items such as machinery, and one was on exhibition design and implementation.

I put together a grant application for a BCSC community grant of \$10,000 for extension of the shed housing the historic farm machinery. We are still waiting for an outcome from our PROV Local History Grant application, which was due out in early July. The minister has still not signed off on the grants.

On Thursday I trained the CI farm staff, main cleaner and the PINP OHS officer on the Heritage Act, Museum Accreditation and the curator's role on CI. All who attended said it was most worthwhile.

I am currently investigating powder coated storage systems to replace one of the two bunk beds in the Volunteers' Hut. I currently have various collection and archiving items stored on one of the beds, which is most unsatisfactory. The beds are rarely used now, and one set of bunk beds should be ample.

Treasurer's Report for the Period Ending 31 December 2016

1. Summary of Results as at 31 December 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	31/12/2016 Balance	Difference (last 6 months)
The Operating Fund						
Assets	\$54,026	\$96,877	\$98,391	\$91,460	\$60,146	-\$1,312
Liabilities	-\$31,816	-\$33,280	-\$34,562	-\$33,795	-\$36,257	-\$362
NETT ASSETS	\$22,212	\$23,597	\$23,829	\$23,755	\$23,891	-\$1,864
The Heritage Fund						
Assets	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,541	\$1,209
Liabilities	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
NETT ASSETS	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,541	\$1,209
OVERALL TOTAL	\$22,212	\$23,597	\$23,829	\$23,837	\$26,432	\$65

1.2 Summary of Income and Expenses

Fund	1/07/2013-30/06/2013	1/07/2013-30/06/2014	1/07/2014-30/06/2015	1/07/2015-30/06/2016	1/07/2016-31/12/2016	Difference (last 6 months)
The Operating Fund						
Income	\$34,836	\$9,003	\$23,111	\$18,889	\$15,693	-\$4,196
Expenses	-\$35,786	-\$5,275	-\$78,057	-\$16,820	-\$16,065	-\$165
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-\$1,152	\$3,788	\$2,054	\$3,069	-\$1,292	-\$4,261
The Heritage Fund						
Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,912	\$1,277
Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$3	-\$3	\$0
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,909	\$1,277
OVERALL TOTAL	-\$1,152	\$3,788	\$2,054	\$3,791	\$017	-\$3,084

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 Registration Number: A0021907W Age: 7860751020 PO Box 652 COMES VIC 3022

2. The Operating Fund as at 31 December 2016

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

Account	30/06/2013 Balance	30/06/2014 Balance	30/06/2015 Balance	30/06/2016 Balance	31/12/2016 Balance	Difference (last 6 months)
ASSETS						
Bank Accounts	\$17,270.78	\$7,464.76	\$8,263.27	\$8,864.42	\$7,821.24	-\$2,063.18
Investments	\$31,815.91	\$45,279.86	\$47,051.36	\$48,566.08	\$49,337.09	\$751.01
Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Books	\$4,489.76	\$3,030.88	\$2,989.44	\$2,989.44	\$2,989.44	\$0.00
Other Assets	\$471.80	\$561.87	\$60.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$54,026.25	\$96,877.39	\$98,390.52	\$91,459.94	\$60,147.77	-\$1,312.17
LIABILITIES						
Museum Reserve	\$31,815.91	\$33,279.86	\$4,561.87	\$30,705.27	\$38,297.16	\$501.91
Other Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$31,815.91	\$33,279.86	\$34,561.87	\$35,705.27	\$38,297.16	\$551.91
NETT ASSETS	\$22,212.34	\$23,597.53	\$23,828.65	\$25,754.67	\$23,850.59	-\$1,664.08

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

Category	1/07/2013-30/06/2013	1/07/2013-30/06/2014	1/07/2014-30/06/2015	1/07/2015-30/06/2016	1/07/2016-31/12/2016
INCOME					
Interest Income	\$2,300.68	\$1,752.30	\$1,915.25	\$1,643.80	\$784.16
Subscriptions Income	\$4,053.55	\$3,243.75	\$3,270.90	\$3,849.75	\$1,408.80
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	\$1,060.00	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.80	\$13,000.00
Other Income	\$0.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$34,636.05	\$8,062.75	\$20,111.45	\$19,889.35	\$15,692.96
EXPENSES					
Administration	\$1,412.17	\$1,936.27	\$1,372.75	\$1,966.78	\$1,952.52
Promoting Movable Cultural Heritage	\$34,375.65	\$3,338.46	\$16,664.13	\$14,828.15	\$14,619.36
Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$413.25
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$35,787.82	\$5,274.73	\$18,036.88	\$16,819.93	\$16,985.13
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-\$1,151.77	\$3,788.02	\$2,074.57	\$3,069.42	-\$1,292.17

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3. Membership Report as at 31 December 2016

3.1 Membership Summary

Category	30/06/2013	30/06/2014	30/06/2015	30/06/2016	31/12/2016	Increase or Decrease (last 6 months)
TOTAL Paying Memberships	198	164	167	163	167	-16
TOTAL Non-Paying Memberships	17	17	17	17	15	1
Unfinancial (Lapsed) Memberships	8	22	43	33	45	15

4. The Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2016

4.1 Heritage Fund - Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2016

Account	30/06/2013 Balance	30/06/2014 Balance	30/06/2015 Balance	30/06/2016 Balance	31/12/2016 Balance	Difference (last 6 months)
ASSETS						
Bank Accounts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$612.01	\$2,541.26	\$1,929.25
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
TOTAL ASSETS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$612.01	\$2,541.26	\$1,929.25
LIABILITIES						
Other Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NETT ASSETS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$612.01	\$2,541.26	\$1,929.25

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

Category	1/07/2013-30/06/2013	1/07/2013-30/06/2014	1/07/2013-30/06/2015	1/07/2013-30/06/2016	1/07/2015-31/12/2016
INCOME					
Interest Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Donations to the Heritage Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$635.00
Other Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.21
TOTAL INCOME	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$635.21

Category	1/07/2013-30/06/2013	1/07/2013-30/06/2014	1/07/2013-30/06/2015	1/07/2013-30/06/2016	1/07/2015-31/12/2016
INCOME					
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	\$1,911.80
Other Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.21	\$0.00
EXPENSES					
Administration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1.29	\$2.55
Promoting Moveable Cultural Heritage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1.29	\$2.55
surplus (deficit)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$632.01	\$1,909.25



"NARCISSUS 'DANMARK' Daffodil

As a harbinger of spring, the daffodil is one of the best-loved bulbs, and many thousands of cultivars have been grown over the years. 'Danmark' is one of the large-flowered cultivars with three or four flowers on each stem. Sturdy and excellent for borders, this late-flowering daffodil is useful for extending the season. All narcissi grow well in sun or partial shade.

Photograph by Jonathan Buckley, courtesy of GAP Photos Ltd © 2010 Arco Publishing Limited

Southbank 16c 3000
25/05/17

Dear Members of the FOCIS Committee

We would like to thank you for granting us Honorary Membership at your recent AGM. We were delighted to receive our membership cards in the mail yesterday, and look forward to using them soon.

It will in a family your lovely site and museum - plus the model ship made by their grand father/father.

(If there are any other items you think might be constructed by David, please let us know.)

Thanks again
Lynne & David Lumsden.

A thank you card from Lyn and David Lumsden who were made Honorary Members this year. David constructed the model of the Lady Nelson now on display in the dining room of Amess House.



Boz painting the gun carriage

The connections between our island's cannon's supposed history, the Victorian Navy and HMVS/HMAS Cerberus.

(Partly sourced from a story by Karen Percy, May 2016.)

Popular and untrue legend has it that our cannon was a gift from the Captain of the CSS Shenandoah when she unexpectedly sailed into Port Phillip and Melbourne on January 25, 1865. There were Americans living here because of the gold rush and the ships company were royally entertained, including a gala ball in Ballarat.

The public were very enthusiastic and demanded to be allowed to inspect the ship, the American Consul wanted the ship impounded, the politicians were undecided and finally gave the ship a limited time in port. Melbourne evidently 'amazed' the ships officers by the size and scale of the gold rush city.

When she left she also contained 40 'stowaways', the ship needed the numbers to continue operations. She was a very successful raider, attacking 38 vessels and continuing operations for some time after the civil war ended officially.

The sudden arrival of such a powerful foreign warship encouraged the newly separated colony of Victoria to look to its defences. A nascent navy existed, the principle ship being HMVS Nelson, a heavily armed converted wooden wall, that did good service but in Port Phillip was mainly used to train apprentices. There were 11 other vessels of various sizes and armament.



HMVS Nelson and HMVS Cerberus (Australasian)

To this end in 1867 the keel of HMVS Cerberus, a state of the art coastal defence monitor was laid down in England, and was launched in December 1869. She was rigged with sails and temporary bulwarks for the rather hairy trip out to Australia. With 8 inches of armour her sailing qualities were not good and many crew jumped ship before she left Britain. She arrived in Port Phillip on 9th April 1871 and was the most powerful warship in the southern hemisphere at the time.

"The bay seemed all-alive as she entered Hobson's Bay, and she was the centre of observation. The Russian man-of-war the Haydamack dipped ensign to her and Captain Koltovsky hurried on board Cerberus to pay his compliments to her commander. The boys of HMVS Nelson crowded into the rigging of their ship, and made the air ring again with peals of boyish cheers; and nearly every vessel in the bay hastened to pay the compliment of dipping colours."

She ended her service life in 1924 to become a breakwater at Black Rock, and sadly all attempts at preservation have come to naught.

SPRING 2017

FOCIS



Members of the Darwin Bicycle Users Group visited Churchill Island in September.
Here pictured on the Verandah of Amess House, photo by David Maunders.



The Friends of Churchill Island Society
Newsletter

If undelivered return to FOCIS
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Surface
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Number 137 spring 2017

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Friends of Churchill Island Newsletter

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