



newsletter

WINTER/SPRING 2000

ABN 78 667 051 020 Inc. No. A 00219007W

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To: Secretary FOCIS, RMB 1 COWES 3922
Please Enrol/Renew a FOCIS Membership for

Name
Address
Postcode

Phone: Home Business

Membership is from 1st January to 31st December
ADULT \$15 **FAMILY \$25** **CONCESSION \$10**

I understand that a current FOCIS membership entitles me to:-
Visit **Churchill Island** any time during opening hours plus discount for special events.
Visit **Penguin Parade** and **Koala Conservation Centre** during opening hours 4 times a year for ongoing members and 2 times a year for new members.
10% discount for accompanying visitors, 10% discount on food and souvenirs.
Participate in Churchill Island Projects.
N.B. Membership card is not transferable.
If elected as a FOCIS member, I agree to abide by the Society's Rules as laid down in its Constitution.

Signature
Date
As a member, I am/am not able to offer the Society help with its projects.
Painting Festivals
Restoration Gardening
OFFICE USE ONLY
Membership No.
Paid to Receipt No.
Cheque/Cash Received
Card Sent



Friends of Churchill Island Society Newsletter
If undelivered return to: FOCIS, RMB 1, COWES 3922
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Annual General Meeting

Churchill Island - 29 July 2000

Office Bearers 2000/2001

- President** Ann Penaluna
- VicePresident** Keith Hocking
- Treasurer** Roger Hollingsworth
- Secretary** Pauline Taylor

Assistant Secretary

Maureen Symmonds

Membership Secretary

Diane McCarthy

Ordinary Members

- Pat Baird
- Jocelyn Bradley
- David Graves
- Terry Holman
- Brenda Luke
- Barbara Stephens
- Maurice Halford

Coopted Members

- Cherry McFee
- Jan Beales

Trustees

- Les Otway
- Keith Hocking
- Cherry McFee
- Terry Symmonds
- Public Officer**
Roger Hollingsworth

NEXT MEETING

Saturday 28th October
Venue Churchill Island
Time 1.30 pm

All FOCIS meetings are open to all, so please come along, you will be most welcome & may even get a "cuppa"! At this meeting we will be discussing future meeting dates & times therefore your input is very important.

NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS' DAY

The National Trust is holding it's Members Day on October 21st. 2000. The Nature Park will be a participator on this day at Churchill Island. Would any members be able to assist with volunteering their time on the day? or wish to be an exhibitor?

If either of these options interest you please contact Annabelle McDougall
Phone 5956 8300 ex 9

WINTER/SPRING 2000



FRIENDS OF CHURCHILL ISLAND INCORPORATED

ABN 78 667 051 020 Inc. No. A 00219007W



Presidents Report

The past few months since my last report have been an exciting time for your Friends of Churchill Island Society Inc. So far this year we have been involved in :- The Annual "Working Horse & Heritage Festival over the Easter Saturday & Sunday.

An increase in voluntary participation by FOCIS members in Churchill Island activities. Successful training of volunteers to act as guides for visitors to Churchill Island.

A good working partnership with Phillip Island Nature Park. Participation of FOCIS in the restoration of historic buildings, the new bridge & the new visitors centre.

We are also involved in the planning & preparations for the celebration of the bicentenary of Lt. Grant's arrival in the vessel, the "Lady Nelson" in March of next year. A series of events to mark the occasion will be a highlight of our near future work. Write March, 2001, on your calendar as another time to visit the Island!

Members will be pleased to know that FOCIS has an ABN the No. is 78667051020 & our

Tax File No. is 733410258. We are set now, with your help as members, to be in a position to raise more than \$50,000 per annum!! We are in the process of applying for tax deductibility for donations of more than \$2.00 to FOCIS.

The Working Horse & Heritage Festival held over the Easter weekend was a fantastic success. This year we had more than 60 horses working & demonstrating old farming skills. The craft, art & old-time type stalls, for the two days, complemented the Festival & its reference to our heritage. Visitors enjoyed the music, the shearing, wood -chopping, sheep -dog & stockwhip demonstrations. It was a family event & thoroughly enjoyed by all.

During the festival, there was an exhibition of old farming transport in the orchard. FOCIS purchased a spring - cart for future demonstrations. When the stables are built it will be housed along with Sophie & Dolly, our Clydesdale ladies. These magnificent horses are being trained to perform farming work, thanks to Scott Campbell.

Your Committee has greatly appreciated the work of Keith Hocking & his "Working Horse & Heritage Festival" subcommittee. Keith & his fellow workers, Scott Campbell & Neville Johnson Nature Park Rangers, have performed an outstanding role to ensure the success of the festival. We are also grateful to the Nature Park, who supported us with marketing the festival & gave terrific staff assistance. In closing, may I say a heartfelt thanks to all Committee members for their excellent support & work throughout the year. Their work as a team has made for a very successful year. Our motivation to do our best for the Island remains high. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the new Committee members & to wish them all an enjoyable & rewarding year.

Finally, an enormous thanks to members of the Friends of Churchill Island Society, without whom we could not preserve that which is precious. I urge all members to come along & visit this peaceful & tranquil Island.

Ann Penaluna, President

Senior Ranger's Report

With the few showers of rain we have had & relatively mild days the Island is looking really lush. The Ewes are lambing, at the moment, with a good number of twins on the ground.

The garden is coming along well with improvements happening every day. A number of inappropriate trees have been removed from the garden area & an additional 17 assorted fruit trees have been planted in the orchard, all being "Heritage" varieties.

The "new -old!" spring -cart restoration is progressing well & should be operational by Summer.

The new bridge has been completed & road contractors are at the moment building up the road on the Churchill Island side - no more driving through salt water!

We have just finished a project of removing Box-thorn & other weeds from the foreshore opposite the Island. The work was carried out by Ian McFee & his Box-thorn tractor mounted "grabber".

We have also cleared all the Rabbits from this area, making a good buffer zone to stop them reinfesting Churchill Island. The work was made possible through a grant to the Nature Park from DNRE as part of their "Rabbit buster" programme.

The restoration of Rogers Cottage has started & should be ready for the Summer season.

Scott Campbell, Ranger.
Here is a little poem I would like to share with you it was given to me by Sally from the Nature Park

Churchill Island

It stands as it did in times of yore
When Bass first landed on its shore
Surrounded by sea untouched by time

A part of our heritage so proud & fine

That has been kept with love & care

A bit of heaven clinging to hill & vine

The birds flying high above
The colour of rainbow on flower & shrub

The trees standing straight & tall
Looking out where cattle call

The hills gently sloping slowly fall
Waves breaking on rocky shore

Time has not touched or spoiled its face
Nor progress of the human race
Has come to mar this peaceful place

If we could keep the world so wise

To know that this is paradise.

By Anne Marrian

Anne is the sister of Eve Garrett who visited the Island in the early days of the Jenkins era.

Island Winter Notes

In The Garden

Lisa, our gardener, has been busy pruning Roses & Hydrangas & digging over the vegie garden in preparation for Spring. Keep your eyes open for Winter bulbs such as Daffodils & also the original Camellias planted by Samuel Amess adding a splash of colour to the Winter garden. Listen for the Frog chorus as rains bring water to the dry soil & ponds.

Watch for our resident pair of Flame Robins flashing their red breasts in the garden. Hear the sounds of the whistling Kites in the Cypress Trees.