

ATTACHMENT TO AGENDA ITEM

Ordinary Meeting

16 April 2019

**Agenda Item 10.3 Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee
Annual Report 2018**

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Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee 2018

Membership

Bangerang Cultural Centre	Miranda Borlini, Marlene Atkinson (Alt)
Community Representatives	Evan Lloyd, John Lawry, Robyn Slee, Carrie Donaldson, Leah Byrne, Andrew Morcom
Dookie Historical Society	Gaye Sutherland, Norma Sutherland (Alt)
Greater Shepparton Councillor	Cr Seema Abdullah
Historical Society of Mooroopna	Ian Pleydell, Val Hill/Barry Campbell (Alt)
Katandra & District History Group	Marjorie Earl (Chairperson), Priscilla Duane (Alt)
Merrigum & District Historical Society	Anne Tyson
Murchison & District Historical Society	Warwick Finlay, Kay Ball (Alt)
Shepparton Heritage Centre	Peter Matthews, John Dainton (Alt)
Tatura & District Historical Society	Evert Worm/George Ferguson, Brian Williams
Toolamba Community Plan Steering Committee	Geoff Maynard, Christine McKenzie (Alt)
Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation	Wade Morgan
GSCC Strategic Planning	Grace Docker, Simone Wood, Mitchell Stoter/Kate Clarke
GSCC Heritage Advisor	Deborah Kemp



Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee Members 2018



2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Bruce Wilson Memorial Heritage Lecture** – This biennial event was held on Thursday 10 May 2018 with the same lecture being presented at 1pm and 7pm at the Senior Citizens' Centre in Welsford Street, Shepparton. The Heritage Lecture is seen as a valuable tool in promoting an understanding of cultural heritage and conservation in Greater Shepparton and pride and interest in the many facets of cultural heritage significance in our municipality. The lecture this year was delivered by Emeritus Professor Graeme Davison AO, Sir John Monash Distinguished Professor (Monash University) and entitled '*The Past Around Us: how Victoria Saved Its Heritage*'. Professor Davison, who was involved in heritage from the beginning, spent considerable time and effort researching our local area's history and heritage and thus his lecture was pitched well to the audience of over 70 people in the afternoon and 40 in the evening.
- **Heritage Grants Program** – Following a very successful Heritage Grants Program in 2017, which saw conservation works undertaken to heritage buildings in the municipality, the budget was doubled for the 2018 Heritage Grants program to \$50,000. This allowed twelve heritage grants to be awarded at the September Ordinary Council Meeting. It is expected that this program will continue in 2019.
- **Cultural Heritage Awards Launch (for 2019)** – The well-attended launch, opened by Councillor Adem, was held on 22 August 2018 at the Australia Hotel. A booklet outlining the Award categories, and the selection criteria, was also produced for distribution to attendees and relevant organisations. The judging panel has assessed all of the applications, which closed 7 December 2018, and will present the awards at the ceremony to be held on 27 April 2019 at the Goulburn Valley Hotel.
- **Committee Educational Visits** – Members recognise the need to develop greater knowledge of, and exposure to, a number of heritage places across the region. In May, visits were made to the Goulburn Weir, hosted by Goulburn Murray Water guide Paul Borbely, and also included inspections of the Cattanagh Canal "Big Cut", remains of the No. 4 flume from the original national irrigation scheme, the Murchison Aboriginal Protectorate, Bindavale Homestead, the Toolamba kiln, Camp 13 Prisoner of War Camp and the Murchison Museum. In April, historian John Gribben also gave interested members a tour of the historic Kialla church.
- **Heritage Study IIC** – This Study was completed with significant input from members of the Committee. The Study identified and assessed over 180 post-contact places of cultural heritage significance mainly within rural areas of the municipality. Amendment C204 was approved in November 2018, which applied interim Heritage Overlays to all places identified in the Study to ensure their protection over the coming months, while Amendment C205 will seek to implement heritage controls to places of cultural significance on a permanent basis.
- **'Master Classes' and Presentations to the Committee** – The following presentations were given:
 - Geoff Allemand: 'Zee Tours' mobile phone application for electronic tours of the Shepparton CBD;
 - Scott Wikman: The history and significance of the Goulburn Weir;
 - Grace Docker: The constraints on developing the Mooroopna hospital site due to heritage, flood and bushfire overlays;
 - Gaye Sutherland: The Dookie Rail Trail;
 - Michael MacDonagh: Presentation given to the Victorian Heritage Council Local Government Forum on 'Celebrating Heritage Differently';
 - Michael MacDonagh: The role of the Committee and Council in promoting the Prisoner of War and Internment Camps to the Victorian Heritage Register;
 - Priscilla Duane: The possible impacts on researchers of proposed changes to the Births, Deaths & Marriages forms;
 - Deborah Kemp: Closer Settlement schemes in the Municipality;
 - Deborah Kemp: Prisoner of War and Internment Camps.
- **Other Activities**
 - Continued representation on the Calder Woodburn Memorial Avenue Advisory Committee;
 - Involvement in the proposed Heathcote to Murchison 'Rail Trail' and its possible extension within our municipality.

OUR COMMITTEE

2.1 Background

Council authorised the formation of the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee on 17 January 2012. The primary purpose of the Committee is to provide the best possible advice to Council on how to conserve and promote the unique cultural heritage of Greater Shepparton, and to act as an advocate for all cultural heritage matters within the municipality.

The establishment of a Heritage Advisory Committee was consistent with the objectives, strategies and actions outlined in the Environment section of the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy (2006)*, Objectives 18 and 31 of the *Greater Shepparton Council Plan and Strategic Resource Plan 2009-2013*, and the *Greater Shepparton City Heritage Strategy 2015 - 2019*.

2.2 Terms of Reference and Committee Composition

The Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee acts in an advisory role to Council on the future development of cultural heritage matters across Greater Shepparton. It has no executive authority and operates in accordance with the Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference are reviewed biennially and were last adopted by resolution of Council at the November 2017 Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Committee's Terms of Reference provide for a voting membership consisting of up to two Councillors, along with one representative from each of the ten identified member organisations listed and six community representatives unaffiliated with any of these organisations, and a non-voting membership comprising Council's Heritage Advisor and up to two members of Council's Strategic Planning Team. Member organisations nominate an alternative delegate to ensure representation continuity.

At the Committee meeting November 2018, the Committee elected office bearers for 2019:

Chairperson: Marjorie Earl, Katandra and District History Group;
 Deputy Chairperson: Anne Tyson, Merrigum and District Historical Society – At the following meeting, Anne Tyson resigned from this position and Geoff Maynard, Toolamba and District Community Plan Steering Committee was elected Deputy Chairperson;
 Secretary: Ian Pleydell, Historical Society of Mooroopna.



Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee Executive 2018

2.3 Meetings

The Committee meets on the first Monday of each month with the exception of January.

2.4 Committee Agendas

Standard inclusions on all Committee agendas:

- A briefing on all active Planning Permit Applications within a Heritage Overlay;
- Suggestion and consideration of items for presentation as Short Discussion Sessions (SDS) for the Councillors;
- Heritage Adviser Reports and updates;
- Strategic Planning Report; and
- Member reports regarding local historic/heritage activities and updates from subcommittees alternate bimonthly at each meeting.

2.5 Sub-committees

The Heritage Advisory Committee is of the view that it fulfilled its core advisory functions during 2018 and that its professional Strategic Work Program has been very successful in focussing the Committee's heritage activities. The Strategic Work Program was divided amongst the following sub-committees:

- Heritage Signage
- Cultural Heritage Awards
- Bruce Wilson Memorial Heritage Lecture
- Heritage Open Day
- Marketing Greater Shepparton
- Heritage Events and Tourism
- Links with Tertiary Institutions
- Master Classes
- Budget

2.6 Resignation of Inaugural Members

Val Hill and Warwick Finlay were inaugural members of the Heritage Advisory Committee, representing the Historical Society of Mooroopna and the Murchison and District Historical Society respectively. They are also life members of their respective societies. Val and Warwick resigned from the Heritage Advisory Committee in 2018 after seven years of invaluable service. Both Val and Warwick were regular attendees of Committee meetings and their extensive knowledge and enthusiasm will be missed on the Committee.



Val Hill



Warwick Finlay



OUR 2019 PROGRAM

- **Heritage Open Days** – The Committee, in association with Council, will organise free bus tours, walking tours and opportunities for independent visiting of over 50 places of heritage and historical significance in Greater Shepparton. Some have never been opened to the public before and many are rarely on view and an information booklet will be available during February 2019 with bookings being made through Council.
- **Cultural Heritage Awards** – Nominations for the Cultural Heritage Awards, held by Council and the Committee, closed on 7 December 2018 and they have been assessed using adopted guidelines and assessment criteria. The successful nominations will be announced at an Awards Ceremony on 27 April 2019 at the Goulburn Valley Hotel at 2pm.
- **The Bruce Wilson Memorial Heritage Lecture** – The Committee will commence planning for the 2020 Biennial Bruce Wilson Memorial Heritage Lecture in mid-2019. The Lecture is always an interesting and informative event, which has been very well-attended in the past, and the 2020 Lecture will be no exception.
- **Heritage Grants Program** – The Committee continues to support the Heritage Grants Program, which has been run over the last two financial years with great success. This Program has provided partial funding for conservation works to seventeen places of cultural heritage significance, with total works valued at over \$150,000. It is expected that the Heritage Grants Program will continue its success in the 2019/20 Financial Year.
- **Heritage Strategy** – The Heritage Strategy, which outlines the Council's vision and priorities for heritage protection within the municipality over the medium and longer term, has been drafted and will be made available for public comment during 2019. The adopted Strategy may provide a guide to any future realignment of our current sub-committee structure. The Strategy also guides a number of Committee activities, some of which are included below.
- **Victorian Heritage Register** – The Committee will progress the nomination of sites recommended as being of state significance in the adopted heritage studies to the level of Victorian heritage registration.
- **Scoping study of the internment history of the region** – The Committee is keen to support the preservation of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage values of the local camps and related collections. The Committee will consolidate information held by its members, and assess available resources to initiate a scoping study.
- **Increase public access to local histories** – The Committee will investigate ways to share heritage information and stories with the community, including exploring possible sources of funding to develop a bank of digital heritage stories. The Committee will also ensure that copies of local histories that relate to our municipality, and to specific historical societies, are provided to the Prahran Mechanics Institute.
- **Resourcing Member Organisations** – The Committee will continue to pursue its role in assisting member societies with coordinated training and information sharing programs that ensure each organisation can continue to provide their communities with heritage storage, cataloguing and hosting events.
- **Heritage Advocacy** – The Committee continues to use all opportunities to raise the profile of heritage throughout the municipality.

