



GREATER
SHEPPARTON

GREATER SHEPPARTON

HERITAGE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee 2019 MEMBERSHIP

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



Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee Members 2019 (with Cr Shelley Sutton)

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Heritage Open Days** – This event was held on 22-23 March 2019, with over 50 places of heritage significance opened to the public. The bus tours, walking tours and individual visits were clearly enjoyed and valued by those participating, with 1,209 individual attendances. The continued support of Dyson Group Buslines, Prominent Group Printers, and the Ethnic Council of Shepparton and District was again greatly appreciated.

The Open Days have become a valuable tool in promoting pride and interest in the many aspects of cultural heritage in our municipality, and the Committee will explore the potential for them to become an annual fixture.



*Left: Don Phillip tells the stories of the Australia Hotel, operated by his family for many decades.
Right: Jamie Brown of Browns Shepparton Plaster Works gives a presentation on traditional plaster-making techniques.*

- **Heritage Awards** – The Greater Shepparton Cultural Heritage Awards 2019 were presented at a ceremony held on 27 April at the Goulburn Valley Hotel. Guest speaker was Kay Ball, President of the Murchison and District Historical Society, who spoke on the *History and Heritage of the POW and Internment Camps*. Awardees for 2019 are listed in Attachment 1.

The awards demonstrate the breadth of cultural heritage across Greater Shepparton. Landscapes, books, artefacts, artworks, and more intangible elements including folklore, traditions, language and knowledge are pieces of our cultural heritage, as important as places of architectural, social, historical, technical and spiritual significance.



Kay Ball's informative and engaging presentation at the Cultural Heritage Awards Ceremony 2019

- **Heritage Grants Program** – The first half of 2019 saw the conclusion of the 2018 grant round, with conservation works completed on a range of heritage properties across Greater Shepparton, including repainting, restumping and repairs. The ongoing success of the program led to the increase of the program's budget for 2019-2020 to \$65,000, with the maximum amount per grant increasing to \$15,000. An unprecedented 47 applications were received, and 14 grants awarded (see Attachment 2 for grant recipients).

Greater Shepparton is one of the only regional councils offering Heritage Grants in Victoria. Enquiries for the next round of grants have already been received, and it is expected that this very popular program will continue into the future.



Left to right: Merrigum Mechanics Hall after repainting funded by a Heritage Grant; the Greater Shepparton Heritage Strategy 2019; and a log building, built c.1877, now protected by a Heritage Overlay in the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme.

- **Greater Shepparton Heritage Strategy 2019** – The Heritage Advisory Committee assisted Council officers and the Heritage Advisor in the development of Greater Shepparton’s inaugural *Greater Shepparton Heritage Strategy 2019*, adopted by Council in November 2019. The Strategy seeks to promote and support heritage-related activities over the next four years, with the aim of conserving and integrating significant reminders of our heritage for the benefit of current and future generations.
- **Amendment C205 Implementation of the Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIC** – Amendment C205 progressed in 2019, aiming to implement the recommendations of the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIC 2017* by applying heritage controls to culturally significant places in the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme. The study was completed with significant input from members of the Committee, identifying and assessing 178 post-contact places, many within the hitherto neglected rural areas of the municipality. Committee members attended the Planning Panels Hearing on 2 and 3 December 2019 at La Trobe University, Shepparton.
- **History News Publication** - Several members of the Committee worked to compile an article that was published in the August 2019 edition of *History News*, the bi-monthly publication of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, which is distributed to over 300 members. The account showcased the achievements and activities of the Committee and highlighted the positive support and commitment by Greater Shepparton City Council, illustrating the collaboration that has been very successful in terms of preservation as well as education and promotion.
- **Committee Educational Visits** – In May, members continued their ongoing development with a tour of historical sites in the Dookie area, taking in the Dookie Cemetery, Dookie College, Cashel, and the Dookie East/Cashel Cemetery, as well as the CWA gardens, Gladstone Hotel, St Luke’s Anglican Church and the Dookie war memorial. Local residents Norma Sutherland, John Dainton, Di Feldtmann, and Les Earl (who lived in the Cashel bank building as a child) generously shared their knowledge and offered invaluable insights to Committee members (see photos below).
- **Master Classes** – The following presentations were given:
 - Kay Ball: ‘Mysteries of the Murchison Meteorite’;
 - Leah Byrne: ‘Felons and Forges’;
 - Andrew Morcom: ‘The Roman Imperial State at Vagnari -The Vicus’; and
 - Michael MacDonagh: ‘The cultural heritage significance of Skellig Michael/Sceilig Mhichil in Co Kerry in the Republic of Ireland’.

Kay Ball was also a Guest Speaker at the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, presenting on ‘Publishing Local Histories for Beginners’.

OUR COMMITTEE

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 assistance provided by the Heritage Advisory Committee is consistent with the objectives, strategies and actions outlined in the Environment section of the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy (2006)*, and Objectives 2.6, 2.7 and 4.3 of the *Greater Shepparton City Council Plan 2017-2021*.

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.

Office-bearers for 2019 were:

- Chairperson: Marjorie Earl (Katandra and District History Group)
- Deputy Chairperson: Geoff Maynard (Toolamba Community Plan Steering Committee)
- Secretary: Ian Pleydell (Historical Society of Mooroopna)



2019 Executive Officers: Ian Pleydell, Marj Earl and Geoff Maynard

At the Committee meeting of November 2019, the Committee elected office bearers for 2020:

- Chairperson: Geoff Maynard (Community Representative)
- Deputy Chairperson: Andrew Morcom (Community Representative)
- Secretary: Marjorie Earl (Katandra and District History Group)

3. Meetings

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

4. Committee Agendas

Standard inclusions on all Committee agendas:

- A briefing on all active Planning Permit Applications within a Heritage Overlay;
- A report from the Heritage Adviser on relevant projects and updates;
- A report from Strategic Planning on relevant matters;
- Member reports regarding local historic/heritage activities; alternating monthly with
- Updates from sub-committees; and
- Suggestion and consideration of items for presentation as Short Discussion Sessions (SDS) for the Councillors.

5. Sub-committees

The Heritage Advisory Committee is of the view that it fulfilled its core advisory functions during 2019 and that its professional Strategic Work Program has been very successful in focusing the Committee's heritage activities.

The Strategic Work Program was divided amongst a number of sub-committees, which were reorganised during the year to ensure ongoing effectiveness of the committee to achieve the 2020 work program. The following sub-committees have now been formed:

1. HAC Operations
 - a. Administration: Annual Report, Budget, Heritage Guidelines, Grant Coordination
 - b. Terms of Reference Review
 - c. Master Classes
2. Heritage Promotion and Education
 - a. Heritage Signage
 - b. Heritage Lecture (2020)
 - c. Cultural Heritage Awards (2021)
 - d. Heritage Open Days (2020)
3. Heritage Planning
 - a. Victorian Heritage Register
 - b. Marketing and Communication
 - c. Publications
4. Heritage Projects
 - a. Internment History Scoping Study, 20th Century Places Study, Aboriginal and Shared Cultural Heritage Study, Thematic Environmental History Review (to be undertaken in stages as budget and time permits)

Other ongoing activities:

- Development of interpretive signage for significant sites – Monash Park Signage Project.
- Representation on the Calder Woodburn Memorial Avenue Advisory Committee.
- Support for the proposed Heathcote to Murchison 'Rail Trail' and its possible extension within our municipality.

6. Resignation of Members

Two inaugural members of the Heritage Advisory Committee resigned during 2019, Evan Lloyd in April, and Ian Pleydell in October, a great loss to the group.



Ian Pleydell



Evan Lloyd

Ian Pleydell's contribution was long and valuable. He was Secretary of the Heritage Advisory Committee from February 2018 until his retirement, and had represented the Historical Society of Mooroopna from December 2012. For five years he organised the Committee's stimulating Master Classes, which included a number of high-quality presentations of his own, such as that on the Garden City Movement. With others, he worked on the revision of the Terms of Reference, and with the Executive on Annual Reports. For the Heritage Open Days of 2017 and 2019 he researched and developed a heritage walk of Mooroopna. The Committee wishes Ian well in his new life in WA.

Evan Lloyd was one of the three inaugural community representatives on the newly formed HAC in 2012, and continued on the committee till late in 2019. Evan brought a great love and understanding of heritage buildings and architecture, a commitment to their conservation, and much local knowledge. He and his family generously shared their heritage property, Fairley Downs, with the public on our Open Days. Members hope to see Evan return to the Committee at a future date.

In March, members farewelled Community Representative John Lawry, who moved to Sydney, as well as Katandra and District History Group Alternate Representative Priscilla (Cilla) Duane, who relocated to Western Australia. Cilla was an active member of both the Heritage Lecture and Heritage Open Days sub-committees, and developed an Architecture walk for the 2017 Heritage Open Day.

Both were regular attendees at Committee meetings and their knowledge and enthusiasm will be missed on the Committee.

2020 PROGRAM

- **The Bruce Wilson Memorial Heritage Lecture** – The Committee is planning for the *Bruce Wilson Biennial Memorial Heritage Lecture 2020* to be held on 23 April at the Senior Citizens' Centre, Shepparton, at 1pm and repeated at 6pm with light refreshments available.

Ms Christine Johnston, one of Victoria's leading heritage practitioners, will explore people's attachments to place, and how these are incorporated into heritage today. The free Lecture is always an interesting and informative event which has been very well-attended in the past, and the 2020 Lecture is expected to be no exception.

- **Heritage Open Days** – The Heritage Open Days 2020 are proposed to be held over three days in 2020 due to high demand: Friday 16, Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 October 2020. The Committee, in association with Council, expects to again present a program of free bus tours, walking tours and opportunities for independent visiting, with new venues and activities added.

As in previous years, an informational catalogue on the venues will be prepared by the Committee, in itself a valuable guide to Greater Shepparton's Heritage Places.

- **Cultural Heritage Awards** – Nominations for the 2021 Cultural Heritage Awards, conducted by Council and the Committee, are due to be opened in August 2020, with the Awards Ceremony to take place during Heritage Week in April 2021.
- **Heritage Grants Program** – Given its success over the last three years, it is expected that another round of the Heritage Grants Program will be held in the 2020/21 financial year. The Committee will continue to support the Program, which to date has provided partial funding for conservation works to a variety of places of cultural heritage significance, with total works valued at up to \$140,000.
- **Victorian Heritage Register** – The Committee will progress the nominations of heritage sites recognised as being of state significance in the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II 2020* to the Victorian Heritage Register.



Local entries already on the Victorian Heritage Register. Left to right: Day's Flour Mill Complex (VHR H1523), Dhurringile Mansion (VHR H1554), and the Calder Woodburn Memorial Avenue (VHR H1975).

- **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 completed, endorsed by Council and is available on the Council web site. The adopted Strategy may provide a guide to any future realignment of our current sub-committee structure, and point the way to future Committee activities.
- **Scoping study of the prisoner of war and internment history of the region** – The Committee is keen to support the preservation of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage values of our unique group of local camps and the 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, the state's premier repository of local history publications and materials.

- **Resourcing Member Organisations** – The Committee will continue to pursue its role in assisting member societies with training, policies, and information sharing.
- **Committee Educational Visits** – Members recognise the need to develop greater knowledge of, and exposure to, a number of heritage places across the region. They will participate in further educational visits broadening knowledge of heritage assets in localities beyond their own familiar area.



The 2019 tour of Dookie's historical sites. Left to right: Committee members examining the remnants of Cashel; visiting the Museum at Dookie College; and listening to Di Feldtmann at the Dookie War Memorial.

- **Master Classes** – The Committee plans to continue to hold Master Classes following Committee meetings every second month to hear from experts in the field, older experienced historians, business owners and others.
- **Heritage Advocacy** – The Committee continues to pursue all opportunities to raise the profile of heritage throughout the municipality.

Attachment 1

Recipients of the Cultural Heritage Awards 2019:

Category 1 (Reuse of a Heritage Place)

Shepparton Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine Clinic

Category 2 (Restoration of a Heritage Place)

Katandra West Cenotaph

Category 3 (Maintenance of a Heritage Place)

St Patrick's Church, Moorilim;

Category 4 (Best Research Publication or Manuscript)

Remembering the Dookie Fallen: 100 Years On (Helen Rankin and Dianne Feldtmann)

Category 5 (Other Publication)

Art Captured: Hans-Wolter von Gruenewaldt, Prisoner of War Camp 13 Murchison: His Story and His Art (Kay Ball)

Category 6 (Student/Youth Contribution)

Signage to The Flats (Wilmot Road Primary School)

Category 7 (Interpretive Signage)

Signage at Tallygaroopna Station Park, site of the former Tallygaroopna Railway Station

Category 8 (Community, Multicultural and Indigenous Events and Tourism)

Multicultural Bus Tours (Ethnic Council of Shepparton and District Inc.)

Category 9 (Other Contribution)

Weeping Window installation (St Luke's Anglican Church, Dookie)

Attachment 2

Recipients of Heritage Grants for 2019-2020:

St. Brendan's Catholic Church for roofing / guttering repairs	\$6,600
5475 Goulburn Valley Highway, Moorilim for underpinning	\$8,000
68 Rea Street, Shepparton for verandah restoration	\$4,000
97 Corio Street, Shepparton for verandah restoration	\$4,000
10 Casey Street, Tatura for roof restoration	\$4,510
212-226 High Street, Shepparton for repainting	\$7,260
249 Hogan Street, Tatura for brick repairs	\$7,500
101 Knight Street, Shepparton for repainting	\$650
400 Zeerust Road, Zeerust for repainting	\$2,800
43 Corio Street, Shepparton for repainting	\$3,300
108 McLennan Street, Mooroopna for repainting	\$11,000
10 River Road, Murchison for brick repairs	\$6,204
3 MacIntosh Street, Shepparton for repairs and repainting	\$1,450
75-83 Hogan Street, Tatura for repainting	\$960