

Coochiemudlo Island Heritage Society Inc

MINUTES OF 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at the Community Hall -11.15 Sunday 23 August 2015

1. Presidents Welcome: David acknowledged the traditional landowners and then welcomed Matt McEachen MP, our State member and Lance Hewlett, our Redlands Councillor and his wife, Sheena Hewlett, and the guest speaker Bill Kitson.

2. Attendance and apologies

Apologies

Margaret Anderson, Ronnie and Peter James, Annie Jamieson, Karen Williams, Margaret Walker, Christine and Chris Leonard, Denise and Viv Wright, Herb Golightly, Brian Aitken, Peter Wear, Jan McIntyre

Acceptances

Christine Stewart, Diane Gillham, Averil Maree, David and Ellen Paxton, Rae and Peter Wear, Michael and Jacqui Gourlay, Keith Stebbins, Denise Preston, Daveen O'Pray, Keith Slack, Denise Johnston, Jacquie and Noel Christensen, Carolyn Brammer, Vivienne and Graeme Roberts-Thomson, Anne Norman, Margrit and Dennis Lack.

Guests: Matt McEachen, Lance and Sheena Hewlett, Bill Kitson

3. Confirmation of previous draft AGM minutes 2nd Nov 2014

Motion: That the minutes be accepted: Moved Keith Stebbins/Daveen O'Pray Carried

4. President's report 2015 David summarised the following report that had been distributed to the Membership.

Members and guests, welcome to you all. Thank you for attending the Coochiemudlo Island Heritage Society 2015 AGM.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the Quandamooka people who since 2011 have title to country and took on responsibility for the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act. Our State PM Matt McEachen is most welcome and also Lance Hewlett our tireless and effective Councillor, with Sheena. Lance is helping us materially and morally with a number of projects and we have a good relationship with the Redland City officers with whom we work day-to-day, in particular, Meg Warnock and Bill McDowell.

Bill McDowell is on the Anzac Centenary project control group with Peter Webb (project manager), Craig Carter (principal contractor), Norm Archibald (Isle of Coochie Golf Club) and consultants Keith Slack and Catherine Brouwer.

A big thank you to our very competent Committee members: Keith Stebbins, Daveen O'Pray, Denise Preston, Brian Aitken and Denise Johnston. Denise Johnston has nominated to take over as Treasurer, so Daveen and Denise Preston can work on heritage projects. This has been a short year, but a BIG one, so the Committee has had a lot to do. Thank you to Rachel Krinks for her contribution in the early part of the year. We have had five formal meetings and several informal ones. Thank you to those who helped make Flinders Dinner 2015 a success, including financially (about \$1,000 nett), especially volunteers: Ellen Paxton, Shane Poole, Rae Wear, Leanne O'Regan, Keith Slack, Jackson Rima, Stephanie Paraide, John Preston and Herb Golightly who helped our hard working committee members. Thanks to Lance and Sheena, and to Carolyn McEachen for being there for us on a wet night.

Welcome to new members Kevin and Jan Rogan, Anne Norman and to new life members Gary and Maxene Morganson and Des Binstead, and to Ian Rowland who has renewed his membership after some years.

We guided a large number of bus tours for Cross Country Tours in 2014 and one for Tropicana Tours, but 2015 bookings were cancelled due to uncertainty of the barge schedule. The tours were a gentle way of promoting the island, supporting island crafts-people and provided income for the Society, and we liked doing them. Keith Stebbins and I guided a group of 54 Probus members who had morning tea at the Kiosk, had graded walks and then lunch at Red Rock Café.

The bangwhal mudlo grind stones and artefacts we donated last year have been included in the Quandamooka Cultural Trail. We are on a promise to go and give them a rub.

Thanks to Mayor Karen Williams' support and Lance Hewlett's discretionary funding, Redland City partnered in our bid for an Anzac Centenary Grant of \$20,582 to do-up the Doug and Mary Morton Reserve. The bid was successful and the Grants Unit has added another \$2,000 to the total, to cover GST. Redland City is providing a twin burner barbecue and shelter for about \$12,000, and other support such as waiving tip fees. This is the biggest project we have done and it is proceeding well: Flinders/Mortons Lookout is now safe and shyly beautiful, and the Ochna, Mimosa and other weeds have been banished to the wild side of the bollards. The Khyber Pass is viewable and the Lone Pine can be visited by even the less intrepid. The next step is the barbecue, then paving and turfing. There will be a completion ceremony in conjunction with the RSL Events Committee on Armistice Day (11 November 2015).

A consequence is that our income passed the threshold of \$20,000 and we need to have a member of the community who is not a Committee member, approved by the Office of Fair Trading to verify our accounting ability. Fortunately Jan MacIntyre, a Life Member and an auditor, agreed to do so and has been approved by OFT. Jan was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in the June Queen's Birthday Honours for services to Guiding so we are honoured that she will help us improve our governance.

We supported Tamara Whyte for funding for her documentary that I think will be in Quandamooka Festival, but we had less success supporting Rachel Krinks in her bid for funds for her *Island Stories*. We held a morning tea for Joan Bland to launch her *Footprints on My Coochie*, which we published courtesy of funding from Lance Hewlett (Councillor's Grant \$700). This was distributed free to Members and is sold at the markets for \$5. Joan is Doug and Mary Morton's daughter. Joan and Tom Bland, and Catherine and Ray Brouwer, were our guests on Anzac Day for the launch

of the Anzac Centenary project. Doug and Christine Bland also attended. Incidentally, Doug gave an oral account to historian Peter Ludlow of Doug Morton's war history and Peter sent a copy for our collection. We donated \$100 towards the shortfall for the Music Festival. The Gambling Community Benefits Fund provided \$998 for a data projector (BenQ W 1070) that we hold for community use. It was borrowed for Adam Bowden's funeral. Negotiations were held with Mick Zaleski to make a sculpture out of metal artefacts we hold, and he has provided a concept Photoshop image and cost estimate. We missed the deadline for a private foundation that seeks to blend art and heritage, but negotiations are still happening: the fund seems to have changed its parameters, but Round 4 of the Anzac Centenary grant may be suitable.

A walking stick inlaid with silver engraved "Coochie Mudlo 1875" was purchased from a museum in Cairns for \$250. Thanks to research by Keith Stebbins, we know it was owned by John Henry Clark and also know some details of how it came to be in a deceased estate on the Atherton Tableland. Keith continues to follow up. His research has been aided by a new edition of Joanna Hackett's booklet on the Acclimatisation Society's activity in the Bay. We also purchased a better edition (1977) than the one we currently hold (1985) of *Trim* by Matthew Flinders. This was \$25 + postage from a rare book shop in Glenn Innes.

Donations received with thanks were: a hand carved cricket bat used in games at Pullen's Place from John (Croc) Clark; family photos taken in 1965/66 on the "Ten Pound" jetty built by Bill Phillips, courtesy Narelle Renn; *The Life of Matthew Flinders* by Miriam Estensen 2013, courtesy Carol Cuvalo; an original painting of Pineridge Chapel donated by Narelle Renn, courtesy of her sister; Volume 1, Number 1 of *The Moreton Bay Courier*, June 20 1846, courtesy Annie Jamieson.

The new jetties presented an opportunity to remember the names of some Island pioneers, and an informal Coochiemudlo Facebook survey was begun. Comments and 57 Likes were recorded. Momentum was lost when the snap Queensland election was held. This matter will again be pursued in the coming year.

On March 20 this year the State government approved the addition of Norfolk Beach, Community Hall precinct and Mortons Steps to the register as places of local heritage significance. The Committee has drawn to Redland City's attention that the entrance to the Steps needs to be pacified, to protect visitors and the brow of the cliff into which the Steps are inserted. A job number has been allocated. The Society will continue to push for the Emerald Fringe to be declared a landscape of cultural significance by the State government, and the declaration of the 3 sites advances the case.

The Society organised for an Island map to be produced, with assistance from Dennis Lack (artist) and Millie Simic (Photoshopper). SEQ Catchments (thanks to Joel and Cheryl Bolzenius) printed off 200 copies for the Easter markets. There was good take-up by businesses. The electronic copy is now available free on request to Millie. For example, she has provided a copy for the Australian Wildlife Preservation Foundation that is holding its AGM on the island on 12 September and will print off maps for attending members.

The Society will be represented by Secretary and President at the State History Conference (*Time and Place*) in Indooroopilly 3 – 4 October 2015. I currently am the token male on the executive of History Queensland, which is an organiser of the conference.

As a trial, the Society produced a short run of Wally Rice's *Memories of Coochie* which range over time but concentrate on his visit to the island in 1938 when he was

“rescued” by the Phillips. Cost of printing was donated by Keith Stebbins. Copies are available for \$10. Wally Rice compiled *Sailors in Slouch Hats*, the history of 42 Australian Landing Craft Company. On this matter, we raised concern that remains of the 42ALC infrastructure of might be overlooked in the Foreshore Development Project. However the stone in Pioneer Park will now not be moved and on it 42ALC states that the stone marks the location of the administration centre. This seems a sufficient statement since all members of the Company are now deceased. Redland City is willing to keep the dialogue open on this.

Pressure of work meant that we were very happy to support Red Rock Café celebrate Matthew Flinders Birthday in March, rather than organising it ourselves. The social evening to kick off Flinders Week in July was, on the other hand, all our own work and we thank the community for supporting a sell-out evening, in spite of doubtful weather.

Projects to look forward to: Maxene Morganson is looking to producing a children’s book of stories with which we may be involved. Denise Preston is master-minding a project to develop an annual scrapbook for the Island and is seeking ideas and photographs for Members. I think Daveen O’Pray will be working with her. The collection will be hard copy so any photos that you think help define 2015, should be printed off, please, as a donation.

This year we are most fortunate to have Bill Kitson speak to us. At recent AGMs, we have had Paul Tacon (Aboriginal rock art as history), John Sinclair (identifying core community values), and Catherine Brouwer (landscapes of cultural significance) speak on aspects that really informed our switch to being a heritage society. Now Bill Kitson will give us some deep history on how Queensland was surveyed and how we came to have an Emerald Fringe. Bill is not only a very well-known surveyor and historian, he began what became the Lands Department Museum of Lands, Mapping and Surveying (where the tree that the crew of the *Investigator* carved in the Gulf of Carpentaria was held). Bill is now retired and the museum has been transferred to the Queensland Museum, but he still volunteers there. He is also patron of History Queensland and wrote (with Judith McKay) *Surveying Queensland 1839-1945: a pictorial history*. Apropos our project at the Community Hall and Doug Morton, our WW1 hero, I didn’t know until Bill told us at a meeting of the Ipswich Historical Society this year, that surveyors actually volunteered to lay out the trenches at Gallipoli. I wonder how they stopped their fingers from trembling enough to write those little numbers you can barely read?

Margaret Walker is a Life Foundation Member of the Society and has served on the Executive since 2000 in many roles, including President. She has had to leave the island because of ill health, but keeps in touch. She asked me to pass on her best wishes for this meeting.

Motion: That the President’s report be accepted be accepted: Moved
David Paxton/Keith Stebbins Carried

Keith congratulated David Paxton on being honoured with 2015 Inspiring Seniors award by the Redland City Council.

5. Treasurer's report

COOCHIEMUDLO ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY INC.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

1 July to 31 July 2015

Opening Balance \$ 3 320.27

Income

Book sales	\$ 75-00	
Matthew Flinders event	1 612-00	
Bank interest	<u>2-54</u>	<u>\$ 1 689-54</u>
		\$ 5 009-81

Expenditure

Bank fees	70	
Redland City Council for AGM '15	38-50	
Matthew Flinders event July 2015	<u>741-30</u>	<u>780-50</u>
		4 229-31

Unpresented cheque 219	60-10	
220	60-00	
221	<u>50-00</u>	<u>\$ 170-10</u>

Bank Balance as at 31.7.15 \$ 4 399-41

NB. The unpresented cheque was for the Coochiemudlo Musical Festival.

COOCHIEMUDLO ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY INC
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

Income

Membership subscriptions		570-00
Book sales		499-00
Grants – Printing of Footprints	700-00	
Digital Data Projector	<u>998-00</u>	1 698-00
Tours - Probus	100-00	
Cross Country	300-00	
Tropicana	72-00	
Bentley Car Club	<u>35-00</u>	507-00
Donations		97-00
Events – Matthew Flinders (2014)	1 418-00	
A.G.M. (2014)	310-00	
M.F. Birthday Raffle	59-00	
Matthew Flinders (2015)	<u>300-00</u>	2 087-00
Bank interest		29-74
Commission from book sales		10-00
Donations made toward music festival		<u>40-20</u>
Total		<u>5 537-94</u>

Expenditure

History Queensland – Insurance	660-00	
Membership	77-00	
Magazines	<u>19-80</u>	756-80
Trailer registration		99-15
2014 A.G.M.		506-00
Matthew Flinders event		654-12
Incorporation fees – Office of Fair Trading		48-25
Bank fees		15-75
Stationery – Ink stamp and photocopying		68-35
‘Footprints’ booklet printing		720-00
Data Projector		1 049-88
Walking stick		250-00
Donation to music festival		<u>100-00</u>
Total		<u>4 268-50</u>

Bank balance as at 1.7.14	1 950-83
plus Income	<u>5 537-94</u>
	7 488-77
less Expenses	<u>4 268-50</u>
	3 220-27
Unpresented cheque	<u>100-00</u>
Bank balance as at 30.6.15	<u>3 320-27</u>

COOCHIEMUDLO ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY INC.

ANZAC CENTENARY GRANT

6 February 2015 – 30 June 2015

Income

Initial instalment	10 291-00	
Bank interest	31-63	
Secondary instalment	<u>5 145-50</u>	\$ 15 468-13

Expenses

Anzac Project Launch	100-00	
Nuway Landscape Supplies	<u>1 500-00</u>	<u>1 600-00</u>

Bank Balance as at 30.6.15 **\$ 13 868-13**

1 July 2015 – 31 July 2015

Bank Balance as at 1.7.15 **\$ 13 868-13**

Income

Bank interest	<u>9-84</u>	<u>\$ 13 877-97</u>
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Expenses

Landscaping Flinders Lookout	2 555.00	
Bunnings Warehouse (safety glasses)	<u>57.00</u>	<u>2 612.00</u>

Bank Balance as at 31.7.15 **\$ 11 265-97**

Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted: Moved Daveen O'Pray / Denise Johnston Carried

6. Verification statement: David advised that Jan McIntyre had checked the financial report and had verified all the Society's accounts.

7. **Election of Management Committee:** Lance Hewlett conducted the election of office bearers and the following committee members were elected un-opposed, with acclamation:

- a. President: David Paxton
- b. Vice President: Denise Preston
- c. Secretary: Keith Stebbins
- d. Treasurer: Denise Johnston
- e. Committee member: Brian Aitken
- f. Committee member: Daveen O'Pray

8. General Business

- a. Denise Preston asked members to provide her with photos of events that have occurred in this year to help her in preparing a 2015 Coochiemudlo 'history' album. Denise advised she would be starting a set that could be prepared annually.
- b. Lance congratulated Jan McIntyre on her OBE and spoke of how the Redlands City Council had approved three heritage sites for Coochiemudlo, and was considering listing the Emerald Fringe as a Heritage site.
- c. David advised that Denise Johnston, the new treasurer would be looking into the existing membership fee structure and could be making recommendations at the next AGM

9. **Close of meeting:** The meeting closed at 12.15 pm

10. **Guest Speaker:** Bill Kitson spoke of:

- Why Coochiemudlo had an 'Emerald Fringe' boundary around the island. i.e. There was a surveying rules and regulations ordinance in 1878 stating that land within 150 chains of the high water mark was reserved as crown land. (NB. Some other Moreton Bay islands were surveyed before this date. i.e Macleay in 1865 and Russell in 1867)
- His work over the past 45 years in developing a Queensland surveying museum. He has also prepared a pictorial history of Queensland surveying. Bill gave a very entertaining and informative talk with illustrations of the first surveyors in Queensland and their cartoons and art work of Queensland. He paid tribute to the work of surveyors such as Claredon Stewart, Edward K Owen, Augustus Gregory, Charles Stuart and from the other 700 deceased surveyors that he has collected information about. Bill spoke of how he was collecting social information about the surveyors, not just their early charts. He displayed the cartoons, letters and discussed their achievements through great hardships and the various items he had collected for the museum such as sextants, surveying work boxes, paintings and art sets.
- David Paxton thanked Bill Kitson and Denise Preston made a presentation on behalf of the Society.