

2017 Annual Report for Chapman Valley Historical Society Museum Inc

The following members were elected for the year 2017.

President: Mr Warren Kennedy

Vice President: Mr Peter Batten

Secretary: Mrs Pam Batten

Treasurer: Mr John Stokes

Management Committee: Mr Lyall Gray, Mrs Jennifer MacKay, Mrs Coral Pridmore and Mr Clarrie Milne were elected to this Committee. The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer form the Executive of the Society and they are also members of the Management Committee as per the CVHS Constitution.

Membership: There were 42 financial members of the Chapman Valley Historical Society Inc (CVHS) for the year 2017 and the membership fee was \$5.00. The Society had one more financial member in 2017 than there was in 2016. Meetings were well attended with an average of 18 members attending each of the five meetings held during the year. The CVHS paid their membership to Museums Australia and also their membership to the Midwest Chapter of Museums WA. Members attended the Midwest Chapter meeting held at Sandstone in October, but were unable to attend the Annual meeting at New Norcia in April.

Visitors to the Museum: During 2017 there were 1467 people who visited the CVHS Museum and this figure is 340 more than 2016. The Museum was open on Wednesdays between 9.00am and 12 noon and on Sundays from 1.00pm until 4.00pm from the month of March, through until the end of November. From the 4th September until the 9th of October the CVHS trialled a Caretaker opening the Museum. The Museum was open every day for 3 hours, either in the morning or the afternoon. During this 5 week period 90 people visited the Museum, which equated to 3.2 visitors per day. Donations equated to \$13.42 income per day.

Financial: The Society was successful in their application for a Lotterywest Grant to construct a tribute to the Upper Chapman WWI Fallen Soldiers. The total cost of the project was \$38,701.47. The Lotterywest grant was for \$14,040. The in-kind contribution of voluntary hours to the project by CVHS members and the Shire of Chapman Valley, totalled \$23,260.00. Voluntary hours provided by members towards the project were well in excess of the budgeted figure of 432 hours. Donations for the year totalled \$4,450, which includes the donations received for entry to the Museum. Grant funds totalled \$19,625. The total income was \$30,921 and expenditure was \$29,020. The surplus for the year was \$1,901. The inventory of the Chapman Valley Historical Society Inc was undertaken during 2017. The purchases of new equipment during 2017 totalled \$4,713.

Compliance Audit for Stronger Communities Pathways Grant: The Project Actuals were: Cash from the CVHS was \$2487.00 and the Stronger Communities Grant was \$5,000. The budget of in-kind hours was \$3480 and the actuals totalled \$3690. The Chapman Valley

Shire budget was for \$600 and the actuals totalled \$1244.50. Volunteer hours totalled 113. The Society was notified in January 2018 that the grant acquittal had complied.

Management Licence with Shire of Chapman Valley: The Management Licence was approved and signed by the Minister for Lands in March of this year. We also have a copy of the document in digital form, which enables it to be uploaded for grant applications. We are pleased that the Chapman Valley Historical Society Inc now has a Management Licence with the Shire of Chapman Valley, signed by the Minister for Lands that covers the legalities for the operation of the Chapman Valley Public Museum on Reserve Land 13226.

Collection Policy: The Management Committee continued to work within the guidelines of the Society's Collection Policy and the numbering and accessioning of objects were entered into the Ilyarie database programme.

Acquisitions: Various objects were considered for acquisition at the Museum and 89 donations were accepted. Graham Grundy has upgraded the database programme Ilyarrie and as a volunteer has been beta testing the upgrade for Graham, there was no cost to the Society for the upgrade.

Deductible Gift Recipient Status & GST Registration: During 2016 much time was spent working towards the DGR objective. Late in 2017 it was understood that a separate constitution would have to be developed and registered. It was decided by the membership that the Society would not apply for DGR status. The membership of the Chapman Valley Historical Society Inc did agree though, with the recommendation from the treasurer that the Society register for GST. The treasurer spent many extra volunteer hours determining eligibility in the claim process. The GST registration has proved to be a sound financial decision.

Constitution: The review of the constitution was undertaken by the Secretary and Treasurer, approved by the membership and lodged with the Associations and Charities Branch of the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety. The Society's Constitution was approved by the Department in August 2017.

Insurance: Following a burglary of the Upper Chapman Road Board building in October 2017, it was identified that the CVHS did not have a contents insurance policy in place. It had been assumed that a policy had been taken out through the Shire of Chapman Valley. By the end of 2017 a Business Pack Insurance Policy for Contents, Fire & Perils, Burglary and Electronic Breakdown had been put in place. The CVHS has a Public Liability Insurance Policy and a Voluntary Workers Compensation Policy. The premiums for the three policies are paid by the Shire of Chapman Valley.

Building Maintenance: The Chapman Valley Shire undertook the necessary maintenance to Museum buildings throughout the year. The logo on the front wall of the Museum was taken down and repainted by the Department of Corrective Services at no cost to the

Society. Members continued to volunteer their services for cleaning and opening the Museum and many accolades were received for the cleanliness of the 'Heritage Precinct'. Possums continued to prove to be a problem in the ceiling of the heritage listed Upper Chapman Road Board Office. We were pleased when the Shire's Building Surveyor was able to seal the eaves of the building with the assistance of the Department of Corrective Services. The problem seems to have been solved. A site was prepared by the Shire for a trial caretaker to park his caravan. A sump was provided for the grey water.

Restoration Project: During 2017 the old 'Stripper' was restored. This was one of the early historic pieces of machinery to be donated to the Museum over 20 years ago.

Grant Applications

Upper Chapman WWI Fallen Soldiers Tribute: This project was an 'ANZAC 100 Years We Will Remember Them' project. Hundreds of volunteer hours were devoted to the project. The tribute is to the 42 soldiers from the Upper Chapman District who did not return after enlisting for service during WWI. A very moving and successful official opening was enjoyed by over 200 people on the 6th September.

Nanson Railway Bridge & Weighbridge History Boards: The successful application to the Chapman Valley Shire Community Growth Fund provided a display board at both the railway bridge and the CBH weighbridge hut in Nanson. The sourcing of a less expensive supplier for the weather proof display boards enabled the surplus funds to be used for a Museum display board. This board provides the history of the railway line from Geraldton to Yuna and has been placed in the Railway Carriage.

Bendigo Bank: An application for a television screen that would have been placed in Shed 2 was unsuccessful. Grants of \$5,000 were available.

Shire of Chapman Valley Community Growth Grant: The CVHS applied for a grant to extend Shed No 5, but were unsuccessful with the application.

Department of Industry, Innovation & Science: A 'Safer Communities' grant application for 15 CCTV security cameras at a cost of \$11,166.00 was submitted on the 14th November. Applications will be assessed during 2018.

Equipment: Another ten new chairs were purchased in 2017, a 30 litre urn, a new microwave and an archival textile storage box. An external hard drive was also purchased to back up the Society's digital photos and documents. Three security cameras were installed and a Telstra Smart Antenna purchased, along with a Yagi aerial.

Donations: A commercial coloured laser photocopier was donated to the CVHS by the Geraldton Company of Winc and a local farmer took aerial photographs with his drone for use in promoting the 'Heritage Precinct'. Tyres and paint were also donated to the CVHS by Geraldton businesses.

Busy Bees: When it has been necessary members have given generously of their time. A member donated the funds for the purchase of two heritage CBH elevators, which were carted from Binu to Nanson by CBH Geraldton, at no cost to the Society. This was a very generous gesture and the elevators have been scraped back by volunteers and repainted. The two elevators make a very impressive entry statement to the Museum.

Fundraising: A Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Geraldton was held again this year, proving to be very successful, both financially and promotionally. All fundraising activities were minuted as input credited.

Group Visits to the Museum: Villa Carlotta Touring Company visited the Museum during the months of June and August. Other groups to visit were two groups from the Geraldton Community Social Club attached to the Geraldton Regional Hospital and a Knitting Group from the Geraldton Queen Elizabeth Centre. Strathalbyn College Year 2 students visited in June and the Geraldton Army Cadets in November. Coral Coast photographers came to the Museum in July and six members were present for the photo shoot. The Geraldton Visitor Centre organised 'Know Your Product' days within the Midwest region throughout the year and 40 people visited the Museum in August. The National Veteran Car Club Rally was held in the Geraldton area in 2017 and on the 12th September volunteers catered for morning tea for 250 people at the Museum. Approximately 150 vintage cars provided an amazing site in the grounds of the 'Heritage Precinct' and on East Terrace in Nanson.

Other: Lack of mobile phone coverage in the Nanson area was addressed by the CVHS. An emergency at the Museum which resulted in an ambulance having to be called, highlighted the necessity for improved mobile phone coverage. A Telstra Smart Antennae together with a Yagi Aerial has provided a very satisfactory mobile reception to most areas of the 'Heritage Precinct'. Due to a burglary to the Upper Chapman Road Board building, three security cameras and a monitor have been installed at the Museum.

At the end of November, to conclude another successful year at the Chapman Valley Museum, people who had assisted the Society during 2017, together with the Shire of Chapman Valley Councillors and selected staff members, were invited to a Christmas luncheon.

Secretary Pam Batten

Signed 

Date 9th April 2018