

## 2018 Annual Report for Chapman Valley Historical Society Museum Inc

The following members were elected for the year 2018.

**President:** Mr Warren Kennedy

**Vice President:** Mr Peter Batten

**Secretary:** Mrs Pam Batten

**Treasurer:** Mr John Stokes

**Management Committee:** Mrs Jennifer MacKay, Mr Clarrie Milne, Mrs Coral Pridmore and Mrs Julie Clark 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:** In 2018 there were two Life Members of the CVHS and 42 other members of the Chapman Valley Historical Society Inc (CVHS). The membership fee was \$5.00. There was no increase or decrease in membership. Meetings were well attended with an average of 15 members attending each of the five meetings held during the year. In 2018 the CVHS was a member of Museums Galleries Australia, the Midwest Chapter of Museums WA and paid for a Bronze membership with the Geraldton Visitor Centre.

**Training for Members:** One member attended the Glam Digital Training Workshop in Perth and the Society was able to access a grant to cover the members expenses to attend the workshop. Following the work-shop a website for the CVHS was developed by the member. There was a small surplus from the Glam grant, and this was used to cover the domain registration.

**New Volunteers Morning Tea:** This was held in May and two possible new volunteers attended. One did join the CVHS and we were very thankful for the service provided by this member during 2018.

**Financial:** The Society was successful with three grant applications during 2018. Over \$20,000 was received from the three successful grant applications and acquittals for all three grants were approved by the end of the financial year. Donations for the year totalled \$9862, which includes the donations received for entry to the Museum. The operating surplus for the year was \$3,068. Purchases of new equipment during 2018 totalled \$8,315.

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

**Insurance:** The premiums for the three policies in the name of the Chapman Valley Historical Society Inc are paid by the Shire of Chapman Valley and the Shire of Chapman Valley insures the buildings on Reserve 13226 of the 'Heritage Precinct'. The cost of the three insurance policies was \$2,557.07.

The Insurance Policies are;

- Business Pack Insurance Policy covering Fire and Peril on the contents of \$150,000, removal of debris \$25,000, theft of \$10,000 with forcible entry and \$2,500 without forcible entry. Electronic Equipment Breakdown of \$5,000. Upper Chapman WWI Fallen Soldiers Tribute is insured for \$14,000.
- Public Liability Insurance Policy.
- Voluntary Workers Compensation Policy.

### **Grant Applications:**

***Department of Industry, Innovation & Science:*** A 'Safer Communities' grant application for 15 CCTV security cameras and a monitor at a total cost of \$10,150 ex GST was submitted in 2017 and notification of the success of the application came in June 2018. This security system is a very welcome addition to the Heritage Precinct.

***Grass Roots Co-operative Bulk Handling:*** This grant application was submitted three times over a two-year period and in September 2018 the CVHS was successful. The grant has enabled an upgrade of kitchen cupboards.

***Shire of Chapman Valley Community Growth Fund:*** The CVHS was successful with a grant application for hardwiring to provide power to the railway carriage and to install lighting to Shed 4. The successful grant has also enabled a stainless-steel barbecue to be placed in the grounds of the Heritage Precinct.

### **New Equipment to the Museum:**

- TV, speakers, cable and DVD player were purchased following a break-in insurance claim for the Road Board building.
- Four dress models were purchased from Bennetts Geraldton, when the store closed. This new equipment will enable garments to be displayed to greater advantage.
- A Photo Copier was purchased by tender from the Chapman Valley Community Newspaper for \$1,700.00.
- A3 Laminator.
- Camera and Memory Card.

**Donations:** The Chapman Valley Historical Society Inc was a beneficiary in the dissolution and asset distribution of the Chapman Valley Community Newspaper Inc. This was the group that published the Valley Vibes for over 16 years. The donation was received with grateful thanks.

Anthea Kalazich donated copies of two books which she had published for sale at the Museum with the CVHS benefitting from the proceeds.

**Visitors to the Museum:** During 2018 there were 1041 visitors to the CVHS Museum. This figure is 426 less than 2017, but we did not have any requests to open the Museum for large groups in 2018. There was an increase in opening hours during 2018. The Museum was open on Wednesdays between 9.00am and 3.00pm and on Sundays from 1.00pm until 4.00pm from the month of April through until the end of November. In 2018 documents were developed with the assistance of the Chapman Valley Shire that enabled a Volunteer Caretaker to open the Museum from June until September, five days of the week. On those days the Museum was open for 3 hours, either in the morning or the afternoon.

**Group Visits to the Museum:**

- St Francis Xavier Primary School visited the Museum in August.
- There were two wedding services held in the Arbour area. One in April and the other in August.
- Villa Carlotta Touring Company visited the Museum in August and in September.
- Northampton Seniors in November.

**Collection Policy:** The Management Committee continues to work within the guidelines of the Society's Collection Policy.

**Acquisitions:** Various objects were considered for acquisition at the CVHS Museum and 35 donations were accepted. A highlight for 2018 was the donation and presentation of a historical sash to the Museum by Mrs Tess Couch. The sash was presented to Miss Bessie McDonnell in 1927 as the Miss Popular Girl, which was a fundraiser for the Nanson Hall.

**Midwest Chapter of Museums WA:** Delegates from the CVHS attended and provided reports to both Midwest Chapter meetings held during 2018, the Annual meeting in Geraldton and the October meeting which was hosted by Northampton Historical Society.

**Building Maintenance:** The Chapman Valley Shire continues to undertake any necessary maintenance to the Museum buildings. In 2018 the Society also worked with Meedac and some of the smaller maintenance projects were undertaken by the Meedac Supervisor and team of workers. The Society installed a hot water system to the kitchen, which was a much-needed improvement. Asphaltic cement was placed in three areas by the CVHS. Shed Five was reclad. Members continued to provide valuable voluntary service towards cleaning and opening the Museum and many accolades were received for the cleanliness of the 'Heritage Precinct'.

**Busy Bees:** When it has been necessary members have given generously of their time.

**Other Projects**

**Defibrillator:** In July a defibrillator was installed at the Heritage Precinct. The defibrillator is clearly visible having been placed on the front of Shed One near the entrance gate. The State office of St John Ambulance was able to source funding from LiveCorp for several defibrillators to be donated state-wide. The CVHS organised the donation and placement of this defibrillator in Nanson. The Chapman Valley Sub-Branch of the St John Ambulance contributed towards the cost.

**Museum Brochure:** The CVHS brochure was updated in January and Marina Baker's artwork was acknowledged on the cover. Marina has provided the CVHS with a letter which covers any copyright issues regarding the use of the photograph of Marina's artwork.

**Beaufort Bomber Commemorative Plaque:** A member researched the history of this WWII tragedy in the Shire of Chapman Valley. The CVHS worked with the Shire of Chapman Valley and a plaque has been placed near the historic site of the crash.

**Midwest Convict Heritage Trail:** The CVHS was a participant in this project. The name was changed to **Victoria District Convict Heritage Tracks** and a very successful weekend was held in June with several people travelling the track from Dongara to Lynton Station over two days, finishing at the CVHS Museum on Sunday afternoon.

**CVHS Website:** This was developed in 2018 and is managed by a member. The process of uploading historical information will continue and the website is both interesting and informative. The establishment of the Societies own website is a valuable promotional tool.

**Addition of a Mural to the Shearing Display:** This project was approved in 2018. It is envisaged that a scene will be painted onto timber panels.

**State Heritage Award:** In November it was decided that the Chapman Valley Historical Society should put in a submission for the Community section of the 2019 awards. In February 2019 the Society was notified that they were one of five finalists. The Awards evening was held at the Fremantle Prison on the 29<sup>th</sup> March and the CVHS was awarded a 'Commendation Framed Certificate'. The judges commented that all finalist entries in the Community-based Organisation category were of a high standard and difficult to judge.

**Christmas Luncheon:** At the end of November, to conclude another successful year at the Chapman Valley Museum, people who had assisted the Society during 2018, together with the Shire of Chapman Valley Councillors and selected staff members, were invited to a Christmas luncheon.

Secretary Pam Batten