

2023 Annual Report for Chapman Valley Historical Society Inc

The following members were elected for the 2023 year.

President: Mr Peter Batten

Vice President: Mr Warren Kennedy

Secretary: Mrs Dorothy Stokes

Treasurer: Mr John Stokes

Curator: Mrs Pam Batten

Management Committee: Coral Pridmore, Sandy Harrison and Anne Kennedy were elected to this Committee. The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Curator are also members of the Management Committee.

Membership: Our Life Member, Phil Snell still manages to come on most Wednesdays and there were 50 other paid-up members of the Chapman Valley Historical Society Inc (CVHS) in 2023. The membership fee was \$5.00. Five general meetings were held during the year with an approximate average attendance of 12 members. In 2023 the CVHS paid a membership to Australian Museums & Galleries Association (AMAGA).

Financial: Income for the year was \$12,617.31 which included \$2000 in Bunnings vouchers donated to us from the balance of Seroja funding. Expenses paid out were \$10,964.65 which included \$2,000 for a collection of tools as mentioned in 'Acquisitions'. Balance at the 31st December; \$16,102.64. The Historical Society now has an EFTPOS machine for credit card users.

Fundraising: Catering income \$595.00.

Insurance & Utility Charges: The premiums for the buildings, the contents, public liability and voluntary workers insurance of the Chapman Valley Historical Society Inc was paid once again by the Shire of Chapman Valley. The 2022/2023 cost of the insurance policies was \$6,140.45. The Shire also pays for our utilities each year and in 2022/23 the amount paid totalled \$1,373.55. Other costs for materials, services and contracts brought the total covered by the Shire to \$10,562.97. We are very grateful for this assistance.

Acquisitions: During 2023, 85 items were accessioned. These included the Buckboard Buggy and Wagon/Dray from Bill Carr, CWA Recipe books for our CWA display and many other small items, some which had been around for some time. We purchased a 'collection of tools – Everything for the Workshop' which also included cabinets & shelving. These were housed in the sea-container and are slowly being integrated into the workshop since the doors have been erected.

Volunteer Caretakers: We were fortunate to have volunteer caretakers for three full months in 2023. David, Catherine & Danita Horner, from Queensland, who were travelling around Australia came for all of July/August and Evan & Carol Armstrong came again during September. This enabled the Heritage Centre to be open six days a week, which reflected in our visitor numbers. It is hoped that we can continue to attract such dedicated and interested people.

Visitors to the Heritage Centre: During 2023 there were 1235 visitors to the CVHS Heritage Centre. Groups included: Geraldton Grammar School students, Chapman Valley School students, a Home School Group and Villa Carlotta & Kings bus tours. The Heritage Centre was opened by CVHS volunteers on Wednesdays between 9.00am and 12 noon and on Sundays from 10am until 4.00pm from the beginning of April through until the end of November. The new 10am start time on a Sunday seemed worthwhile and in 2024 we have offers from volunteers to cover this roster. In addition to these times we opened on Show Day and Saturdays to coincide with the monthly Tavern Markets - July, August & September being done by our volunteer caretakers.

Midwest Chapter of Museums WA: A Chapter meeting was held in May 2023 at the Greenough Museums and Gardens. Two of our members attended and a report was presented from our Society. The consensus from most reports was that more volunteers are needed. In 2024 Morawa Historical Society will be the host.

Building Maintenance: The Shire continues to undertake any larger maintenance issues to the Heritage Centre buildings. Members continued to provide valuable voluntary service towards enhancing displays, keeping the area clean and opening the Heritage Centre. Accolades continue to be received for the cleanliness of the 'Heritage Precinct'. The posts on the Anzac Memorial have been oiled, a new step made for the Road Board Office and many more small jobs done – our men are always busy.

Historical Society Address: Simon Lancaster, Deputy Shire CEO, researched our address and it is now officially 15 East Terrace, Nanson, instead of Lot 100.

Social Function: Coral Pridmore organised for members to have a social function at the Chapman Valley Fish Farm for lunch. What a treat this was – great food and the tour of the hydroponic hot house, fish breeding tanks etc was amazing.

Murphy Family Day: The Murphy Family was invited to be the first family hosted by the Society. Delma Attrill (nee Murphy) did an amazing amount of work and research. What a wonderful day it was for the almost 100 people who attended. People came from far and wide.

Life Membership: Delma Murphy was honoured with Life Membership in 2023. Delma was one of the founding members of the Society and has dedicated a great deal of her time and energy into developing and making the Museum what it is today. Well deserved Delma!

Christmas Luncheon: A successful Christmas Lunch of hot beef & gravy rolls and salad, plus an ice-cream was held at the end of November for members and invited guests to wind up our year. It was a cool day which contributed to a lovely social occasion.

Secretary.....Dorothy Stokes

February 2024