

# *Coochiemudlo Island Heritage Society Inc*

## **DRAFT MINUTES OF 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

held at the Community Hall -1100 Sunday 21 August 2016

- 1. President's Welcome:** David acknowledged the traditional landowners and then welcomed Lance Hewlett, our Redland City Councillor and his wife, Sheena Hewlett, and the members of the society.
- 2. Attendance and apologies**

### **Apologies**

Brian Aitken, Merle Beckett, Joel Bolzenius, Bob Corpe, Jacqui Cresswell, Annette Drennan, Ivan and Anne Holm, Averil Maree, Matt McEachan, John and Vena Pearn, Anne Schue, Margaret Walker, Denise and Viv Wright, (16)

### **Present**

Margaret Anderson, Des Binstead, Jean Churchman, Noel and Jacquie Christenson, Bob Drennan, Diane Gilham, Herb Golightly, Georgina Hutchinson, Denise Johnston, Dennis and Margrit Lack, Christine and Christopher Leonard, Jan MacIntyre, Gary and Maxene Morganson, Daveen OPray, Heather Patrick, Ellen and David Paxton, Denise Preston, Keith Slack, Keith Stebbins, Peter and Rae Wear, Anne Wright (27)

**Guests:** Lance and Sheena Hewlett, (2)

### **3. Confirmation of previous draft AGM minutes 23rd Aug 2015**

**Motion:** That the minutes be accepted: Moved David Paxton/Ellen Paxton carried

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

Members and guests, welcome and thank you for attending the 2016 AGM of the Coochiemudlo Heritage Society. Welcome to new members Jean Churchman, Craig and Oum Carter, Bob Corpe and new life member Eithnie Barber.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the Quandamooka people who have accepted custodianship of Coochie country under the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act. Keith Stebbins and I (and John Thomson, cinematographer) travelled to Dunwich for the handing over of the grindstones (bangwhal mudlos) that the Society donated to the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation. We were met by Cameron and Michael Costelloe and driven to the new cultural centre at One Mile. There, Aunties Joan Hendricks and Margie Kucerik formally accepted the stones which are being kept in a vault at the new Keeping Place, and will be displayed at cultural events. The PR officer Nikki Michail recorded the event, and Keith Stebbins informed the Courier Mail and Bay Island News.

Thank you to Lance Hewlett, our tireless and productive Councillor, and Sheena Hewlett, who are most welcome. Congratulations to Lance on his recent re-election. We look forward to working with them. Sadly our State MP Matt McEachan had another

engagement so sent his apologies. We invited our Federal MP, Andrew Lamming.

Our Committee has been very effective. Many thanks to Keith Stebbins (Secretary), Denise Preston (Vice President), Denise Johnston (Treasurer), Daveen O'Pray, Brian Aitken, and Herb Golightly and to Jan MacIntyre who was our stern Verifier of Accounts last year and is Convener of the Emerald Fringe sub-committee. That sub-committee has begun the mammoth task of applying for the Emerald Fringe to be registered as a landscape of cultural significance. Its members are Jan, Rae Wear and Keith Stebbins, with inputs from Catherine Brouwer. There will be a situation report at the end of this AGM.

Although Cross Country bus tours were suspended in the second half of 2015 due to uncertainty about the barge schedule, the delights of Coochiemudlo are such that the company bit the bullet and re-instated the tours. In 2016 so far, they have asked us to guide 6 tours for them (one had to be cancelled due to bad weather). The tours are a gentle way of showcasing the island and Committee members enjoy guiding them. Cross Country even organised two big bus-loads of visitors for this year's Flinders Day.

The Coochiemudlo Year Books, master-minded by Denise Preston, have proved to be popular and well supported. They are an excellent record of each year on Coochiemudlo and are a high quality, creative production that happens to be quite economical as well. I think they are revolutionary.

The largest project for the year was implementing the Anzac Centenary funded project to enhance the Doug and Mary Morton Reserve, in partnership with Redland City Council. The aim of the project was to integrate the Lone Pine, Community Hall and Morton's/Flinders' Lookout through weeding, landscaping, turfing, re-planting and paving. This was achieved on time and within budget, with the completion ceremony facilitated by the RSL Events Committee on Armistice Day 2015, catered by the Kiosk and attended by Joan, Tom and Doug Bland of the Morton family. Special mention must be made of Mayor Karen Williams' support, and discretionary funds from Councillor Lance Hewlett for the new barbecue. Many people were involved. There is no doubt that Peter Webb, Keith Slack and Catherine Brouwer's inputs were instrumental in winning the grant; that Craig Carter was an excellent Principal Contractor; that Bill MacDowell was an effective Redland City liaison officer, as was Meg Warnock also; that Tony Grant and his crew were great concreters with nerves of steel and that the Coochie Plant Nursery excelled at re-planting. Several of the young people on the island did the really hard work: laying paving and turf. Lindsay Bond is a dynamo weeder, even since the project has been completed. Island groups supported the project, especially the Golf Club, Art Group, Recreation Club and Garden Club. For the record, the timeline for starts was: relaying lookout 8 July, weeding and mulching 14 August, barbecue 25 August, replanting 15 September, First Tee 6 October, turfing 14 October, protective mesh 2 November, completion 11 November 2015. As a compliment to the quality of the work, some of our sleepers were stolen in January, by a non-islander. Thanks to the island intelligence service and the Police, the sleepers were returned within a month. They have been re-installed courtesy of Craig Carter. We have still to mount the interpretive signage and the Council still has to replace the original sign. Perhaps the two can be combined.

We must have run out of puff after that project, because there was no real appetite for a follow-up Anzac Centenary application for a project to remember Bruce Phillip's war service, even though John (grandson) and Irene Flynn, and Michael Zaleski, a sculptor, were keen to be involved. The few Swamp Water Fern remnants in the southeast corner therefore remain unchampioned, and I fear for their future. Thank you to Catherine

Brouwer, Peter Webb, Herb Golightly and Keith Stebbins for their interest in the proposal.

The Social Evening on 10 July 2015 was a great success socially and financially and I said my thankyou's in the previous Report, but this year the Pirates and Pizza organisers and the Coochie Art Show made sure that Flinders Week was socially vibrant. The Progress Association sanctioned a change to the Flinders Day 2016 schedule, with the re-enactment being held at Main Beach. This allowed a more cohesive gathering and also saved time that can be used for additional events in future years. The Society wishes the incoming Progress Association Committee well for 2016/17.

The Society gave support for a documentary film by Tamara Whyte. The finished film was shown at Red Rock Café. It is very good, professional and poignant. The Society participated in some mainland events. In part this is because I was on the Committee of History Queensland, the umbrella society for some 140 local history and genealogy groups. Keith Stebbins represented us at the AGM of SEQ Catchments (now integrated with Healthy Waterways) and at two seminars organised by the State Library; we thank Anne Schue for helping us to have a place. Keith and I attended the Time and Place conference in Indooroopilly in October that was organised by History Queensland. It proved to be enjoyable and informative, with very good presenters, including some from overseas. About 200 people attended. It was such a success that History Queensland is organising another conference in 2017, at the Gold Coast. I have had to retire from the HQ Committee. I found its members to be quietly impressive, so perhaps we can be directly involved again one day.

I attended a feral animal control workshop at Dunwich, organised by Joel Bolzenius of SEQ Catchments, that was interesting and worthwhile. The Society assisted the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland with its AGM at the Community Hall in September, and presented on Coochiemudlo wildlife. That Society was founded by Judith Wright, so is venerable indeed. We have been represented at a number of local history talks organised by Leonie Swift of Redland Library. Thanks to Margaret Saunders, Cecil Fison's great-granddaughter, we have been able to add her recollections to the Library's collection on Fison and the Toondah. We are represented on the working group developing a Redland Heritage Network centred on the Redland Museum. This will provide a website and a database called eHive, which we shall be able to use in the near future. It is wonderful that Ross Bower and Rick Thomason of the Museum were awarded OAMs this year. Congratulations to them. They have been so helpful to us over the years.

In closing, may I record with great sadness the passing of my Mother Margaret Paxton, Keith Burnett, Estelle Makin and Pam Martin who have all assisted the Society in one way or another. May I also extend on your behalf, love and best wishes to those caught up in the wave of the various illnesses that have afflicted our members and friends in the past few months.

I am very surprised to realise that this is my fifth Report. Thank you for allowing me to represent you. I am standing down and Keith Stebbins has nominated for President. I very warmly commend Keith's nomination to you, he is brimming with ideas. I shall nominate as Secretary, so we are just doing a swap, really!

**Motion:** That the President's report be accepted: Moved David Paxton/Denise Preston carried

## 5. Treasurer's report

### COOCHIEMUDLO ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY ACCOUNT

**Balance as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015** \$3,320.27 CR

***Income***

Fundraising events, book sales, membership, \$2,887.02

***Expenditure***

Insurance, Registration, etc. \$2,051.61

**Total Balance as at 30th June 2016** \$4,155.68 CR

### 1<sup>st</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016

**Balance as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016** \$4,152.61 CR

***Income***

Bank Interest \$3.07

***Expenditure***

\$0.00

**Total Balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016** \$4,155.68 CR

### ANZ CENTENARY ACCOUNT

**Balance as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015** \$13,868.13 CR

***Income***

Bank Interest \$45.43

***Expenditure***

Soil, concrete, paving, transport, lawn, turf laying, plants, sleepers, mulch, signage, etc. \$13,201.40

**Total Balance as at 30th June 2016** \$712.16 CR

### 1<sup>st</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016

**Balance as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016** \$712.16 CR

***Income***

Bank Interest \$0.52

***Expenditure***

\$0.00

**Total Balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016** \$712.68 CR

There was discussion over the use of the balance of the ANZAC account. David advised that the society intends to use the balance to complete planned work still to be carried out including mounting a sign on a log honouring Doug and Mary Moreton. There was discussion on the need to repair the tiles on the bicentennial monument in front of the kiosk. Denise Preston advised she was putting information about the memorial in this year's Year Book.

**Motion:** That the Treasurer's report be accepted: Moved Denise Johnston/Christine Leonard carried

6. **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: Keith Stebbins
  - b. Vice President: Denise Preston
  - c. Secretary: David Paxton
  - d. Treasurer: Denise Johnston
  - e. Committee member: Herb Golightly
  - f. Committee member: Daveen O'Pray
  - g. Committee member: Christine Leonard
  
7. **Close of meeting:** The meeting closed at 11.40 am followed by a presentation by Jan McIntyre of the Emerald Fringe working group's activities (attachment 1) and then lunch provided by the Kiosk.

## **Attachment – Powerpoint notes: Presentation by Jan McIntyre**

### **1. Emerald Fringe: “Landscape of cultural significance”**

*Notes: Greetings*

*Congratulate outgoing committee on work achieved and incoming on election and future year*

*This project is being carried out because the Heritage Society wanted to contribute to managing the future of the Emerald Fringe so that the values present might continue*

### **2. Working Group: Jan, Rae, Keith, David**

Advice available: Lance Hewlett, Dean Butcher, Strategic Planning Unit, City Planning and assessment, Redland city Council, Catherine Brouwer, Landscape Architect

*Notes: David mentioned the makeup of the working group and we are grateful to those that have agreed to give advice as we need it. First meeting late April and we estimate at least 1 year from that beginning to submission. It needs to be noted that this is not like a typical submission for funding – this needs to be in depth and respond to strict criteria and threshold indicators. If we think of the job as being this big and we have looked at this much but there’s lots more to go through. So I shall be talking about what we have to establish and where we are up to now*

### **3. Cultural Significance**

“Cultural heritage significance, of a place or feature of a place, means its aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, or other significance, to the present generation or past or future generations.” Schedule Queensland Heritage Act 1992

*Notes: We start with the Act and its definition of “Cultural heritage significance”. But we work with the Qld Government Guidelines for Assessing Cultural Heritage Significance as we believe the Emerald Fringe meets State Cultural Significance criteria.*

### **4. State Significance**

- an important example of their type
- the site of a significant event or activity in Queensland’s history
- closely associated with a person of importance in Queensland’s history

## 5. Criteria and Thresholds to meet

- However to be sure it does we need to address and meet
- criteria that explains State Significance
- And the thresholds indicators that further interpret the criteria
- However we don't have to meet all criteria

### a) is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Queensland's history

- Regional importance
- Earliness
- Representativeness
- Distinctiveness/exceptionality

*Notes: The criterion is at the top of the slide and the threshold indicators are the dot points. As we move through the slides I know that you will think of examples for each criterion but I shall give one or two at each slide. Example: Matthew Flinders' landing, WWII heritage places.*

*I shall explain the number on the page at the end of this short explanation.*

### b) demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of Queensland's cultural heritage

- Intactness/integrity
- Distinctiveness
- Exceptionality

*Notes: Example: the area of land between the high water mark and 150 links inland around Coochie that we call the 'Emerald Fringe'. It is the only natural preserved beachfront of all the Moreton Bay Islands. Coochiemudlo is recognised as an important breeding centre for the protected stone faced curlew.*

### c) Has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Queensland's history

- Earliness
- Rarity
- Extensiveness
- Intactness

*Notes: Example: grinding stone mortar and pestles have been found on Coochie and an example is now housed in the Quandamooka keeping place on Stradbroke Island. It is believed that there are aboriginal burial sites on the Emerald Fringe.*

### d) is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of cultural places

- Intactness/integrity

- Earliness
- Rarity/uncommonness
- Exceptionality

*Notes: Example:*

- *Ramsar Melaleuca Wetlands are part of the Moreton Bay listing for assisting migrating water birds that use the natural vegetation for feeding and breeding each year*
- *The trees and shrubs within the Emerald Fringe are home to many species of birds and I understand that on one Indigiscape sponsored bird watching walk over 50 species were found*
- *On the Fringe are cypress, gum, melaleuca, mangroves and a variety of native shrubs; 6 of the 8 species of mangroves that are in Moreton Bay are found in Curlew Creek*

**e) is important because of its aesthetic significance**

- Intactness
- Integrity
- Degree of deterioration
- Setting and location context
- Demonstrated representation

*Notes: Examples:*

- *the Fringe is a popular spot for residents and tourists to enjoy walks around the island and*
- *along pathways that have been laid through the Emerald Fringe*
- *There are many opportunities for bird watching and enjoying the flora and fauna*
- *as well as the spectacular views of the Moreton Bay islands*
- *Recreational fishing, swimming and boating is also enjoyed around the 'Emerald Fringe'*

**f) Is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period**

- Intactness/Integrity
- Peer recognition/award

*Notes: Examples:*

- *Not yet*

**g) has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons**

- Length of association
- Demonstrated extent and degree of community association
- Significant former association

*Notes: Examples*

*The Quandamooka used the Fringe for collecting bark for shields and canoes - scar trees can be seen*

*They visited on a nomadic basis at various times during the year for hunting and gathering, collecting food - swamp ferns, pandanus seeds, shellfish and fishing.*

*There are many midden sites around the island on the Emerald Fringe.*

*The name Coochiemudlo means red stones and on the Fringe there are deposits of the red stones that were collected and traded for corroboree face and body painting.*

**h) has a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in Queensland’s history**

- Importance of the person, group or organisation in Queensland’s history
- Degree or extent of the association
- Length of the association
- Influence of the association

*Notes: Example:*

*Matthew Flinders' landing Place and monument, naming of Norfolk Beach; annual re-enactment of Matthew Flinders' Landing; Matthew Flinders' Birthday celebrations annually; Flinders' Lookout; Flinders' sextant data and downstream publications.*

*WW II Remembrance Stairs; "Khyber Pass"; Lone Pine; Elliot Hall; Community Hall.*

*Morton's jetty, steps and horse track, packing shed; Morton's Steps and corduroy; old tennis court; Doug and Mary Morton Reserve;*

**6. Interesting Facts**

**Emerald Fringe**

The phrase “Emerald Fringe” was coined by Peter Dowling at a Coochiemudlo island consultative meeting when he was first elected councillor in 2000. Peter spoke of how such areas were given similar names in Canada.

**150 links**

According to Wikipedia 1 link is 7.92 inches so 150 links is just over 30 metres (a minimum of 150 links – some areas are over 150 metres – 800 links) Coochie has this treasure at its edge because the Surveyor General of the time directed that Coochie to be subdivided with the 150 links kept and the other Moreton Bay islands do not have such an area as that regulation did not apply during their subdivision

**Native Title**

David has ascertained that the Quandamooka people have accepted custodianship of Coochie country although Coochie has yet to be registered under the Native Title act.

**7. How the Emerald Fringe meets the criteria and indicators**

Criterion	Percentage									
	10>	20>	30>	40>	50>	60>	70>	80>	90>	100

<b>Demonstration evolution history</b>										
<b>Cultural heritage</b>										
<b>Yield information to history</b>										
<b>Class of place</b>										
<b>Aesthetic</b>										
<b>Creative or technical</b>										
<b>Social</b>										
<b>Special Association</b>										

*Notes: This is how we see the strengths of the accumulated knowledge about the Emerald Fringe Against the criteria and the threshold indicators of the guidelines. The decision rests with the Heritage Council after the submission.*

**8. To finish off I'd like to bring you back to remind you that this is a big job and needs to be carried out carefully and with an almost forensic approach**

*Notes: Added to that that it is being undertaken by we volunteers who also have other lives - I have been away for six weeks since we started, Keith has been away also and Rae will be away soon for much the same period. HOWEVER we believe that we can make a good case on behalf of the Heritage Society for the recognition of the Fringe as a Landscape of Cultural Heritage*

David Paxton thanked Jan McIntyre for her report.