



President: Rosemary Sandford

Hon. Secretary: David Halse Rogers

**Minutes of a General Meeting held at The D'Arcy Street Community Hall
on Wednesday 10th July, 2013 at 7:30 pm.**

Chair: Dr Rosemary Sandford.

Present: Alison Alexander, Lindsay Brinsdon, Philip Brown, Janis Caritas, Elizabeth Green, David Halse Rogers, Barry Hyland, Malcolm Saltmarsh, Roslyn Saltmarsh, Rosemary Sandford, Margaret Wilmot and Kevin Wilson.

Apologies: Eight (8) members as per *Attendance Register*.
The Chairman welcomed new residents

Minutes of June 2013 Meeting: were distributed by email.

Business arising from the Minutes:

1. Macquarie Street State School: The article in the July issue of *A South Hobart Newsletter* is quoted below:-

OLD SCHOOL SAVED!

*The South Hobart Progress Association (SHPA Inc.) is delighted that the historic, former Macquarie Street State School - a much loved landmark in South Hobart - has been saved in the nick of time. A grant of \$1.65 million from the Federal Government, announced recently by Senator Anthony Albanese, Minister for Regional Development, will be used to purchase and restore the site and its buildings for use by the Association and community groups. "We are thrilled that Senator Albanese appreciates the value and significance of this site for South Hobart, and we would particularly like to thank Andrew Wilkie MHA, Member for Denison, for his commitment and persistence in supporting our campaign to save our 'Old School', said Association President, Dr. Rosemary Sandford." The Association also thanks Peter Tucker, Andrew Wilkie's Chief of Staff, without whom the backroom negotiations would not have progressed as smoothly. "The SHPA has been fighting for four years to keep the 'Old School' in community ownership". Our thanks also go to Hobart City Council Lord Mayor, Damon Thomas, for his personal support & continued encouragement". One group interested in helping restore life to the 'Old School' is the *South Hobart Living Art Centre* convened by Dr Neil Cameron, a South Hobart resident with a wealth of experience in developing community festivals in Scotland, Europe*

and Tasmania. Organisations actively involved in this group are: the Australian Wooden Boat Festival, the Tasmanian Writers Centre and MADE (Mature Age Dance Experience). Dr Sandford further commented that "The SHPA is fully supportive of Neil Cameron's group and its proposal and we look forward to working with members of this group and with the HCC to achieve our mutual objectives". A Conservation Management Plan will now follow. The Association will have two members of the board of governance. The agreement will enable the SHPA (Inc.) to have its own presence in the Old School. The front classroom (to the right of the entrance) will enable it to finally provide a local history room available to the public.

2. A History of South Hobart Project: *Hobart City Council* aldermen have approved (unanimously) the underwriting of the Association's book on the history of South Hobart to the tune of \$68,000. The print run will be 1,500 books. The Association has agreed to donate \$5,000.00 to the cost of production. A motion was put:-

"that the Association provide a cash donation of \$5,000 towards the cost of producing a book on the history of the suburb to be written by noted historian and author, Alison Alexander." [Margaret Wilmot; Seconded: Malcolm Saltmarsh. Carried: unanimously.] The production of the book is to be raised with Andrew Wilkie. Brendan Lennard will be the intermediary between the Association and the Council. Julie Hawkins, graphic designer, will do the design and layout for the book. She was also responsible for the Southern Midlands Council book. Dr. Alexander gave a brief report on progress to date. She is up to 1860 – the end of the convict period (i.e: The Early Days). Future sections include Becoming a Community (1860 - 1920); up to WWII; up to the present day. KW brought up the issue of the Suburb's local government boundaries. Suggestions for oral history candidates were raised. Timelines for the project include completion of the text by December 2014; completion of design and printing (in China) by June 2015. Progress payments will need to be made to Dr. Alexander.

3. Cable Car: The spokesman for the consortium pushing for a cable car, ????????, will speak to the meeting in August. Advertise in August Newsletter.

4. Website construction by Nicholas King from Lemon Pie Design: The new website is nearly complete with the Paypal option for donations and memberships due to be launched within the next six weeks.

5. NBN: little further to report at his stage.

Correspondence:

In:

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|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • <i>Lemon Pie Design</i> | Various emails |
| • CFFHS (Greta MacDonald) | various emails |
| • HCC | 321 Davey Street DA 12-01350-01 |
| • HCC | Interim Draft Planning Scheme |
| • South Hobart Bushcare | Janet Stone |

- Dept. of Finance Scott Bacon
- South Hobart Football Club Letter of congratulations from Victoria Woods, President.

Out:

- Lemon Pie Design Various emails
- HCC Letters various

New Business:

1. HCC Interim Planning Scheme: The Association lodged a submission regarding the Interim Draft Planning Scheme.

2. Islington Private Hotel: A letter is to be sent to the operators of *The Islington*. Lindsay Brinsdon will draft the letter for the President congratulating the upper Davey Street hotel on winning a magazine award as the best city boutique accommodation in Australia. Also, that another later letter be drafted asking them to comply with the spirit of the conditions of use negotiated in 2006 in which the owners agreed to repair and reinstall the original shutters to the front façade and replace the present steel gates with ones which allow an uninterrupted view of *Islington* and its carriage sweep up to Mt. Wellington. This "iconic" view has been part of the charm of South Hobart since the building was erected in the nineteenth century. HCC's Senior Cultural Heritage Officer, Brendan Lennard to be approached.

3. Crime: Kevin Wilson said that although Neighbourhood Watch no longer functions in South Hobart, Police continue to prepare reports on South Hobart incidents. It was suggested these reports could now come to SHPA for consideration and maybe inclusion in Newsletter or website. Malcolm Grant (Mt. Stuart Community Association) provides crime statistics in the local newsletter and may be a source of information for South Hobart, too.

4. Wellesley Park Tree Removal: The HCC and Bushcare have had trees removed in *Wellesley Park*. The most disturbing aspect of this removal was that a plum tree, which had been a prolific bearer of fruit for many years (harvested by old and young alike), had been cut down, reportedly, because it had been difficult to remove adjoining vegetation. Both adults and children were very upset and critical of the action and the lack of consultation. RS reported that children were very upset and crying at what had happened. They asked: "Why did people do this? Does this mean that any trees we plant will be cut down?" There was an associated item that improvements to the upper park sports ground would see the playing area off limits to the public (probably because of its astro turf surface). The Saltmarshes, who were living in the area at the time, reported that the group of tree(s) planted by the *South Hobart Primary School* children back in 1976 was further up the slope on level ground. They also advised that the trees that were planted were never looked after by anyone, let alone pruned or weeded. [The playground was removed for the security of the children and moved to what was deemed a safer location.] The plaque, which commemorates the planting at the end of the street states the trees were planted "to commemorate the opening of the children's playground on

7th December, 1976". A letter from Bushcare co-ordinator, Janet Stone, was read to the meeting explaining the reasons for the trees' removal. These included: that the fruit were very small, not very edible, and had very little flesh indicative of trees which have self-sown. DHR commented that the issue highlighted the influence of the "plant police" in attempting to enforce the "no exotics" policy of many horticulturalists today. The President, Rosemary Sandford, made the suggestion of planting new trees at the old *Macquarie Street State School* site, and it was agreed that it would be best for this potentially divisive issue to be retired, and for all of us to "move on."

5. South Hobart Community Garden: The SHSC group held an open day at the Cascade Road site recently to launch the gardens. MS gave the meeting a brief report. It was a rather disorganised event. The Group has asked for a commonwealth Government grant for fencing of the Site

Meeting closed: 8:55 pm
Next Meeting: Wednesday 14th August, 2013

Signed as a true record:

Dated: