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PORT MACQUARIE HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.



President's Report

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You will recall that in our November Newsletter we reported that we had committed to a review of our constitution as a condition of receiving a grant of \$2,000 under the Museum and Galleries NSW's *Lights On Doors Open* program. At its last meeting, the Management Committee decided to use the latest Model Constitution issued by Fair Trading NSW (which had been updated in a number of aspects following the COVID lockdowns), making such additions or alterations as seemed either necessary to ensure our constitution met the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission, or advisable to suit our own current circumstances.

In particular, these changes included:

An updating of our Mission and Objectives (Clause 4 in the new draft constitution).

A reiteration of the clause specifying that the distribution of the Society's assets on dissolution can only be to like organisations (Clause 49)

Recognising that, with the Society's membership numbers reducing over the past several years, it seems appropriate to reduce the size of the Management Committee accordingly to seven members (Part 3)

While retaining the positions of President and Vice-President (although only one of the latter rather than two), it would be better to give more flexibility to the Committee by enabling it to determine who should perform the various secretarial and financial functions (and not necessarily restricting them to members of the Committee), rather than requiring the membership to elect specific persons to perform those functions (Clauses 21 and 22).

Recognising that with the use of electronic banking and the use of debit/credit cards, it is more convenient for financial transactions to be actioned by only one authorised signatory (e.g. use the debit card or make the electronic transaction),

while retaining the need for two authorized signatories to authorize expenditure (Clause 41).

It was also decided that in the event of an equality of votes at either a general meeting or a committee meeting, there should be no casting vote and that the motion should fail (27 & 36).

Simplifying the clause on membership subscriptions, simply making it the responsibility of the Committee to determine such amounts (8).

Please see the meeting notice below. Members will receive a copy of the draft constitution with this *Newsletter*.

On another matter, the Committee approved a change to the membership application form to include a check box indicating that the applicant did not want contact details (email, phone, etc.) disclosed to other members. If any current members want the same restriction applied to their contact details, please let us know so we can update the membership register.

Clive

Special General Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that a Special General Meeting of the Port Macquarie Historical Society Inc. will be held on Saturday 4 May 2024 at 3.00pm at the Port Macquarie Museum. The meeting will take place in the back gallery which is fully accessible. Please enter through The Forest Courtyard.

Business: To vote on the following Special Resolution:

That this meeting votes by special resolution to adopt a new constitution, based on the NSW Fair Trading Model Constitution dated October 2022, as notified to members in the April 2024 *Newsletter* and circulated to members with that *Newsletter*. [a copy is also at the front desk]

All members are invited to attend.

Volunteers Thank You Lunch

Our annual volunteers thank you lunch will be held on Wednesday 22 May 2024 commencing at 12 Noon at Settlers Inn. This invitation is extended to all current volunteers. As in previous years, the Museum will pay for your lunch (selected menu) and drinks are available at bar prices.

To book a place please place your name on the booking sheet on the noticeboard or send an email to portmuseum@gmail.com

NSW Heritage Festival

The NSW Heritage Festival is being held from 18 April to 19 May 2024 with a theme of 'Connections'. This year we will be focusing our efforts on promoting **Mono Couture** and its connections to fashion and design; and the AMaGA Mid North Coast project '**Journeys**' which connects people to collections, places and events right across the Mid North Coast. Museum visitors will receive a limited edition Journeys postcard when they visit us and participating museums & heritage places during the Festival.

Diary Dates

April 18 to May 19
NSW Heritage Festival

Saturday 4 May @ 3pm
Special General Meeting & Members Forum

Wednesday 22 May @ 12 Noon
Volunteers Thank You Lunch
Settlers Inn, Hastings River Drive, Port Macquarie



Acknowledgement of Country

Port Macquarie Museum acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we live and work, the Birpai people, and recognises their continuing connection to Country. We pay our respects to Elders, past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to all First Australians.

Our Achievements



2021 National Trust Heritage Awards - Highly Commended (Tourists Paradise)



2022 IMAGinE Awards – Highly Commended (New Journeys Broad Horizons)

Our Supporters



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PORT MACQUARIE HASTINGS

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