

MRCA Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, 14 June, 2023 at 6pm, Michelago Railway Station  
MINUTES

Chair: Sally Hughes

Present: Kerry Rooney (Treasurer), Tony De Salis, Sally Hughes, Peter Holland, Leanne Pattison (Secretary, minutes)

The meeting commenced at 6.15pm.

Apologies: Sam Walton, Robbie Wood, Jess Kalthofen. Di Fett (President) is on leave until the end of July.

1. **Minutes** of 10 May 2023 committee meeting. Moved Sally, seconded Leanne: 'That the minutes of the MRCA Committee meeting of 10 May be accepted as a correct record.' Carried

2. **Business arising from 10 May minutes.**

- a) Proposed publicity photos by 'Justin's Photo Walks', Queanbeyan. Peter
  - i) Correction: 'Justin's Photo Works'.
  - ii) Jason takes photos for covers (CD and vinyl)
  - iii) Peter has made contact; Jason will come to look at the railway station. No date set,
- b) Music event proposal. Peter

Peter is waiting for the band to finish touring NSW to contact the band's manager/lead singer.
- c) Home printing of Maagpie: Sam's sample copy. [Carried forward]
- d) MRCA noticeboard: Leanne. Jo has returned one opening tool. Leanne has left it at the shop and is looking after the second one, ordered by Di.
- e) Railway Station bookings: gmail calendar. Kerry & Sam. [Carried forward]
- f) Railway Station minor maintenance work – Cooma Correction Centre? Sally, Sam.

Sally reported that Sam is to get the contact from Naomi (Hall Committee) and contact the CCC.
- g) Maagpies 1—16 printed booklet by Kwik Kopy, paid by BCRRF. Quote for five copies \$366 accepted by Kerry & Leanne. Approved
- h) Canberra & Region Heritage Festival update. Sally. Nicole Plummer is waiting for SMRC budget for the Events team but is very interested in the Canberra & Region Heritage Festival. Separate to the Festival, she proposes a National Trust bus tour this Sept-Oct organised by the National Trust to take in St Patrick's Church in Michelago and then a church in Cooma. The Festival in Canberra and region will be next April and include towns like Goulburn.

Discussion: (1) the many historical sites here; (2) if we were to participate in the festival, there'd be insurance questions and MRCA liability for any 'events', and we'd need to have a project manager & committee.

We don't have the person/volunteer power for this but could perhaps consider opening St Pat's and the Railway Station to visitors during the Heritage Festival. For now, however, Sally will notify Nicole Plummer that MRCA has considered the idea but at this stage will not be proceeding. Sally and Kerry will follow up with Nicole to connect her with the contacts for St Patrick's and the National Trust bus tour. Agreed

3. **Treasurer's report** – Attachment 2

Kerry noted:

- a) MRCA financial position is sound at the moment, with over \$10,000 in the general account. Most of this is committed to the railway station's ongoing expenses for a few years.

- b) The grant account is ending this financial year; the Treasurer's acquittal of the BCRRF is nearly done. It has been 'an arduous process'.
- c) Donations & Sponsorships Grant: SMRC will be making a decision on 15 June and we expect notification of the outcome shortly afterwards.
- d) Car-boot sale ('a very pleasant day'): c\$600 profit (ie after expenses), so c\$300 to each of MRCA and St Patrick's Restoration Fund.

**4. President's report – Attachment 1.**

**5. Correspondence. Kerry & Leanne.**

- a) To Brien Hallett (Fire Brigade Treasurer): re \$50 donation (by EFT) and thanks for loan of Brigade BBQ for the car-boot sale and for previous events. Return email from Brien in appreciation.
- b) To Scott Teys: thank you for loan of BBQ.
- c) From UGL & Kerry's reply: see below Item 8.

**6. Hall Committee. Leanne**

- a) Allan Lehepuu and Cath Cotter have been confirmed as committee members by SMRC.
- b) The sliding door in front of the storage area is ready to be installed, thanks to local plasterer Tony Finch. Allan is finishing off. This will address concerns about safety & aesthetics. There is still some concern about storage space.
- c) No news re a new pre-school teacher.

**7. Electricity use at Railway Station. Kerry**

- a) After suggestions to turn off the fridge at the station to save electricity costs, Kerry did some calculations and concluded that the fridge contributed relatively little to the overall cost of our electricity. The highest cost is actually the Service to Property charge (ie just the cost to have electricity connected without using any). Conclusion – we wouldn't save much. The fridge has to be left open if it's turned off, inviting mice and cockroaches, then needing cleaning. Leftover BBQ sauces are stored there currently.
- b) Following that, we received a letter from Red Energy explaining the price rises from 1 July. On that basis, Kerry reported the following: From 1 July electricity charges for the station will rise by nearly 25%. The Service to Property charge will increase to \$883 pa. Usage rates will increase from 41 c/kwh to 49.6 c/kwh. (All prices are inclusive of GST). On that basis our fridge (which uses an estimated 436 kwh pa) would cost us around \$216 pa in electricity usage.

**8. Rates & sewer inspection fees at Railway Station. Kerry**

SMRC sent NSW Track Corporation (UGL) 2 overdue notices. UGL sent them to MRCA, quoting a clause saying tenants must pay all government charges & rates. Kerry replied that we do not own the land, we are a licensee with an agreement for community use; we are not obliged to pay and will not pay these.

**9. Essential Energy grant. Kerry**

The 'Clickathon', as last year. Nominations are due in by 26 June. Voting is 3—17 July. Last year, the MRCA/Railway Station came 2<sup>nd</sup>, winning \$1,000.00. Leanne has spoken with Geoff Smith, Principal of Michelago School, who is supportive. He will speak with parents about participation and photos. Leanne to follow up. **ACTION** Leanne

**10. Boco Rock grants. Kerry**

The Hall Committee will apply for a grant for a new oven & hotplates, so we won't compete.

**11. Car-boot sale. Leanne & Kerry**

- a) Finances: ref. Treasurer's report.
- b) 19 cars. 12 late bookings (several personally urged to come). 2 turn-ups on the day.

c) Main feedback has been it's worth repeating but with longer lead-up time and wider advertising, including highway signs, Queanbeyan paper, Canberra Times ('Tim the Yowie Man').

d) Would be possible to use the railway station if we can get a DA.

Conclusion: try this event again, but with modifications.

**12. Magpie 16**: thirty copies were left at the shop last Friday. \$2 each. BCRRF funding is finishing, so only a few copies will be printed from now on.

**13. Ryrie St extension & bridge** Councillor Tanya Higgins's Facebook page notes that the funding will be available next year.

**14. Any other business**

Sam (via email): a lock (key) box at the railway station would help with key access.

Problem: Heritage people won't allow us to attach it to the structure.

Peter's solution: attach it to the Hall (not a Heritage structure) if Hall Committee agrees. Agreed  
ACTION Leanne (Bunnings, if Hall Committee agrees)

The meeting concluded at 8pm.

**Next meeting**: Wednesday 12 July, 6pm, Railway Station

MRCA Committee 2023—24

Di Fett (Pres.), Brent Wallis (Vice Pres.), Kerry Rooney (Treas.), Leanne Pattison (Sec.), Sam Walton (Railway Station co-ord.), Tony De Salis, Sally Hughes, Jo Jackson, Peter Holland, Robbie Wood, Jess Kalthofen, John Rooney. Public Officer: Ben Wickham

**Attachment 1**

**President's report, received 30 May 2023**

**Draft Rural Land Use Strategy (RLUS)**

Prior to the recent discussion of this document by Council, I sent a copy of the MRCA submission to all Councillors, with a cover note as below. Others, including Markus and Andrew and Anna Lucas, also emailed Council about the inadequacy of the draft for the northern part of the LGA.

I was planning to attend the Council meeting with Anna Lucas and to speak on the issues raised in our submission, but both of us were out of time (by a small margin) for the Council deadline for notification of a wish to address the meeting. This turned out to be a good thing because Cr Higgins moved a successful motion to defer consideration of the draft pending further consultation.

Tanya has called (on Facebook) for interested people to contact her. I've put some non-Facebook users (namely the Hugheses and the Ryries) in touch with Tanya to ensure they are in the loop for whatever discussions/targeted consultation is to take place. Tanya has indicated that she will be speaking with the planning team with the aim of setting up a meeting or two with local people to discuss our particular issues. [Tony De Salis, I just realised that you're in this category - do you want to be involved in this discussion? If so please let me know and I'll email Tanya.]

**Other correspondence/bridge**

Had a message from Emily Green asking whether the MRCA would contact Council for an update on the Ryrie St - Micalago Road bridge. She is concerned that she is not getting sufficient action despite contacting Tanya, and that the funding will be lost. I responded that I think we know the facts, ie that the legal processes involved in the land acquisition are taking a long time and that if we're going to lobby anyone it should probably be the state government, to speed it up. If someone wants to take this up, please do, otherwise I'll have a look at it in August if there's been no good news by then.

**The car-boot sale** was great! It had a wonderful warm community feel, to which the lovely setting contributed. Stand-up applause for Leanne, ably assisted by Kerry, for making it happen, as well as for everyone who came along and helped. I hope we can do it again (perhaps with low-key music). p.4 of 5

**Di Fett, President MRCA**

## **Attachment 2**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT 12 JUNE 2023**

#### **MRCA finances remain sound**

Our grant account has a balance of \$2,320. Expenditure in May comprised

- \$340 printing costs for the Magpie
- \$50 donation to RFS for loan of BBQ and gas for fundraising events

Our general MRCA account has a balance of \$10,520.

May general revenue:

- One membership renewal \$10
- One railway station hire \$80
- Donations to railway station box \$69
- Total Revenue from car boot sale \$908

May general expenditure:

- Electricity \$248
- Total Expenditure for car boot sale \$356
- Payment of 50% of profits to St Patrick's restoration \$321

#### **Experimental fund-raiser a nice little success**

We bravely experimented with a new fundraiser – the Car Boot Sale at St Patrick's. As our President pointed out in her report, it was a feel-good community event. We came out with a profit which we split with St Patrick's. A win-win for Michelago's built heritage as 50% will support the restoration of St Patrick's and 50% will support Railway Station maintenance. (Cash flow is on page 5). As an aside, Square was useful and worked well. A huge thank you to Leanne who initiated and managed the event as well as everyone who helped so much on the day.

#### **It's all happening with Grants!**

Our BCRRF Project end date is 30/06/2023 and we have 4 weeks after that to submit the final Acquittal certificate and Outcomes report, that is, all must be submitted by 31 July.

The Council's 2023 Donations and Sponsorships round will be decided on 15 June. We applied for \$3,000 for the railway station. Last year we received \$1,000.

MRCA is still waiting on the outcomes of the NSW Heritage fund. We applied for a grant of \$17,000 with matching funding to come from UGL, for internal painting and minor repairs to the railway station (total project value \$34,000).

The Boco Rock Enhancement Fund is open for applications from 5 June to 10 July. We have agreed not to apply, while the Hall Committee will apply for funding for a range of much needed items. We will support their application.

Nominations for the Essential Energy Community Choices click-a-thon opened on 31 May and close on 26 June. Voting (online, once per hour, per server) commences 3 July and ends 17 July. Last year we came second in our zone and received \$1,000. This year, funding is higher but I'm sure competition will be tough. The Hall Committee agreed not to apply and will support us.

<b>Car Boot Sale 21 May 2023</b>	
<b>Cash Flow</b>	
<b>BBQ Revenue</b>	
Cash sales	\$289.30
Square sales	\$90.92
Less Float	-\$66.00
	<b>\$314.22</b>
<b>BBQ Expenses</b>	
9kg sausages (8 kilos used)	\$101.45
6 kg sliced onions (nearly all used)	\$30.36
6 loaves sliced white Bread (4.5 used) Baker's Delight	\$23.50
Ice	\$14.48
Mustard sauce 550g	\$5.50
Canola Oil	\$3.95
Foil Trays Large 2 Pack	\$5.50
Serviettes x 100	\$0.95
	<b>\$185.69</b>
<b>Profit on BBQ</b>	<b>\$128.53</b>
<b>Devonshire Tea Revenue</b>	
Cash Sales	\$340.50
Square Sales	\$17.66
Less float	-\$34.00
	<b>\$324.16</b>
<b>Devonshire Tea Expenses</b>	
Milk 3 x 2 litres (only one used)	\$9.30
Cream 6 x 600ml (only two used)	\$27.00
Jam 3 x \$2.39	\$7.17
Paper plates x100	\$7.50
Serviettes x 100	\$0.95
Paper cups (29c each)	\$15.00
	<b>\$66.92</b>
<b>Profit on Devonshire Teas</b>	<b>\$257.24</b>
<b>Other Revenue</b>	
Carboot spaces \$15 x 18	\$270.00
<b>Other Expenses</b>	
Cardboard for signs	\$13.20
<b>Profit</b>	<b>\$256.80</b>
<b>Total Profit</b>	<b>\$642.57</b>
<b>Unused Non-perishable items</b>	
Wooden spoons 50 pk	\$4.50
Nescafe Gold 100g unopened	\$5.75
Twinings English Bfast teabags 100 Unopened	\$6.75
Disposable gloves	\$6.00
BBQ Wipes Unopened	\$6.50
Tomato sauce 2l Unopened	\$4.49
Solo Cans 10 pack	\$8.50
Paper cups 1 x 80 pack unopened	\$22.98
Paper cups leftover 29 c	\$8.00
Jam 7 x 2.39 unopened	\$16.73
<b>Total other expenditure</b>	<b>\$90.20</b>

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