



MRCA meeting minutes
Wednesday 8 July 2026

Present: Kerry Rooney, Tony Da Salis, Leanne Thurling, Leanne Pattison

Apologies: Jenny Wholohan, Leah Oliver, Sally Hughes, Di Fett

Meeting commenced 2.25 pm.

1. Minutes of previous meeting: moved LP, seconded KR subject to an amendment to the President's Report **Carried**.

2. Matters arising:

- a) Signing a new lease for the railway station. Additional costs are likely to outweigh the benefits at this stage. **Complete**. Proposal to Council that the road between Ryrie St and the oval be named Hanns Lane. **Held over**.
- b) Tree planting options at playground are waiting on Landcare proposal. **Held over**.
- c) Provider options to the closed Square account. **Held over**.
- d) Water installation for BBQs at the oval. Plumber Charles Hillman has (subsequent to this 8 July meeting) given a verbal quote of c.\$4,000 for bringing water from the clubhouse tank via a pipe, with a tap at the BBQs. The pump would be on a timer of e.g. 9am to 5pm. This could be over-ridden with a code. He dismissed as unrealistic the alternative proposal of a small tank on a stand next to the BBQs, attached to the BBQ roof and operated by a hand pump. The water supply would then have to be brought from the clubhouse tank or filled by water carrier, and/or the BBQ roof adapted to catch rainwater. LP will pass this information to the Memorial Hall Committee. **Complete**.
- e) Landcare. Refer to President's report for further information. MRCA actions are **Complete**.

3. President's Report: see Attachment 1, referencing Boco Rock application, Landcare update and photographer's visit to the Railway Station.

4. Treasurer's report:

The President noted the Treasurer's emailed reports and spoke briefly to this agenda item in her absence.

The MRCA general account is in a healthy position, with a balance of \$12,600. The grant account remains unchanged at \$1,000.

The major deposits since our last meeting (13 May) were:

- Yless4U sponsorship payment of \$500
- Refund from Elders Insurance of \$266

The major debits were:

- Red Energy electricity quarterly payment of \$270.
- Reimbursement for K Rooney of \$789 for expenditure on safety signage, market signs and a water delivery to fill the tank at the station after the theft of the station's water.

5. Business items:

- **Motion on partial payment for fuel expenses for the May market**
- Following previous discussion between the President and Treasurer, the committee agreed that in light of the high fuel costs in May, a small payment would be appropriate to partially offset some volunteer costs. To this end, it was agreed to make a payment to Ivan Colaric (\$30 for tree pruning and removal), Leanne Pattison (\$30 for delivery of brochures to mailboxes in the Michelago/Colinton region) and Leanne Thurling (\$45 for using her fire truck to manage a pile burn).
- **Railway Market, Sunday 29 November.**
 - Agreed this date was suitable as it would be a late spring and an early Xmas market. It would not clash with other local markets
 - K Rooney to contact stallholders to ask them to 'save the date'
 - Briefly discussed insurance, marketing, bollards and a metre wheel.
 - While optimistic about a Boco Rock grant to resheet the driveway, it was agreed to proceed even if the resheeting is not funded.
- **Bake Off:** subject to further planning. Discussion:
 - Profits to a local cause, e.g. Michelago Public School.
 - Emphasise payment online rather than at the event. Online registration on the MRCA website was noted as a useful mechanism for events.
 - Date Sunday 27 September, i.e. Spring event.
 - Before further planning, LP to contact people essential to help run the event.
- **Community suggestions:**
 - Concrete table tennis installation at the oval and various games. Discussion re site (next to tennis court practice wall?). Cost estimate: at least \$10,000 Would need to canvass the views of Council staff, the Hall Committee and the community more broadly.
 - ANZAC Day Dawn Service. MRCA will continue to hold the 10 a.m. service. Anyone is free to hold a Dawn Service at the Railway Station if they so wish. Would need to canvass the views of the community more broadly.
 - Action: seek community input on activities/projects via the Magpie and Facebook.

6. AGM Saturday 3 pm. 15 August

- Notify members and community 21days in advance via email, café noticeboard, Facebook. Already announced in Magpie #50 on 3 July.
- Financial reports and review.
- KR: email members, asking to renew membership, inviting to come to AGM and to consider joining the committee and taking on positions such as Treasurer.
- KR: Preparation and circulation of AGM documents, including committee positions.

Other business

7. During the meeting, a visitor to the railway station made a \$20 cash donation. Kerry transferred \$20 to the MRCA general account.

The meeting concluded at 3.25 pm.

Attachment 1.

President's Report 8 July 2026

Boco Rock Grant Application

At our last meeting in May, we decided to apply for a grant to re-sheet the driveway at the railway station. This followed feedback from attendees at the May market about the rocky surface causing difficulties for pedestrian traffic.

The application was submitted on 12 June seeking funding of \$11,600 which comprises the cost of decomposed yellow granite and spreading and compacting it on the driveway. The work would also include surfacing part of the area near the flagpole and cenotaph and forming two pedestrian paths to the railway platform.

A decision is expected in August with funding distributed in September.

Landcare Update

MRCA has done everything necessary to accommodate the transfer of the Landcare function to our organisation. We are now waiting upon the Landcare executive to complete the processes of paying outstanding debts and seeking agreement of its members to wind up Michelago Landcare and transfer its assets and functions to MRCA. It appears that Landcare NSW insurance would be a comprehensive form of insurance that would meet our needs, while being affordable.

Photographer's Visit

The renowned and talented press gallery photographer Mike Bowers did a photo shoot at the railway station recently. He is a fan of our railway station. While visiting, he admired the large black and white photo of the steam train. The photo is on display above the fireplace in the main waiting room. It turned out that photo was taken by another legendary press gallery photographer, the late Graeme "Bluey" Thomson. Bluey was a member of the ACT branch of the Australian Railway Historical Society.

Kerry Rooney