

Minutes
Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary Committee
Wednesday 5 December 2012

ITEM: 1 PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Clr Col Hunter, Duncan Wass (Hartley District Project Association), Helen Clements (National Trust and Bowenfels Presbyterian Church), Joan Kent (Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations)

Apologies: Cl Maree Statham, Patsy Moppett (Cox's Road Project Committee), Neville Castle, Bob Morris (Hartley Vale and Mt Blaxland Reserve Trust), Helen Riley (Mingaan Aboriginal Corporation)

Officers: Robert Park (Events Co-ordinator), Wendy Hawkes (Cultural Development Officer)

Declaration of Interests:

ITEM: 2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of 3 October 2012 were endorsed by three (3) members of the Committee being Bob Morris, Helen Clements and Duncan Wass and subsequently adopted by Council on 26 November 2012.

Joan Kent noted that she was an apology at the last meeting and this had not been noted in the minutes. Wendy Hawkes said she will amend the minutes to include this.

ITEM: 3 REPORT ON THE 26 OCTOBER 2012 WESTERN CROSSING COMMITTEE MEETING

SUMMARY

At the Western Crossing Committee Meeting on 26 October 2012 several items applicable to the Blue Mountains Crossing Committee were discussed.

COMMENTARY

The following items were discussed at the 26 October 2012 meeting of the Western Crossing Committee Meeting.

Blue Mountains City Council Bicentenary Crossings Committee (BMCC BCC)

There will be a Crossing Events Workshop held at the Mid Mountains Community Centre Lawson 9 am to 12 noon on 29 November 2012. All welcome. RSVP to Kerrin at Council kogrady@bmcc.nsw.gov.au. This event has been organised to bring together those wishing to join in events, particularly the 21 days on the Mountains.

Minutes
Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary Committee
Wednesday 5 December 2012

David Blaxland, possible WCC Foundation Trust

David convened a 'brain-storming' session one hour before the Western Crossings meeting. This was in order to discuss the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of forming a Western Crossings Foundation Trust, to provide a lasting legacy, to harness the work put in by all the groups who have worked and planned together, from all walks of life, for the commemoration. The results of this session were outlined by David. It was decided that he would send a summary to Anne-Maree Whitaker and this could be circulated with the draft minutes.

Hartley District Progress Association (HDPa) – 1813 Committee

Joan Kent advised that a number of activities were planned, centered on the Old Hartley School. The original Cox's Road runs through the grounds and over May and June 2013, there will be a display of artefacts, research, etc to tell the story of the Crossings, including Aboriginal involvement. There will be activities for children and a village fair on the 1 June 2012. Guided walks in the footsteps of William Cox were planned for the weeks surrounding the 1 June 2012. On 8 June there will be a History Conference.

The Garden Clubs of Australia – Blue Mountains Zone

Warren Boorman spoke about their organised events: GARDENING IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS 2013 SEMINARS, "Yesterday, To-day and Tomorrow" Presented by the Garden Clubs of Australia, Blue Mountains Zone. Five half-day (identical) seminars will be held over the weekend April 12-14 2013 to commemorate the Bicentenary of the Crossing of the Blue Mountains by Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth in 1813.

The seminars will cover the growth of gardening, within the historical establishment of the Blue Mountains, from pre-settlement times, through the early days of the developing towns and villages of the 19th and 20th centuries, to the spectacular and historic gardens we know to-day. Beginning with a look at indigenous native food plants (pre 1813 and to-day) and early market gardens, then how our many estate and resort gardens were established, and on to the large number of quality residential gardens annually on display. The seminars conclude with a presentation of the challenges and opportunities facing our Blue Mountains gardeners in the 21st Century.

The seminars will be held on April 12 –14, beginning with Kurrajong Heights on the Friday evening, then Springwood and Wentworth Falls on Saturday, and concluding in Blackheath and Lithgow on Sunday, giving our Blue Mountains residents, and visitors, a wide choice of venues and times to participate in the program.

There will be five high - profile speakers:

- Bundeluk, of the Darug people: Traditional Indigenous plants and bush-tucker advice.

Minutes
Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary Committee
Wednesday 5 December 2012

- Dr. Ian Jack, Royal Australian Historical Society: Historical development of the Blue Mountains and its early gardens.
- Allison Halliday, co-author of the best-selling publication *A Passion for Place – Gardens of the Blue Mountains*
- Angus Stewart, noted native plant breeder and presenter, ABC TV's 'Gardening Australia': Our Blue Mountains Gardens of today
- Jerry Colby-Williams, Director – Seed Savers Foundation and another prominent presenter of ABC TV's 'Gardening Australia' program: Into the Future – Challenges and Opportunities.

Contact Barrie Redshaw or Warren Boorman on 02 4759 2168 or email bevandbarry@primus.com.au to make a booking for one of the seminars.

With the help of BMCC, The Garden Clubs of Australia – BlueMountains Zone would like to reactivate the City of Blue Mountains Garden Awards.

There will be a plant specially produced for next year and there will be 3 short competitions for primary school children to colour in a drawing of the plant and to suggest a name. This competition will be advertised in the *Blue Mountains Gazette*, the *Hawkesbury Gazette* and the *Lithgow Mercury*.

These seminars will be advertised across Australia through the Garden Clubs of Australia.

Lithgow City Council & HDPa 1813 Committee

Lithgow City Council (LCC) is going ahead with the signage for Cox's Road. LCC is planning a festival for Lithgow rather than the 21 days on the Mountains, it will involve the Wiradjiri people and the Mingaan Aboriginal Corporation Traditional Owners' Group. Wendy introduced Helen Riley from Mingaan. Many will remember the brilliant presentation given by Helen at an earlier meeting in the Blue Mountains City Council Chambers.

Wendy Hawkes will contact Jan Koperberg to change the minutes to say "an 1813 Committee Public Meeting at the Lithgow Workman's Club" rather than "an earlier meeting in the Blue Mountains City Council Chambers". Wendy Hawkes has already contacted Jan Koperberg to ask her to amend the minutes to say "the Hartley District Progress Association 1813 Committee is planning a festival", rather than LCC.

Businesses Supporting the Bicentenary

Philip Hammon reported on the fly-over and the holey dollar.

- 12,000 school children are to receive the replica brass holey dollars in a 'clam shell', along with a brochure. They are hoping to get sponsors on board. There is the possibility of wholesaling the holey dollar to clubs. The cost of the coin to produce is around \$3.13. A write-up on the holey dollar, from Philip Hammon, is attached.

Minutes
Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary Committee
Wednesday 5 December 2012

Joan Kent suggested that someone be found to sponsor the presentation of a Holey Dollar to every child in the Lithgow LGA.

Helen Clements said she knew Janet Craven had been looking into the creation of a commemorative coin for the Crossings and she would talk to her to see how far this project had progressed and would report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

Duncan Wass suggested the Holey Dollar could be purchased and included in the pack for those walking the Cox's Road and sold at the Hartley 1 June 2013 Event.

- The fly-past is scheduled for Saturday 25 May and it is the intention to fly over events that are being held on that day, including Macksville Racing. In addition, it is intended that the planes will fly over Glenbrook Oval, Springwood High School, Pitt Park Wentworth Falls, Melrose Park Katoomba, Brownstown Oval and Lithgow (Wendy Hawkes to advise the location for Lithgow). The idea of flying over Mt York and Mt Blaxland is being investigated. There is the opportunity for other planes to join in the fly-over.

Wendy Hawkes will contact Philip Hammon and find out the schedule for the Fly Over and find out the places around Lithgow the Fly Over may occur (i.e. none restricted airspace). She will report back to the Committee at the next meeting so a decision can be made on the locations to be recommended to Philip Hammon for the Fly Over in the Lithgow Area.

Maps of the early roads

Kevin Crameri enquired when the maps of the original Cox's Road would be available. It is our understanding that the maps identified as relevant by Dr Ian Jack, have been sent from LPI in Bathurst, to the State Records of NSW facility at Kingswood. State Records are assembling an online presentation to commemorate the crossings and the maps would be part of this presentation, which should be available late November. If any further information is required contact State Records at info@records.nsw.gov.au

Joan Kent commented that these maps would be good to include in the Images Exhibition, but agreed that she would wait until after Christmas to follow up with State Records as the maps are not yet available.

Businesses Supporting the Bicentenary

Bruce Ferrier advised that there is a full-page advertisement going in the Blue Mountains Gazette, Wednesday 31 October 2012. Each week after that, there will be a column talking about upcoming events. Have a look each week and submit appropriate information.

Mt York Monuments

Minutes
Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary Committee
Wednesday 5 December 2012

Graham Hunt asked about the work on the Mt York monuments. Kerrin O'Grady reports that all works at the reserve are guided by the Mt York Reserve Plan of Management (2008) and the Conservation Management Strategy. This is a legal planning framework and guides the Council works program. The work is managed by Matt Chambers and team, Environment and Sustainability Branch, BMCC.

The following work is underway:

- General maintenance planting
- Car and bus parking facilities and drop off area
- Toilet facilities – and accessibility
- Camping area at Reserve and Lockyer's Track
- Signage to historic road / walking tracks
- Cleaning, painting (only if indicated by heritage people), for pavilion, monuments and obelisk
- Interpretive signage and acknowledgement of prior Aboriginal custodianship
- Signage to limit damage to tracks by horse riders and bicycle riders
- Bollards and other traffic calming management measures
- Signage showing names of mountains, landscape features, etc, especially Mt Blaxland

Any further enquiries can be directed to Kerrin O'Grady kogrady@bmcc.nsw.gov.au and Kerrin will forward emails to Matt Chambers for specific responses. The aim is to have the work finished by May 2013.

In addition, a very important part of the Mt York program is 'Gathering Stories', consulting and working with Aboriginal people and organisations to define the stories to be told at Mt York. These stories will form the interpretive signage to be installed. Wendy Jopson, BMCC Aboriginal Community Development Worker is managing the project.

Members of the Aboriginal community and groups are invited and encouraged to contact Wendy directly at wjopson@bmcc.nsw.gov.au. 'Gathering Stories' is a BMCC and Federal Government funded project, through the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

Wendy Hawkes will contact Helen Riley from Mingaan to organize a meeting with Wendy Jopson to ensure the Wiradjuri Stories are told regarding Mt York.

Official Crossings Quiz

Can each person reading this, please submit to Kerrin O'Grady kogrady@bmcc.nsw.gov.au, by the next WCC meeting, two questions (and answers) in regard to the crossings, for the Official Crossings Quiz.

Access to Mt Blaxland by Wentworth Descendants

Minutes
Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary Committee
Wednesday 5 December 2012

Darcy Wentworth advised that the Wentworth Descendants walk is planned to finish at Mt Blaxland. Darcy and 7 or 8 other descendants would like the end point of their walk to be Mt Blaxland. He is still trying to get approval to enter the privately owned land. Joan Kent advised that the owner is most uncooperative and will not grant access. Marcia Osterberg-Olsen said she is aware of the problem. Bob Morris from the Hartley Vale Mount Blaxland Trust advised the Mt Vic & DHS party would have to leave their horses behind, as it is very rough and only those on foot would be able to enter. It might be worthwhile for Darcy Wentworth to contact Bob Morris, through Marcia Osterberg Olsen.

Duncan Wass reported that there is still no answer regarding access to Mt Blaxland and negotiations are ongoing. He will prepare a report for the next Western Crossings Committee on 14 December 2012 on access to the Mt Blaxland with up today information.

VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 2.00 pm on Friday 14 December at the Katoomba RSL Club, 86 Lurline Street, Katoomba.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT The report on the Western Crossing Committee Meeting on 26 October 2012 be noted.

MOVED: **Duncan Wass** **SECONDED:** **Helen Clements**

ITEM: 4 CROSSINGS WEBSITE AND MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMARY

The Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Oberon Tourism Organisation have established a website to be used by organisations planning events and projects to advertise these

COMMENTARY

The website is now available for use and organisations are encouraged to upload events as details are formalised.

http://www.hyperhub.com.au/forto/Crossings_BiCentenary/

Robert Park asked that all events to go on the website go through him and referred to an Events Form which he has sent to Duncan Wass and which Duncan will forward to everyone on the Committee. He will upload them to the website.

Robert Park reported that he had received photos of the Cox's Road from Patsy Moppett and that Barb Johnson is being asked to provide text for these.

Minutes
Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary Committee
Wednesday 5 December 2012

These will be added to the "Significant Sites" page of the website with references to events being held at these sites.

Once events and information re Lithgow has begun to be uploaded to the website Robert will organise links with the Lithgow Tourism Website and the Lithgow City Council Website.

A full page spread is being dedicated weekly to the Blue Mountains Crossing in the Blue Mountains Gazette. There was no mention of any Lithgow events or history in the first edition. Wendy Hawkes will contact Kerrin O'Grady to find out how Lithgow organisations can get articles in the Gazette pages.

Wendy Hawkes suggested the Lithgow Mercury be approached to see if they would host a similar section in their newspaper. Wendy Hawkes will talk to Carolyn Piggott for advice on how to go about this. If the Mercury won't put in a column for free Wendy will ask how much it is and Robert Park and she will approach BMLOT for sponsorship for a column. A fortnightly column starting in the New Year was considered to be best. It was suggested events, stories, significant sites and the local aboriginal perspective be included in the column.

RECOMMENDED

THAT The report on the Crossings Website and Media Opportunities be noted.

MOVED: **Duncan Wass**

SECONDED: **Col Hunter**

ITEM : 5 SIGNAGE FOR COX'S ROAD

SUMMARY

Interpretive signage is being planned along the Cox's Road to commemorate the bicentenary of the completion of Cox's Road 2015.

COMMENTARY

A letter has been sent to the Cox's Road Project Committee with the recommended changes to location and signage that the Committee decided on at the last meeting. There has been no response as yet. Wendy Hawkes will contact Patsy Moppett in the new year if there has still been no response by then. Once the Cox's road Project Committee has approved the recommended changes Wendy will begin the process for getting approval from the Council and Roads and Maritime Services for the placing of the signs.

Duncan Wass reported that the 1813 Committee is considering where to place the commemorative granite tor at Hartley School and one location is outside the school grounds at the intersection of Great Western Highway and MidHartley Road on the western side. He wondered if the Cox's Road sign proposed for this intersection could be placed with the Tor. He will talk with Bill Evans regarding permissions for the placing of the TOR

**Minutes
Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary Committee
Wednesday 5 December 2012**

A reply was received from Federal Member for Calare, Honourable John Cobb, to (then) Mayor Neville Castle's request for funding for the Cox's road Signage. He stated he did not have any funding available but suggested several funding opportunities the committee may like to follow up on. These have been followed up and are not applicable to this project. A letter of thanks was sent to the Honorable John Cobb from Mayor Statham. (See Attachments)

A letter was also sent to State Member for Bathurst, Paul Toole, from requesting funding for the Cox's Road Signage Project. No reply has been received as yet.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT The report on the Signage for Cox's Road be noted.

MOVED: Helen Clements **SECONDED:** Duncan Wass

ITEM: 6 COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2013

SUMMARY

The Blue Mountains Crossing Committee will function until after the conclusion of the programme of commemorative events in 2015 and as such will need to develop a meeting schedule for 2013.

COMMENTARY

It states in the Terms of Reference for the Committee that:

"The Committee will function until after the conclusion of the programme of commemorative events in 2015. However, all positions will be reviewed after May 2013."

The Committee will create a schedule of meetings for 2013 with a review of the members on the Committee to be undertaken in the first meeting following the activities in May and June regarding the Bi-centenary of the Crossing of the Blue Mountains by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson.

The Committee will meet on the following dates in 2013 with a review of membership scheduled for the meeting on 3 July 2013.

- 6 February 2013
- 3 April 2013
- 1 May 2013
- 3 July 2013
- 4 September 2013
- 6 November 2013

RECOMMENDATION

THAT The above meeting schedule be noted.

Minutes
Blue Mountains Crossing Bicentenary Committee
Wednesday 5 December 2012

MOVED: Duncan Wass SECONDED: Colin Hunter

ITEM: 7 PROPOSED PROJECTS

SUMMARY

Local organisations have begun planning events for the celebrations.

COMMENTARY

An Events Calendar for events in the Lithgow Area has been developed.

Organisations planning events are invited to update the committee on their progress on these events, make changes to details and add new events.

Helen Riley sent a report from the most recent Council of Wiradjuri Elders that they were planning to arrange a meeting regarding their contribution to the commemorations in January.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT The above information on planned events be noted.

MOVED: Duncan Wass SECONDED: Joan Kent

ITEM: 9 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Wednesday 6 February 2013
4pm
Lithgow City Council Committee Meeting Room