



President's Report

2018/2019 has been a successful year for the Society and I would sincerely like to thank our valued Members for their support.

Digital Displays: Digital video displays featuring local history topics have been operating in the Walpole Nornalup Visitors Centre and Walpole Library since 2016/17. Coalmine Beach Holiday Park Reception has a digital display screen and has agreed to feature our displays. These displays are produced by Secretary Jennifer Willcox from photographs of static displays created by Life Member Lee Hunter. Further displays into Powerpoint / Video are in progress.

Nornalup Residents & Ratepayers Assoc: 'Picnic at Nornalup' *Home of the Ficifolia* - June 3 2018. The Society was invited to attend this event, displays included 'Miss Walpole' the Swarbrick Dinghy which had recently been restored, Jarrah Glen Telephone Exchange, local history displays, books, Jams & Pickles. All was of interest to everyone. An invitation to attend Sunday 2nd June 2019 'Picnic at Nornalup' Theme - *Ficifolia Frankland & Forest* has been received.

'Lady Walpole' Restoration Project: The Regional Development Australia, Building Better Regions grant submission was unsuccessful. It was mentioned Lotterywest is still a potential funding body. Kim Swarbrick has made available a model of 'Lady Walpole', on loan to the Walpole Community for the purpose of fundraising. A Stakeholders Meeting held 15th April 2019. 'Miss Walpole': The restored Swarbrick Dinghy is now stored alongside 'Lady Walpole' in Walpole LIA.

Walpole CRC Coffee Table Book: Production of the book is ongoing, many photographs from the Society's Photographic Collection are included. Written confirmation as to the commission to the Historical Society has been received.

Rest Point Redevelopment - Guesthouse Demolition : The Rest Point Guesthouse was built in 1926 by the Swarbrick family, is the oldest building in Walpole, and is of historic significance. The first we heard of the proposed demolition of the Guesthouse was by email received from a Heritage & Conservation Consultant in Perth who had been commissioned to write a report on the Guesthouse, the Consultant was requesting history of the Guesthouse and Swarbrick family. News of the demolition of the Guesthouse came as a shock to us and many others. ABC Journalist Mark Bennett became involved and the story was featured on ABC News. It has been suggested that the Guesthouse be relocated to Pioneer Park, Walpole, to become our Museum Interpretive Centre.

Constitution Review: The Constitution is being reviewed by a Sub Committee consisting of Elizabeth Shaw, Jennifer Willcox, Harold Luxton and Ivan Woodhams who found a further detailed review was needed. This will be carried out by Jennifer and Harold, and another Sub Committee meeting will be held for discussion before a Special Meeting is called to finalise.

Walpole Cemetery: The Walpole Cemetery records are now up to date. Don Burton has researched the records in detail and we thank him for the work done. The Shire of Manjimup have been informed.

Albany Senior High School Centenary: For those who may have missed it. 1918 - 2018 - Open Day 2nd August 2018.

Local History Books: 'Rest Point Remembered', 'Battling The Karri' and 'Elsie's Creek and Beyond' by Derek Hands were out of print. Derek authorised a reprint of all three books. 200 copies of 'Rest Point Remembered' have been printed 'Battling The Karri' and 'Elsie's Creek and

Beyond' are about to go to print. Derek has very kindly donated the rights of these books to WN&DHS. 'Tracks in the Sand' by Mark Channer, approval by Mark has been received to print his story in book form. 'Towards the West River' by Lee and Geoff Fernie, we hope we may receive permission to print in book form also. 'The Trees You Could Drive Your Car Into', '85 Years in the Making' and 'BTH Country Cooking' and 'History of the BTH Ladies Club' are available for sale.

Fundraising: – A very successful firewood raffle prior to winter last year, grateful thanks go to Don Burton and his family for the generous load which was very much appreciated by the winner. Helen Gallash has also been very generous with her popular Jams, Pickles and Chutney on sale at Walpole Community Resource Centre throughout the year. Not only are they delicious but always beautifully presented. Our sincere thanks go to Walpole CRC for their assistance with sales.

Display Boards: The Society is now the proud owner of three new display boards, two paid for by Walpole Op Shop funding.

Villa Carlotta History Tours: A new venture for the Society. The History Tour was the idea of Secretary Jennifer Willcox. There have been two successful tours, October 2018 and April 2019, with Tour Guides Elizabeth Shaw and Don Burton, both descendants of early settlers of the district. The aim was to travel in a loop Walpole to Walpole describing the history of the settlement areas

Supporter Stickers: Now available for sale @ \$5.00 ea.

Library Displays: Curator of History Helen Gallash has created much interest with her varied displays in the Walpole Library. Thank you Helen *Continued page 4*

'Walpolian' Newsletter: The Newsletter is produced four times a year, extra copies are printed and distributed to selected businesses for the purpose of community and visitor interest.

Horses Honour Roll Poster in Pioneer Park: Was faded and has been replaced with a new one.

Pre-Christmas Dinner Tree Top Walk Motel Restaurant: It was a lovely outing with good company and good food, a wonderful way to end the year and wish each other Seasons Greetings.

Walpole Op Shop Funding : Our grateful thanks. We really couldn't do it without your help.

Thankyou: To Catherine Gittos and Trevor Holm for their contribution to the Society.

As mentioned at the beginning of my report it has been a successful year for the Society and I would like to sincerely thank all Committee Members for their commitment and excellent work over the past year.

Finally: Sadly we pay tribute to members who have passed away – Hilda Price, Lee Fernie (Founding Member) Helen Pierce (Life Member) Patsy Anning, Elanne Jenkins, Win Pascoe and Tina Powell. All forever remembered.

Elizabeth Shaw

President

Walpole Nornalup and District Historical Society Inc.

28th April 2019