

# WIMMERA MALLEE PIONEER MUSEUM COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

## Introduction

Insert description of the facility and or/ reserve and information on the management of the facility / reserve.

The Museum will mark its 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary in September 2024.

Currently there are 11 members of the Committee of Management with two new members being appointed from 1 July 2024: Mr Colin Moore and Mr Matthew Steen, both of Jeparit. Other Committee members: Mr Peter Pumpa; Mr Craige Proctor; Mrs Mary-Anne Paech; Mr Clem Paech; Mr Don Pedder; Ms Wendy Werner; Mr Tige Mannington; Mr Peter Robson; Mrs Wendy Zanker.

The Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. at the Museum.

The Museum is open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 10.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. On each day volunteers (non-Committee members) are rostered for duty with Committee members also on duty as the need arises. The Museum is staffed by six regular volunteers, most of whom are rostered on for 15 hours per week; one is rostered on for 2.5 hours per week; another is generally available for 5 hours per week. Volunteers are not required to work on Public Holidays and so Committee members replace them on those days. The Museum is always in need of additional volunteers to ensure we can remain open.

The Museum is closed on days of Total Fire Ban.

## Achievements

Insert information about the achievements that the Committee of Management has met for the last financial year, hiring's, asset improvements, volunteer work etc. Achievements for the user groups of the facility / reserve in relation to the facility / reserve.

Visitors 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024: **916** (Adults -260; Conc.- 336; Student – 6; Family – 140; Group: 174)

Volunteer Hours 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024: **3,990 hrs** (the equivalent of 166 days). These hours include committee members attending meetings, administrative duties, working bees etc.)

We continue to make progress with implementing some of the recommendations of the Masterplan, specifically through the development and erection of storyboards, storytelling about farming techniques, land management, harvesting, grain cleaning, buildings and people, the storyboards being integral to enhanced visitor engagement.

We continue to forge partnerships with other individuals, bodies and organisations including the Menzies Institute, Federation University at Ballarat (with the Secretary participating in six-weekly webinars), the Royal Historical Society of Victoria with the Vice-President Dr Rosalie Triolo visiting the Museum in April and two Committee members, Craige Proctor and Wendy Werner, participating in monthly Cataloguing Clinics hosted by the RHSV. We have established links with Matthew Polack, a film maker in Horsham, who is keen to produce videos on aspects of the district's history for his YouTube channel, with David Sidwell, a technical writer in Melbourne, who is producing a Welcome document for visitors (a voluntary initiative) and jigsaw producer Craig Holloway in Ballarat. The jigsaws ordered will hopefully enhance our merchandising potential.

During the 'Back to Jeparit' celebrations in October the Museum was the focus for several presentations on the lives of pioneer women.

We have attempted to promote the Museum through producing car decals which four Committee members display wherever they travel throughout Victoria. We also hosted Gabby and Dan from ACE Radio to help profile the Museum.

A new sign promoting the Museum has been erected, and funded by the Museum, at the RV Dump Site in Jeparit.

For six months four members of the Committee of Management along with two community members met regularly to organise the usual Rally over two days in June but organisational and logistical challenges meant that these plans were abandoned. While the Rally did not eventuate, having two community members involved with the planning was beneficial.

A safety fence is being erected by Committee members around the horseworks, making it safer for the public when the horseworks is operating.

To support our digitisation and cataloguing goals we have purchased a laptop which will enable us to store images and descriptions and potentially to upload these to the Victorian Collections portal.

The Committee was successful in receiving in the HSC budget allocation funding for curatorial assistance, storyboard production, website production – a future goal – and the digitisation and ultimately exhibition of our Ryko the Byko banner.

Several Committee members have been liaising with personnel from the WMT-VEP with involvement in discussions around the Visitor Destination Management Plan with Albert Stafford.

## **Future Vision**

Describe what the Committee believes the future vision should be for the facility/ reserve (short term and long term)

Most of the following align with the recommendations of the Masterplan/ Interpretive Plan.

Maintenance priorities:	Re-strawing Thatched Shed Rabbit proofing the perimeter Prioritising Maintenance
Enhancing visitor experience:	Additional Storyboards to supplement 26 produced so far with more of a focus on farming technologies Development of Educational Kit Wayfinding signage
Collection management:	Cataloguing the collection (along with digitisation) Enlisting curatorial support
Safety:	Resolving OH&S issues Investigating firearms safety options
Event planning:	Investigating options for small and large events
Marketing and promotion:	Print and non-print promotions; video production

## Financial Report Summary

Insert a summary of the annual financial report, bank reconciliation and the bank statement.

<u>Opening Balance</u>	30/06/2023	As per Bank	Statement	\$26,840.43
<u>Income</u>				
Museum Entry	\$ 6,654.00			
Souvenirs	\$ 1,056.00			
Ice-creams/drinks	\$ 532.10			
Donations	\$ 167.60			
Group Entry	\$ 1,242.00			
Unallocated Funds	\$ 69.70			
	\$ 9,721.40			<u>+\$ 9,721.40</u>
				\$36,561.83
<u>Expenses</u>		-		
Merchant Fees	\$ 288.39			
Advertising	\$ 540.00		<i>Petty Cash opening</i>	
Elgas/Gas supplies	\$ 46.20		<i>balance</i>	
Magazine Subs	\$ 213.00		\$ 26.35	
Maintenance	\$ 461.58			
Sign Printing	\$ 858.00		-\$26.25 Misc	
Catering Supplies	\$ 59.40		(Office supplies,	
Miscellaneous	\$ 94.40		Drinks)	
Rally expense	\$ 738.90		<i>Closing balance</i>	
Souvenirs	\$ 25.00		\$ 0.10	
Supermarket	\$ 815.44			
Office Supplies	\$ 474.92			
Catalogue Equip	\$ 48.00			
PFD	\$ 1,020.15			
	<u>-\$ 5,683.38</u>			<u>-\$ 5,683.38</u>
				\$ 30,878.45

Presented Chq's	1185, 1194, 1195	-\$ 2,532.75		-\$ 2,532.75
				\$28,345.70
Unpresented Chqs	1212, 1224, 1225	+\$ 279.70		+\$ 279.70
Bank Balance	@ 30.06.2024	as per Bank	statement	\$28,625.40
		<i>Interest rec TD's</i>		
<b><u>Term Deposits</u></b>	\$ 14,444.93	\$ 306.67	Cash Float	\$ 240.00
	\$ 21,093.36	\$ 852.45	Petty Cash	\$ 0.10
	_____		Term Deposits	\$35,538.29
<b>Total Investment</b>	<b>\$ 35,538.29</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$64,403.79</b>

## Conclusion

A brief summary of the facility / reserve / Committee of Managements position after the last financial year.

The Committee of Management comprises a number of members with many years' involvement with the Museum behind them along with relatively new members. The former provide much experience and insight into the site and the management thereof while the latter bring to the Committee different and fresh perspectives with a vision of how the Museum can evolve in different and hopefully more engaging ways for new audiences. The group comprises a much-needed array of skill sets and capabilities. While these differences in background and knowledge can pose challenges in terms of achieving goals, they should also, ideally, enhance and complement each other.

# WIMMERA MALLEE PIONEER MUSEUM

## TREASURERS REPORT

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023 – 2024

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Found correct from records supplied

30/6/2024



Teresa Smith