

# Coal River Working Party Meeting

6<sup>th</sup> August, 2012 1:00pm – 3:00pm

University Council Board Room, IDC Building, University Drive

## Minutes

Start: 1.05

### 1. Acknowledgement of Country

2. **Present:** Gionni Di Gravio (Chair), Dr Tessa Morrison, Jane Ison (Minute Taker), Paul Walsh, Ron Barber, Brian Walsh, Ken Shilling, Lesley Gent, Maree Shilling, Robert Watson, Ann Hardy, Julie-Anne Tilse, Siobhan Curran, Keith Southall, Professor Howard Dick, David Kelly, Russell Rigby, Nick Foulcher, Anthony Scully (ABC), Doug Lithgow, Sarah Cameron, Charles Martin, Brian Roach, Helen Giggins, Keith Parsons

**Apologies:** Marilla North, Cynthia Hunter, Emeritus Professor Maree Gleeson, Emeritus Professor John Fryer, Susan Harvey, Kerri Brauer, Sue Effenberger

### 3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes:

The minutes for 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012 were adopted as a true and faithful representation and was motioned by Julie-Ann Tilse and seconded by Maree Shilling.

### 4. Business arising from previous minutes:

1. (Ann Hardy) The application for Heritage nomination from Australian Heritage Council was unsuccessful (For details see the CRWP site.) Sharon Grierson's feedback reported the difficulty was not with the historical content but with the clarity of the support of the indigenous community and the local administrative bodies. Sarah Cameron would look at any way she can help as the council is very supportive but the application's priority with council may need to be raised. Professor Howard Dick suggested asking Grierson to support a clarification of the agenda and the application criteria and the handicap under which the application is based. A meeting is to be planned with Sharon Grierson to see if she can help.

2. Mulumbinba – the edible fern: (Julie-Ann Tilse) Attempts to identify the fern are progressing and there are four possible interpretations of the specific name.

3. Novocastrian Tales Project - now called "Yirannali – The Quiet Project – Heart of our Nation – Reconciliation" (Paul Walsh – Tusk Productions) Meetings with the artist, Julie Squires, have been held and funding and planning negotiations are in progress with corporate sponsors.

## 5. Reports and Updates

### 1. **DRAFT PROJECT 2:** Government Domain Committee (Ann Hardy)

Members of the committee met on Monday 16 July and spoke about an efficient way to share information and sources relating to King Edward Park and the Government Domain. It was decided that the simplest way to share and access material would be via DropBox (that way not replicating multiply files and save time). Ann Hardy to arrange this and send to members information about setting up DropBox. Various newspaper articles were shared about the KEP, the community rallies/protests there, as well as the problem re: night waste and how the park was used for many community events (often attracting thousands there). Also Jane Ison is continuing her project collating the names of girls at the Newcastle Industrial School and Reformatory, this is very exciting and of great benefit to the wider community and family historians researching the girls. Ann will follow up the progress of the State heritage branch.

2. **On this day (in Newcastle) – Dates of importance in Newcastle's history:** (Brian Roach) Could members please send any dates to build a database of important dates for announcements in media statements? Pertinent dates should be sent directly to Brian or alternatively to Jane Ison who will forward them to him.

3. **Photo identification: (Keith Parsons)** Gibson's tea room is the building on the cliff walk photo.

4. **RAHS Grants - (Lesley Gent)** Grant applications will be considered this Friday.

## 6. **Presentation: Keith Southall - Project Manager Department of Crown Lands Newcastle Heritage sites.** (see also [www.crownland.nsw.gov.au](http://www.crownland.nsw.gov.au))

This is an ongoing project offering scope for greater involvement once finalized. Keith presented a Powerpoint overview of the project in connection with the survey of and the

transfer of responsibility for Nobbys and the Carrington Hydraulic Power House with a view to increasing safe access and persevering these sites but Nobbys is the priority. Nobbys is currently managed by Crown lands but owned by Newcastle Port and the final area will include the Macquarie Pier and Horseshoe Beach. A modest scheme is planned and the intention includes a kiosk or public restaurant to offset the costs of opening the site. There was potential for further community involvement in the operation and regeneration of the site and possibility of expanding the area accessed by the public. The Carrington Pump House is currently owned by the Newcastle Port Corporation. A viable use for the building is still unclear as it is remote and there are costs involved in conserving the building. There are many possibilities for its use but currently there's not a lot of interest and no suitable tenant.

**7. Presentation: Dr Tessa Morrison and Nick Foulcher - Lost! Newcastle App**

The app is a developing project from the School of Architecture aimed at reconstructing Victorian Newcastle using the Snowball collection. The aim is to eventually cover the whole city and not just the main buildings. Currently there is a pilot app able to be used in either inside or outside the museum but more money will be needed to expand the project. The target audiences are the public as well as academics in an embedded layer. There is potential to add different levels including languages and personal stories or photos. More money would mean greater development as the main cost is a research assistant to organize the data and uploading the information and link to reference images.

The project uses the free apps Layer (see [www.layar.com](http://www.layar.com)) and "What was there?" (see [www.whatwasthere.com](http://www.whatwasthere.com))

Within the museum exhibition scans will add layers to the images. (viz. map, streetscape, fade in)

To view from outside or home use "What was There?"

**8. Close: 3:05 p.m.**

**9. Date of next meeting: Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.**