

Coal River Working Party Meeting

5th November, 2012 1:00pm – 3:00pm

University Council Board Room, IDC Building, University Drive

Minutes

Start: 1:06 p.m.

1. **Welcome to Country:** Kerrie Brauer

2. **Present:** Gionni DiGravio (Chair), Jane Ison (minute-taker), Ann Hardy, Doug Lithgow, Maree Shilling, Ken Shilling, Kerrie Brauer, Russell Rigby, Peter Sherlock, Sue Effenberger, Damien Egan, Lesley Gent, Brian Roach, Charles Martin, Keith Parsons, Ron Barber, Julieanne Tilse, Lillian Eastwood, Sarah Cameron
Apologies: Emeritus Professor Maree Gleeson, Marilla North, Emeritus Professor John Fryer, Brian Walsh, Professor Howard Dick, Shane Frost, Dene Hawken, Nola Hawken, Kim Ostinga

3. **Confirmation of Previous Minutes:** The amended minutes for 5th October 2012 were adopted as a true and faithful representation - moved by Ron Barber and seconded by Damien Egan.

4. **Business arising from previous minutes:**
 - a) Ann Hardy will contact Marilla North to clarify the role of the heritage group – email sent to Marilla by Ann suggesting an 11.30 meeting on Monday 3rd December.
 - b) Ann Hardy – Update of the Review of the National Nomination
The updated submission has been placed in dropbox with a larger font. It is still a general submission but now includes some items reflecting the recent paper by Professor Erik Eklund and Dr David Roberts. The examples suggested in communications have been included in the update and a discussion of the sites will be added. Any suggestions or changes should be emailed to Ann. (Sue Effenberger and Julieanne Tilse may have further suggestions.)
 - c) Sarah Birch artworks: Sarah’s “Living Archives” are commercial reproductions of the digitized maps and plans held in the University’s Cultural Collections Flickr site, her large-scale artworks are on display for another month at the Ground-up Café at Carrington. A proportion of any sales will go to the Vera Deacon Regional History Fund.

5. Presentation: Charles Martin – Publishing and Models

Update: The model used by Charles Martin for his fly-through of Newcastle during the 1830s was supplied by Russell Rigby and used in a program called Sketchup.

Information from the Armstrong map and Dangar's survey, work by Russell Rigby, side elevations from the Mitchell drawings and paintings by E. C. Close were entered into the program. Fly-throughs for other time-periods, including the pilot station and the coal loading facilities, can also be designed and enhanced. The results show historically and geographically accurate views of the city as it once was. There is a possibility for further enhancements with the support of the University. Co-ordination of other programmers would be time-consuming and a co-ordinator would be required. A launch could be considered during the visit of the "Treasures of Newcastle from the Macquarie Era" Exhibition in 2013.

6. Presentation: Lillian Eastwood – Guraki Committee (Dual Place Names)

Report: "Dual Naming of Natural Features within the City of Newcastle Landscape."- Sophie Nicholls

A copy of the paper is in the Dropbox. It is hoped that this paper will lead to a submission to the Geographical names board. The geographical names board has been twice to speak to the group. The names under consideration are:- Nobbys, Hexham Swamp, Flagstaff Hill, Pirate Point, Port Hunter, Shepherd's Hill, Ironbark Creek – further dual names may be considered for Munibung Hill, Mount Sugarloaf, Murdering Gully, Newcastle Beach, Bullock Island, Hunter River, Glenrock Lagoon. It is hoped that dual names will have the support of local council and the local land councils and the suggestions will only be submitted after consultation. Meetings with and feedback from local aboriginal groups are to be arranged. Linguists will report back after these meetings. No decisions have been made. Restrictions of the report:

1. Only geographical features – not cities or suburbs – may be given joint names thus creating a difficulty with Mulumbinba.
2. The correct pronunciation of any names is taken from historical and linguistic evidence of the name and its pronunciation. This is hampered by the scarcity of documentation. The use of Threlkeld's research and interpretation of dual names is considered vital by the Awabakal people. (Kerri Brauer) The Awabakal consider dual naming very important but believe that the correct pronunciation is essential.
3. (Russell Rigby) The reference to Mt Sugarloaf on p. 17 is incorrect.

7. Reports and Updates

Grants: (Lesley Gent) Thanks and congratulations to those who applied for grants and were successful.

Watt Street Art and Light Installations: (Sarah Cameron): This was a very successful installation.

Fort Scratchley: (Ron Barber) Fort Scratchley has received a grant from the Maritime board for restoration.

Lost Newcastle App: (Ann Hardy): Russell Rigby, Siobhan Curran and Ann Hardy have met with Newcastle Now. The aim is to make the app cultural heritage specific but this makes it quite a complex app so money needs to be found or raised to support the project.

The “KFC” Artefacts: Are now held at the university and it is hoped that they will raise awareness of the importance of the site. Discussions must occur before any display can be made. Hopefully it would be desirable to have another archaeological dig at the former Empire Hotel site, currently vacant. NSW Minister for Heritage The Hon. Robyn Parker supports an aboriginal archeological dig. Predictive aboriginal sites map was not implemented but needs to be revisited. CRWP will attempt to get the State Government to fund a further dig on the Empire site. Future archeological excavations at the corner of Parry and Union may be desirable and a further 2m test bore may be required near the KFC site.

(Sarah Cameron) Possibly a survey could also be carried out in Laman street.

Launch of **Greg and Sylvia Ray** new book of photographs on Friday – see CRWP site. The Wallis Album, the Macquarie Chest and other **treasures of Newcastle** are coming to Newcastle next year for an exhibition “Treasures of Newcastle from the Macquarie Era Exhibition” from 2nd March until 5th May 2013.

Consideration is being given to a reunion for the 10th anniversary of the **CRWP**.

8. Close: 2.55 p.m.

Date of next meeting: Monday, 3rd December, 2012