

Hunter Living Histories Meeting

7th September, 2020 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Zoom Meeting

Minutes

Start: 1:00

- 1. Acknowledgement to Country ;** Gionni di Gravio
- 2. Present:** Gionni di Gravio, Ann Hardy, Doug Lithgow, Ron Barber, John Clark, Ian Farnsworth, Judy Lindsay, David Dial OAM, Emeritus Prof. John Fryer, Robert Watson, Mark Rigby, Laurie Allen, Charles Martin, Peter Sherlock, Bob Donnelly, Lesley Gent, Louise Gale, John Witte, Kerrie Shaw, Ken Thornton, Robert, Maree Shilling, Ken Shilling, Bronwyn Law, Maria Pavela, Paul Kiem, Don Seton Wilkinson, Ken Thornton, Kieran Sturt, Tim Adams, Ross Edmonds, Tessa Boer-Mah.
- 3. Apologies:** Emeritus Prof. Maree Gleeson, Sonia Hornery (Member for Wallsend), Professor Howard Bridgman, Kerrie Brauer, Peter Leven, Diane Kinloch.
- 4. Visitors:** Ryan Tranter, David Henry.
- 5. Confirmation of Previous Minutes 3rd August:** John Fryer. Seconded: Ian Farnsworth.
- 6. Business arising from previous minutes:** - NIL.
- 7. Presentations –**

- **Ryan Tranter** from City of Newcastle spoke about the Interpretation panels being prepared for the Shortland Camp area of Newcastle foreshore. Ryan addressed the group back in 2018 and has invited feedback and comment on the proposed panels,

and in particular on the historical themes and heritage aspects of the panels. Please send feedback to rtranter@ncc.nsw.gov.au

- **John Witte** presented on “Policing love and sex: lives of same-sex attracted people and the law in Newcastle and the Hunter 1867-1954”. John gave an interesting talk on the lives of same-sex people in the region, and spoke about sources he has located in the archives and collections during his research. The presentation was recorded and will be available online soon.

8. Reports and Updates

Update – Gionni di Gravio – Gionni gave a general update, including the following posts:-

- McMullin Building Stories: Final Resting Place of Emeritus Professor Godfrey Tanner, McMullin Courtyard, 2003. The post includes photographs of the event, taken of the small ceremony that took place after the passing of Godfrey Tanner showing the location of the deposition. For further information see the following link
<https://hunterlivinghistories.com/2020/08/18/godfrey-tanner-ashes/>
- “Stories of Our Town” Documentary Series – Indigenous Histories. Glenn Dormand and Tony Whittaker are progressing well with their latest documentary and have interviewed various people about the Lycett Paintings and Indigenous depictions. See following link for further information
<https://hunterlivinghistories.com/2020/08/24/storiesoot-indigenous/>
- Hunter Valley Climate Data: Wollong (near Mount Vincent) N.S.W. (1891-1907). The following scientific transcription of the Wollong (New South Wales) data set has been completed and is available online, they were donated to the University of Newcastle’s Cultural Collections for further research by the Belfield Climate Research Team. Many thanks to A/Prof Howard Bridgman. For further information see the following link
<https://hunterlivinghistories.com/2020/07/14/77-mitchell/>

Ann Hardy, GLAMx Lab update: - Ann advised that History Week 2020 is fast approaching, there are many events available online, see <https://historycouncilnsw.org.au/history-week-toptlevel/history-week-2020/> The UON Library is having 'Missed in History Wikipedia Edit-a-thon' event and is open to the community. See the following for more details https://libguides.newcastle.edu.au/Missed_In_History.

Tim Adams, archaeological update: - Tim gave an update on current works at Honeysuckle area of Newcastle, an old depot and remnants from the late 19th century have been located, including a former train shed.

Tom Smith, City of Newcastle – N/A

Other Updates – **Kerrie Shaw** informed that the City of Newcastle's Digital Library opened today, there are many exciting items offered to the community at the Stewart Ave location, including Magic Box that currently exhibits sources associated with the Scott Sisters. The Magic Box can be updated regularly and curated to incorporate other themes.

9. Public Advocacy -

10. General Business –

Bob Donnelly – (Fortress Newcastle) - Bob informed that the group recently had a field trip to Ash Island and inspection of the radar station. The next field trip is to the base at Rathmines, Belmont and Catherine Hill Bay. The Fortress Newcastle team is expanding and there is wide interest in the project.

Ron Barber – (Fort Scratchely HS) - advised that the production team from TV show 'Better Homes & Gardens' visited Fort Scratchley recently for an upcoming episode.

Tessa Boer-Mah - (Heritage Now) - informed she is creating a history and heritage walk relating to the suburb of Hamilton.

Maree Shilling – (Nctle Family History Society) advised that the society is open only to members, meetings and guest presentations are via Zoom.

11. Close: 3.00 PM

Date of next meeting will be Monday, 12th October 2020, 1-3pm.

(ZOOM Meeting details will be sent via email)