



## Branch Newsletter – May 2019

### Branch Meeting Notice

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 5, 2019 7.30 PM – 9.00 PM**

**HARKAWAY HALL, KING ROAD, HARKAWAY**

- ✓ **Learn more about the history of Harkaway from guest speakers**
- ✓ **Find out more about the benefits of being a member of the National Trust**
- ✓ **Meet our new President, Tammy Lobato and our new Committee**
- ✓ **Enjoy discussion with friends over wine and nibbles**

**ALL MEMBERS AND VISITORS ARE WELCOME**

**There is ample parking at the Dalton Reserve, opposite the Hall**

**RSVP by May 30 for catering purposes to National Trust shop at Pioneers Park on  
9769 5653**

**or to Tammy Lobato 0408 722 380**

# Branch Trust News

## **Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve – Dam Refurbishment Project**

Do you know the Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve? You may not, because it is a well hidden treasure more likely to be found in somewhere like the Warburton Ranges rather than our suburban growth corridor -

<https://goo.gl/maps/MFguY41BeNSKaY4U9>

Construction of the historic Beaconsfield Reservoir, within the reserve commenced during World War 1, in order to provide an improved water supply for defence installations on the Mornington Peninsular.

After World War 2, the reservoir became a source of water for factories opening up in the Dandenong area. The reservoir was decommissioned when the Cardinia Reservoir was constructed and the water authorities had no plans to re-open the facility as water quality could no longer be guaranteed.

The Dam now needs to be refurbished to meet modern standards. This refurbishment provides an opportunity to sustain the ecological values of and add value to the Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve.

Melbourne Water has developed options for the future of the Beaconsfield Dam and wants to hear from local community members about their future aspirations for the site.

Please contact Melbourne Water if you would like to contribute your feedback

<https://www.melbournewater.com.au/>

More on the Conservation Reserve next newsletter

## **National Trust Shop Pioneers Park, Berwick**

We love seeing our members visit the shop when they drop in for coffee or lunch at Primary @Pioneers Park and so delighted it has become a regular shopping destination for all things cute, unique and heritage for café customers.

We are thrilled that Thelma Thompson has recently accepted responsibility for managing our shop. Thelma, together with her husband, Clem Thompson, have lived in Berwick for 43 years. The Thompsons first joined the National Trust when they travelled to Europe and visited many marvellous sites. Thelma, who is Treasurer of Berwick Probus Club, became a shop volunteer after Ruth Crofts approached Probus about the need for more shop volunteers. Thelma acknowledges the assistance she has received

from Annette Aldersea, who did the purchasing for our shop for many years, and other volunteers who have worked in the shop since its inception.

Thelma is pleased to report that many new volunteers have been assisting recently and it has been possible to extend opening hours to include Tuesdays, on a trial basis, and to be able to open an hour earlier, at 10.00am. She also notes that the staff in the Primary Café at Pioneers Park have been very supportive. Improvements made by Thelma and volunteers have resulted in significantly increased sales.

Thelma is working closely with the new Shop Committee consisting of our Deputy President Derek Grantham, Margaret Gordon, Jan McKinley and Lorraine Van Vliet. All are experienced in working with sales and communication with customers. Thelma and Derek feel that the shop is the best kept secret in Berwick and that we must find ways to ensure it attracts more locals and visitors from overseas.

Tammy, Thelma and Derek are keen to implement new initiatives and upgrade equipment to ensure high standards of retail and the heritage experience are maintained and increased. The new committee will shortly commence re writing and modernising shop guidelines and procedures.

#### **Interesting points to note about the shop:**

- ❖ *Thelma and all shop volunteers do not receive any payment for their work.*
- ❖ *National Trust members are eligible for a 10% discount on all purchases at our shop.*
- ❖ *Most shop items are made in Australia and are often not readily available elsewhere in the local area.*
- ❖ *We now stock National Trust books and memorabilia from National Trust Melbourne headquarters.*



*Our fantastic new shop committee Jan, Thelma, Margaret, Lorraine & Derek*

## **The Australian Heritage Festival**

Activities this year include events at Tooradin, organised by the City of Casey, and a High Tea at Edrington on 11 May 2019.

Saturday May 4 at Fisherman's Cottage Tooradin 10-4 We will have a display together with the BPA history group, BMI and Edrington will be there along with other local history groups.

It would be great to see our branch members attend both the Tooradin and Edrington events.

Some free Festival events being held reasonably close to Cardinia and Casey include:

- Guided tours of the Coolart Homestead and wetlands at Somers.
- A Phillip Island Guesthouse Exhibition at Cowes.
- Tours and Exhibitions at the Yarra Ranges Regional Museum, Lilydale.

Further details can be obtained from the Festival Guide, which is available at our Pioneers Park shop and [https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/explore/?keyword=casey&ahfdate-search=&ahf-region=VIC&region-lat=-37.47130769999999&region-lng=144.7851531&content=ahf\\_event](https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/explore/?keyword=casey&ahfdate-search=&ahf-region=VIC&region-lat=-37.47130769999999&region-lng=144.7851531&content=ahf_event)

Tammy will be working with the City of Casey and Cardinia Shire to ensure that our branch is involved in the organisation of Heritage Festival events in both municipalities next year.

## **Cardinia Heritage Report**

(Thank you to Ann and Graeme Taylor from the Beaconsfield Progress Association)

- The Kiln at Officer needs to be protected. Cardinia Council are looking into this.
- Bowman's Track  
The new interpretation sign went up in August 2018 BPA worked with council on the information for the sign. The markers along the track have now been installed.  
Information and map  
[https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/directory\\_record/3825/bowmans\\_track](https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/directory_record/3825/bowmans_track)



- The Pakenham Heritage Precinct hearing was in March and the sites will be included into the planning scheme with Heritage overlay controls.  
[https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/news/article/245/protecting\\_and\\_preserving\\_pakenham\\_heritage\\_places](https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/news/article/245/protecting_and_preserving_pakenham_heritage_places)

## **Regional Museum for the City of Casey?**

This possibility has been raised frequently at Casey's Heritage meetings. We have even identified heritage properties which were for sale at the time and had great potential as Heritage and/or Community Centres. Our requests so far have been unsuccessful, although Council now acknowledges the desirability of having a local Heritage Centre. Meanwhile, some historical documents of interest from Shire of Berwick days can be perused at the Old Shire Office building, corner of Main Street and Princes Highway, Pakenham, which is open most Sunday afternoons.

The Branch will continue working on this very important project.

## **Local History Archives**

These are currently stored at the Cranbourne Branch of the Casey Cardinia Library Network, 65 Berwick Cranbourne Road, Cranbourne. Heather Arnold, who manages the archives, has written many excellent local history articles which can be accessed at <http://kooweerupswamphistory.blogspot.com/>

Annie O'Riley's Odd History [www.oddhistory.com.au](http://www.oddhistory.com.au) also has interesting items relating to the Casey Cardinia area.

Casey Cardinia Libraries have a fabulous facebook page called Casey Cardinia Heritage.

## **Committee Activities**

This is our new branch committee – all honoured to be able to contribute to local heritage and conservation.

Together we will be working on several projects including a localised Strategic Plan that we will communicate to you over the next couple of months. You may be interested to have a look at the recent Strategic Plan created by our team at the Trust's

Headquarters [https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/wp-](https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2017_strategic_plan_DIGITAL.pdf)

[content/uploads/2018/03/2017\\_strategic\\_plan\\_DIGITAL.pdf](https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2017_strategic_plan_DIGITAL.pdf) Our plan will be led by the state-wide objectives that will guide our local heritage, conservation and branch work priorities.

One of our important projects will be increasing the exposure of our local branch in order to harness the enthusiasm of local residents for the preservation of local heritage and conservation by joining the Trust and in doing so make new likeminded friends and be invited into Victoria's and the World's most significant built and natural heritage sites.

<b>President</b>	Tammy Lobato
<b>Vice President</b>	Derek Grantham
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bruce Greenland OAM
<b>Minute Secretary</b>	Ian Chisholm
<b>Conservation Casey Contact</b>	Ian Chisholm
<b>Conservation Cardinia Contact</b>	TBA
<b>Committee Members</b>	Ruth Crofts OAM
	Rosalind Crofts



### **A bit about Tammy Lobato, our new President**

Tammy's love for natural and built conservation started during her childhood living a few doors from Sherbrooke Forest in Tecoma. As a Member of state Parliament from 2002 – 2010, her protectiveness of all things significant heightened as she supported local communities to protect their precious natural and built assets from sale, over development and destruction.

Locally some of those campaigns she assisted with include;



the retention of the land on which Pioneers Park and Primary@Pioneers Café are now home to, proudly working with the National Trust Branch and local community groups and ensuring the funding for the restoration of the old primary school building,

the campaign to stop Melbourne Water sell off the land which is now home to Beaconsfield Nature Conservation Reserve by working with the Cardinia Environment Coalition and then Minister John Thwaites to have the land become Crown land and remain the property of the people - protecting it from any future sale,

and actively contributing to Green Wedge advocacy and policy.

Tammy was also a member of the Parliamentary Natural Resources and Environment Committee. She has lived and worked in Berwick for the past 21 years, is a business owner of Tammy Lobato Wigs and President of Berwick Business Group.

**A History Test –** *(from the former school principal on our committee – can't you tell?!)*

**Chadwick; Melrose; Wandeen; Wickham**

**Why were these names given to the four Houses at Harkaway Primary School?**

**Come along to our Branch Meeting on 5 June 2019 to get the answers!**

For further information phone Tammy Lobato 0408 722 380. We will have a new email address and facebook page for you to be able to communicate with us and we will notify you of them soon.

We really hope to see you at the June branch meeting, it will be lovely to catch up and be enthralled by the information about our fascinating past.

Tammy, Ian, Thelma & Derek