



We would like to extend a welcome to Katoomba residents and business people who would like to come along and participate in future meetings or as a way of keeping in touch with recent issues by receiving a copy of the monthly minutes.

For more information, please contact Vanessa Crump at [info@katoombachamber.com](mailto:info@katoombachamber.com).

Annual Subscription fees for membership of the Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community are \$250 for landlords, \$100 for companies, \$50 for a sole traders and \$10 for individual community members.

*Please join and help us grow our membership and our voice for Katoomba*

[www.katoombachamber.com](http://www.katoombachamber.com) CittaSlow Katoomba Blue Mountains [www.cittaslow.org.au](http://www.cittaslow.org.au)

### **NEXT MEETING – Thursday 12th June 2014**

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**Ordinary Meeting** opened at 6.21pm, at The Library, Carrington Hotel, Katoomba.

#### **1. Attendance and Apologies**

Present: 10<sup>th</sup> April 2014

Carole Box (CB), Harry Box (HB), Michael Brischetto (M\_\_B), Margaret Brown (MB), Charlie Brown (CB), Belle Buttrose (BB), Larry Buttrose (LB), Chris Cannell (CC), Peter Carroll (PNC), Tom Colless (TC), Jean Crowley (JC), Vanessa Crump (VC), Lynne Curan (LC), Anton Curnow (AC), Anne Elliott (AE), Bruce Ferrier (BF), Juliet Green (JG), Eric Hall (EH), Malu Hall (MTH), Gai Horrocks (GH), Mark Horton (MHn), Paul Innes (PI), Mark Jarvis (MJ), Bob Kemnitz (BK), Christine Killinger (CK), Stephen Measday, Robyn McAdam (RM), Paul McLaughlin (PL), Jenny McLaughlin (JM), Ann Niddrie (AN), Zita Robinson (ZR), Lyn Rodda (LR), Roza Sage (RSe), Robert Stock (RS), Sue Stones (SS), Bill Swan (WS), Kathy Vosper (KV), John Vosper (JV), Maree Wood (MNW).

Apologies:

Stephen Crump, Lui Friscioni, Jennifer Scott

#### **2. Minutes from the ordinary meeting March 13<sup>th</sup> 2014**

Item 7 of the previous minutes should have stated that Paul Innes would be paid 'up to' \$500.

Move acceptance - TC, seconded – BB.

Other matters arising from the previous minutes will be covered below.

#### **3. Correspondence - MJ**

Letter from Louise Markus about cutting of red tape.

John Todd (Penrith Small Biz) sent information about a tourism course which was emailed to members.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report - Bill Swan**

- Some membership fees were received this month.
- Invoices paid for Christmas performance, artwork, printing of raffle tickets and posters.
- Thank you gifts for Wines of the West - \$40 flowers and \$184.50 for wines.
- \$150 to Paul Innes for research into Katoomba's history.

- \$100 for training with NSW Business Chamber.
- Current bank balance **\$8235.84**
- Motion that Treasurer's Report be accepted - moved CK, seconded BF.
- MJ still to reconcile the Wines of the West monies.

## **5. Security Cameras – Michael Brischetto**

The first series of analogue cameras were installed in 2006. This new generation of IP cameras are vastly improved. They are digital, and each acts like a mini computer, with all the data sent to a central server. Even if connection to the server is lost the camera can continue recording for some hours.

The cameras record in a 360 degree radius, and the view can be split, moved around, zoomed etc. - all in real time. The quality is fantastic.

Seven have been rolled out so far around the hotel. The next three will be across Katoomba St - outside Theo Poulos, the ANZ, and the Savoy, and will talk to the Carrington server via a private Wi-Fi network. This will cover the whole top end.

Another bank of three will be installed outside Higgins and Higgins, and finally three at the Bendigo Bank which will provide coverage down to Fresh Café.

The best of the replaced analogue cameras will be deployed at the employment centre.

Eventually the data will be able to be sent wirelessly to the police, so they can monitor it while despatching someone. This will enhance their capabilities; especially at busy times, festivals etc.

There will eventually be 20 cameras. More will have to be purchased (\$750 each) to cover all the hot spots that the police would like covered. The Carrington has covered all the costs thus far, but as these new cameras cover the street in four directions, they represent excellent value. Each camera stores about a month's worth of footage, and the police usually ask within 10 days. Civic Place is owned by the BMCC and should they install cameras they could link back to this server.

MJ said that the KCCC will use some funds to purchase the next few cameras.

BF praised this fabulous initiative and example of community responsibility from the Carrington. This comment received a round of applause.

In the crime prevention plan the BMCC were negative about CCTV. When the council made The Carrington Hotel take down the lights and cameras in the easement to the Cultural Centre there was graffiti. MJ says the cameras will go back up!

## **6. Renaissance Centre Update – Michael Brischetto**

Creative industries are one of the areas of focus of the BMEE (8% of people who work in the mountains work in creative industries) and a university campus was identified as a great need, with the RC scoped as a possible site. However it was sold to a private buyer; he had no plans for it and was not in a position to settle. He then sought another three month settlement period and again couldn't settle, offering more money for more time to complete the purchase. He must settle by end of June and it doesn't look like he'll be able to.

The BMEE is still in discussions in the meantime, and have several educational institutions interested and ready to go. Quantum SAE, who specialise in training for digital media, website building, had committed \$1

million to the funding of a fit out.

This development could mean up to 1000 students at the RC each day. The impact on local businesses would be huge. We have half the number of young people in the mountains as the state average. This type of institution would keep young people here, and creative industries would especially suit us.

This might lead to other infrastructure, such as residential accommodation etc. It is a 4 acre site.

## 7. Graffiti Update – Tom Colless

The BMCC had an advertisement in the paper this week for people to register interest in graffiti removal programs.

TC feels there has been less graffiti since TC and MJ spoke to the MYST people.

TC and MJ will be out this Sunday as usual.

## 8. Stronger Family Alliance – Peter Carroll

PC gave a presentation about the Stronger Family Alliance (SFA). What makes a healthy community? Most of the problems are caused by poor childhood development. Different agencies try to help but don't work together so the overall impact is inadequate. Children need early brain stimulation. Society impacts on the community, the community impacts on the family, and the family on the child. Economically, the best 'bang for your buck' is money spent on early childhood education.

The SFA tries to breakdown the 'silo effect' between the agencies. It began in the BM in 2006, and is a network of 42 organisations and networks working together to improve the well-being and resilience of children, families and communities, including community services, civic organisations, businesses, networks and forums, local government (BMCC provides funding and a staff member), Dept. Education and Communities, 14 schools, health agencies, National Parks and Wildlife, and at the federal level through Centrelink and Medicare Local. PC has been involved from the beginning.

Managers come together and go through an 'appreciative enquiry' process, which is a structured, collaborative, ongoing process. The strategic plan launched in 2010.

- Part A involves strengthening families through neighbourhood service networks and training programs at school (School 'Hub' Program) after hours to combat social isolation, lack of school readiness and lack of referral to services.
- Part B involves moving children beyond vulnerability via a range of training programs for those implementing the programs. (BM Consortium Program).
- Part C involves creating a child-friendly community by addressing declining social capital, obesity, children withdrawing from public spaces, and includes the *Paint the Blue REaD* Program. This also involves ensuring that built environment and public spaces are child friendly.

What can the KCCC businesses do?

- Sponsor or support child-based activities – sports or community clubs etc.
- Provide a family and child-friendly space in your business – some toys in the corner. Positive images and experiences for children.

- Youth employment.
- Report child abuse or domestic violence.
- Pram-friendly entrances to shops.
- Healthy menu for children. Keep pester power products away from children at the counter.
- Advocate for child-friendly play areas and safe public transport, bike paths.
- Promote early childhood education and awareness.

There will be decals available for shops to display if they do some of these things and are a supporter of the SFA. Go to [www.strongerfamilies.co](http://www.strongerfamilies.co) for more information.

**9. KTC Public Meeting – Stephen Measday**

April 29<sup>th</sup> there is a vote at the BMCC. Stage 3 of the plan is about funds being allocated to convert the old library to a professional performance space. On Saturday at noon there will be a rally at the hall. Roza Sage will be speaking,

**10. ANZAC Centenary Project – MJ**

MJ reported that we have lodged an application for an ANZAC Grant. Funds are available for each electorate. Louise Markus is splitting the money between the Mountains and the Hawkesbury. We plan an avenue of flowering cherries on both sides of Lurline and Katoomba Streets. We are calling it the Katoomba ANZAC Memorial Walk.

PI has continued his research. He has a great book as a resource, which is continually being updated, written by Kenneth Marks. The book is \$25 - if anyone would a copy, PI can organise.

We should hear by June if we are successful. Thanks to PI for all his research.

A copy of the main part of our submission is attached in appendix A.

**11. Draft Crime Prevention Plan Submission – MJ**

Our submission emphasised the importance of CCTV, but also support of programs such as the Midnight Basketball, Rotary Movie Nights and the KTC Youth Theatre.

Hopefully BMCC will take our thoughts on board.

A copy of the submission is attached in Appendix B.

**12. Crime Update – Melissa Rosevear**

(apologies)

**13. Leura Harvest Festival – Anne Elliott**

Latest Slow Food bookmarks are now out.

CC told the meeting that the Leura Village Association has put in a lot of hard work, but crucial funding has fallen through, and that not enough stalls for the first year of this festival. They plan to officially cancel the festival, and will now plan for next year. Producers, suppliers etc. are all from within 100 miles, with the

Wolgan Valley head chef the patron.

Traffic management plans have just doubled in price and will have to be redone at a cost of \$5-6K. This is a huge cost on the planning budget. The RFS are no longer legally allowed to provide traffic management. Traffic management planning costs Winter Magic \$28K. The Leura Fair was \$3K. The money goes to the company that does the traffic management. The RFS not accredited even though they are trained in stop-go etc, so a professional company has to do it, even if they use RFS people as personnel.

#### 14. Other Business

- RSe – tomorrow the Opal card goes live on BM trains. Commuters can order and refresh online. The card is for full-fare paying customers at the moment. Will provide better statistics on who uses the trains, when and where. A really exciting development for BM commuters.

\$150K was given for promotions through Destination NSW and RSe presented some statistics which show that a lot of visits were generated as a result. Another \$200K will be rolled out, plus \$220K federal money.

RSe would like to hear what can be done for small businesses to make life easier. Not taxes or wages as they are not state concerns. Workcover premiums will come down as a result of changes the State Government has made.

- MNW took the opportunity to speak to RSe about the inadequate Yeomans Bridge. Some money is to be spent on maintenance but MNW asked why spend money on the sides of the bridge when it is inadequate? Gladys Berejiklian is in the mountains tomorrow. She was given a tour of the bridge when she was shadow minister. MNW asked to see if something could be done to draw it to her attention. Second bridge, new bridge – whatever – something needs to be done. Round of applause!!
- The royals will be here on the 17<sup>th</sup>. They will visit MIST. This will be wonderful exposure on a world-wide basis.
- RS the funding of \$500,000 for the bike track has come through. Work will start in September between the Explorers Tree and Mt Victoria, with the work to be finished in following year. MJ pointed out that we are the only LGA that doesn't currently have one.
- Congratulations to Eric Hall who recently celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. EH is a former treasurer of the KCCC and one of our longest serving members, he is now also our oldest. We shared a cake to celebrate this milestone.

**Meeting closed 8.14 pm**

**Next meeting Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 6.15pm – Carrington Library - all welcome.**

Signed by President, Mark Jarvis



Date 6/5/14

Minutes by Secretary, Vanessa Crump



## Appendix A – Submission to the ANZAC Centenary Grants Program

### KATOOMBA ANZAC MEMORIAL WALK

#### DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

*The Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community has long had as its mission a desire to improve the aesthetics of Katoomba & highlight the many historical contributions that our town has made at a local, state & national level.*

*We believe that the ANZAC Centenary Local Grants Program gives us a wonderful opportunity to achieve some of these goals.*

*Our proposed project would involve the planting of flowering cherry trees along both sides of Lurline Street, beginning just south of the Katoomba RSL Club & continuing right down to Echo Point (The Three Sisters). We would also repeat the same exercise along Katoomba Street, which runs parallel to Lurline Street. Both Lurline & Katoomba Streets are the main thoroughfares to the many attractions that lay along the escarpment & are extensively used by both motorised & pedestrian traffic. (see attached map – Annexure A). I have attached a copy of a letter from Blue Mountains City Council recommending that the flowering cherry be the most appropriate tree to be planted along these streets & meets with the council's approval. (Annexure B) The Three Sisters is one of the most visited tourist attractions outside of Sydney, if not the most visited. Many local & international tourists have often commented on the apparent lack of care of what is such a significant gateway to Echo Point.*

*At the base of each of these flowering cherry trees, it is proposed that a grate be placed, not only to protect the tree, but also to act as a base for a plaque that would detail one of the 298 men from Katoomba that enlisted in the Great War. The Katoomba Chamber has engaged the services of a local historian, Mr Paul Innes, a former teacher & historian, who currently conducts tours of the historic Carrington Hotel in Katoomba. Paul is also a resident of Katoomba.*

*What Paul has uncovered is nothing short of fascinating. His research has revealed that not only did 298 men enlist, but many other activities occurred such as the Coo-ee March in November 1915. Paul's preliminary findings are attached. (Annexure C)*

*We envisage that the plaque would have the Australian Government logo as detailed on this application at the top of the plaque & then describe the WW1 servicemen that served from Katoomba. An example would be – "Robert Henry Church"*

*Born Katoomba 15 March 1894  
Former congenial barman at the Carrington Hotel  
Member of the 41<sup>st</sup> (Blue Mountains) Infantry  
Died of wounds at Gallipoli - 1915  
Sponsored by : The Church Family*

*I have also attached extracts of a book that Paul has located called "History of Katoomba Soldiers World War One" by Kenneth W Marks (Annexure D). I have included Appendix B which details the World War One Nominal Roll & has been a wonderful source of the information required for the plaques. There is a section devoted to "The Gully Men – Aboriginal Soldiers" & this fact would be highlighted on any plaques that detailed an aboriginal serviceman.*

*This project has generated so much interest in our town that the chamber believes that there would be genuine interest from many Katoomba residents in sponsoring a tree & accompanying plaque. To this end, if successful, the chamber would conduct an information evening & advertise the project in the local press. To date, the 50-60 people I have spoken to have shown total enthusiasm in parting with \$150 each towards the project. I understand that saying one thing & actually following through can be quite different, but there has been unanimous support from chamber members that we should encourage members of the public, especially relatives of ex-servicemen, to participate in this project & we would give it our "all".*

*The final piece of the project would be to have an honour roll, either located in or near the RSL, which is at the beginning of the walk, summarising the men that served, utilising the logo of the grants program & an acknowledgement of the funding provided by the Federal Government. While there has been in principle support for this, a final location has not yet been decided.*

*We envisage that this project will be staged over a couple of years. However, the costings and quotes included in this submission are based on 150 trees being planted, which we believe will have a significant & positive impact on the streetscape.*

## Appendix B – Crime Prevention Plan Submission

After reading the Draft Crime Prevention Plan (DCPP) it is rather disturbing reading about the high drinking rates & acts of malicious damage committed by 10-17 year olds.

This indicates that there is not enough to keep this age group fully occupied & a lot of the emphasis of the plan should be directed in both encouraging & policing this group.

This also highlights that the major problem is with those juveniles that **cannot** get into the pubs and clubs. A lot of the plan talks about towns where there are public houses. Your own research shows that while these 10-17 year olds are drawn to the pubs and clubs, their inability to gain entry leads them to commit the damage that plagues especially those towns that do have licensed premises.

The Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community believe that there are a multiple of measures that can help these current poor statistics.

Firstly, the installation of CCTV cameras. We cannot agree with the statement in 2.1 (Local Crime Profile) that there is limited success in using CCTV as a crime prevention tool. It is interesting to note that there has been no evidence provided to support this claim and it appears that BMCC have decided to take a rather negative position on CCTV, even though acknowledging in the draft that they have no cameras installed in public places. We agree that some overseas studies show that CCTV cameras have had little impact, but as this is a plan for Katoomba, we recommend that this plan should reflect our experience in **this** town.

It is virtually unanimous amongst retailers & landlords that since the original CCTV installation that there has been a marked decrease in malicious damage, especially broken windows in Katoomba Street. In fact, as recently as last week, the police have made a request for us to install cameras in the Civic Square area outside the new Coles shopping precinct to counter the recent spike in crime that has occurred mainly on council property, and has also had a detrimental effect on the neighbouring retailers. The local police have been quoted in the Gazette as stating how the cameras have helped in reducing malicious damage. We are constantly providing footage to police that have resulted in positive outcomes, whether that is a prosecution, or word has gotten out that “there are cameras in the street”. This has occurred on occasions too numerous to detail here.

We therefore recommend the installation of cameras whenever and where ever possible. We are acutely aware that there is a lack of funds, but state and federal grants often do become available.

The chamber also supports initiatives such as the Midnight Basketball competition & other like events.

The installation of murals has also had a very positive effect in reducing graffiti. Our experience to date indicates that where murals have been placed on empty walls, there has been no or very little malicious damage. To date BMCC through MYST have been active in getting murals in some parts of our town & we believe that this is generally a good thing. However, BMCC should always be aware that the artistic taste of the younger mural artists can differ considerably from the tastes of the wider community, and we therefore would encourage murals more in the style of the Hazelbrook underpass or the bus shelter in Waratah Street & in Leura.

We also believe that BMCC should continue to financially support this chamber (a very small impost), in removing graffiti when it does occur. These actions have greatly reduced graffiti in our town & given that Katoomba is primarily a tourism based economy, it is even more important that this task continue.

These points are the main thrust of our argument. I would be happy to discuss with anyone in BMCC any points that may need further clarification.

Mark Jarvis  
President  
Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community