



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.

Annual Subscription fees for membership of the Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community are just \$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 CittaSlow Katoomba Blue Mountains www.cittaslow.org.au

NEXT MEETING – 11th April 2013

Ordinary Meeting opened at 6.20pm, at The Library, Carrington Hotel, Katoomba.

1. Attendance and Apologies

Present: 14th March 2013

Belle Buttrose (BB), Bill Swan (WS), Bruce Ferrier (BF), Lui Friscioni (LFr), Marie Wood (MW), Robert Stock (RS), Vanessa Crump (VC), Robyn Parker (RP), Juliet Green (JG), Anton Curnow (AC), Shane Desiatnik (SD), Carole Box (CB), Harry Box (HB), Yvonne Hellmers (YH), Jason Grey (JG), Ray Robinson (RR), Renée Lumpkin (RL), Rob Hartman (RH), Sue Hartman (SH), Michelle Ryan (MR), Roxie, Halin Nieuwenhuys (NH), Karim Rizkalla (KR), Paul Cashel (PC), Shane Wainwright (SW), Iain Everinstow (IE), Zita Robinson (ZR).

Apologies:

Mark Jarvis, Michael Brischetto, Stephen Crump, Janet Cahill, Nerolie Stodart, Christine Killinger, Guy Fordy, Nick Varkas, Chrissie Thompson, Louise Florence

2. Minutes from the previous ordinary meeting February 14th 2013

No amendments. Moved accepted (CB), seconded (BF).

MWood pointed out that in the previous minutes she had indicated she might organise a letterbox drop at Echo Point. She has decided that this might be ignored as 'junk mail' and so will write a letter to the Gazette instead. Marie suggested others might like to do the same as it would be nice to get properties looking good before May.

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

3. Correspondence

Update from Waltons re Woolworths work. *The email is attached in Appendix 1.*

4. Treasurer's Report – Bill Swan

Last month:

- The income from the Wines of the West was banked (approx. \$8 500).
- \$150 was received in membership fees
- \$798.40 was paid for the garlands
- \$590 was paid for ads in the Gazette
- \$500 was paid for the mural restoration
- \$3011.25 was paid as a 50% deposit on the Katoomba jute bags

The balance is \$5405.34

Moved accepted (BF), seconded (RS).

5. Katoomba Bags – Vanessa Crump

The bags have been ordered and a 50% deposit paid.

The changes suggested in the last meeting were incorporated into the design.

We should have them in time for Winter Magic.

An image of the artwork is attached in Appendix 2.

6. Cigarette Bins – Vanessa Crump

Suggestions are sought as to where to mount the four butt bins we have purchased.

Potential sites include outside the toilet block in Studleigh Place, at the old library end of Civic Place and outside Coles. We will provide the bin if they agree to empty it.

If any potential sites that are noticed, please email MJ or VC.

BF showed a photo of a very stylish bin (incorporating a cigarette butt disposal unit) used by North Sydney Council. BF will email the photo to VC.

7. St Kilda's Anglican Church - Ray Robinson

RR spoke about how the opening of the entrance has made the church more visible and welcoming. The cost of the refurbishment was \$210K (raised by the congregation) and they had received a \$50K grant for the government to add a disability accessible toilet.

RR hopes to see the church used more as a community facility and they are hoping to open the church during the week to the community – perhaps as a source of tourist information. St Hilda's already has an arts program running, including fringe events as part of the music festival. 1200 people visited the recent art exhibition.

The Bell Ringers Association contacted RR and expressed an interest in seeing the bell tower. Fundraising has commenced, including £1300 from an association in England. Three bells have been donated from a fort in England.

This could become a tourist attraction and something for the community to enjoy. A bell ringing

group, for example, could chime the bells at 12 noon every day. RR has applied for the bell tower restoration to be part of the bicentennial project, in order to access community funds. The bells could be named after the explorers.

Eight bells are needed for an octave, but 4 for a peal. Six will be installed with the facility to upgrade to 8. An engineer's report has been prepared, and a DA will be put in to BMCC. The bell tower will be refurbished with a circular internal staircase. Level 1 will have the bells, level 2 could have historical information and level 3 be a viewing platform.

RR's proposal was greeted with enthusiastic applause. RS pledged the support of the KCCC.

8. Katoomba Christian Convention - Renée Lumpkin

RL spoke about how 18 000 to 20 000 people visit the centre each year. The centre is independently owned, interdenominational and has been in ministry for 110 years. They exist on donations. The KCC is a 30 acre site with 17 meeting rooms, 4 dining rooms, 2 lounges, a 100 seat cinema and an auditorium with 2300 seats. Four full time staff work at the centre, including a property manager, a chef and an administrator. They are looking for a Youth Camping Coordinator – this will be a position for a local person.

The KCC used to have a great connection to the community, but it dropped off. RL would like to see them get more involved. She has met with the Mayor and they held a very successful Open Day last year. The KICK Youth Convention will be helping to clean up the community – this has been organised with the Mayor. They have also made donations to the community including \$5000 to St Hilda's (feeding the homeless), \$10 000 to BMCC (Family Alliance accommodation project) and some to the Salvation Army.

RL met with MJ about ways to get the delegates up and into the town – there is potential to develop a delegate card with discounts for coffee, meals etc.

The centre runs Curriculum Camps which involve Years 5 – 12. They partner with Scenic World, go abseiling and show The Edge movie. 900 students a year attend these 3 day camps. 2400 people are attending a convention over Easter.

RL has worked at KCC for 6 months. She oversees the marketing operations. Any suggestions or ideas are welcome. RL can be contacted at renee.lumpkin@kcc.org.au.

9. Project Announcement - Yvonne Hellmers

YH announced at project of the Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute (BMWHI) which will involve all residents.

During the 2011 fires, the RFS had thousands of hits on its website about fire plans and was sending texts to people saying 'implement your fire plan'. YH's home was near the fires and she realised the logistical problems of evacuating disabled and elderly people, pets, children who were at school had to know not to go home etc.

On Sunday 2nd June, all residents will be invited to The Edge cinema to see a free film. There will be several sessions throughout the afternoon. The film, "Community Fire Stories – a lesson in time", is currently in production. It focusses on the 1957 Leura fires, where 170 homes and businesses were destroyed. The community were totally ill-prepared and the damage makes it one of the worst fire

events. In the film, survivors (including Tom Colless) give their first hand stories and archival footage is used.

The film is 20 minutes long, and after viewing the film, the RFS and other agencies will be on hand to discuss plans. It is hoped people will then go home and prepare a proper plan. Being in a suburban street is no protection from the possibility of fire and it is not a question of *if*, rather *when*.

The film will be promoted in the Gazette and various survivor stories will be published in the paper each week in the lead up. Katoomba and Leura PS will also be involved. The BMWHI website will also have details.

MWood pointed out that detail about the safe evacuation points is not easy to obtain. PC said that the same question had come up at the Glenbrook Chamber and that he would forward the information, however it is a fluid thing because it depends on the nature of the fire emergency.

10. KTC Update – Belle Buttrose

Wolli & Po is to be held over the Easter weekend in the Ballroom and tickets are on sale on the day at the door. The Turning Leaf autumn play reading season has begun and will take place in the Carrington Library.

The National Cultural Policy was announced yesterday, and states that original Australian works will have priority for new funds. It is pleasing that eight new works have been prepared by BM writers for the KTC.

The BMCC has yet to put out to tender the refurbishment of the old library. The BMCC is to make good the building, and the KTC will do the fit out, including the toilets. It is estimated that it will cost \$500K to fix the building and \$250K to do the fit out. It is planned to be completed at the start of 2014.

The seminar rooms in the Cultural Centre will shortly be used for youth drama classes. Ita Buttrose, as patron of the KTC, will launch the Youth Theatre the day after a fundraising dinner (including a Q and A session) at the Carrington on Friday 2nd August. Tickets are \$135 a head with corporate and group tables available.

11. Cleaning update – Tom Colless

TC was not present.

VC reported that Nick Varkas, Phil Hammon, Tom Colless and Mark Jarvis turned up to the Australia Day Clean up. Not much was accomplished with the awful weather but Nick's youth and energy was particularly appreciated!

12. General business

BF spoke about the Hole Dollar project. The KCCC is sponsoring the coins for Katoomba North PS, the Carrington is covering Katoomba HS, Scenic World is sponsoring Katoomba PS and Waratah Music School and Toderollos are jointly covering St Canices. It is terrific that all the Katoomba schools are fully subscribed.

Thanks to Eric and Malu Hall who donated \$200 to the KCCC as a contribution towards our

sponsorship of Katoomba North PS.

BF reminded us that without Phil Hammon and Tom Colless underwriting the project, the explorer statues project would not be happening. The Chambers of Commerce in each of the villages are involved, but there are personal and business subscriptions available to go on the plinths.

The brochures for these bicentennial projects are attached to the newsletter.

BF showed us the 1813 decals which have begun appearing all over traffic poles and light poles. Decals for stores to put on their windows are available (free) from the Bendigo Bank or from Biznet.

Retailers on Katoomba St were emailed to see if they would be interested in purchasing coins to sell.

The flyover was mentioned in the Australian during the week – good publicity.

14. KCCC Accounts and Records System – Bill Swan

WS demonstrated the system he has designed and built.

This enduring system should overcome the problems which occur in organisations such as ours every time there is a change in the committee.

All details of income, outgoings, membership and personal details are centralised in a system accessible to any of the committee and executive via secure logins. It is internet accessible and will be a really useful package.

This demonstration was greatly warmly by all.

Meeting closed 7.45 pm

Next meeting Thursday 11th April 6.15pm – Carrington Library - all welcome.

Signed by Acting President Robert Stock..... Date

Minutes by Vanessa Crump, Secretary

Appendix 1 – Update re Woolies Project

From: Daniel Deregowski [mailto:danield@waltonconstruction.com.au] **Sent:** Tuesday, 26 February 2013 1:51 PM **To:** Mark Jarvis **Cc:** Billp@waltonconstruction.com.au **Subject:** RE: Chamber of Commerce - Site Progress Report - 26.02.13

Hi Mark,

Following on from Steve's email I just wanted to add further for your information of upcoming activities:

1. Staff change

a. Steve Ziazaris has moved onto another project within the company and the new Project Manager is Bill Plant

2. Pre-cast panels

a. As you may have already noticed precast panel removal is well underway with the crane moving to Waratah St over the next few days. Feedback from nearby residents has been positive due to the minimal disruptions – your experience?

3. Basement carpark closure

a. Due to upcoming construction activities and recent safety concerns the carpark will be shut from March 1st from 6pm till sometime in May

b. Construction reasons - Carpark requires to be closed due to excessive noise, dust, and the potential hazard of falling debris

c. Safety reasons – we have recently been broken into by vandals with approx \$20,000 worth of copper stolen. They gained access by ram raiding our perimeter fence. The police are aware of the site and do have regular patrols of undercover officers

d. The local shop keepers/works all currently park in the basement due to no time restrictions and all voiced concern that once the carpark is closed where would they park. I have passed this information onto council and they have confirmed that there is adequate unrestricted car parking available in the locality (such as Lurline Street north of Waratah, the lower level of car parking at Studleigh Place off Katoomba Street, the western side of Parke Street north of Waratah, Waratah between Cascade & Parke)

Can you please provide some feedback to items 2a, 3a and 3d?

I don't have your number, only email – please give me a call if you would like to discuss further.

Kind Regards,

Daniel Deregowski | Site Administrator

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Appendix 2 – Artwork for Jute Bags

