

NEWSLETTER

*A Merry Christmas
and Happy New year to
all Members*



STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Committee of Management are representing the Association on an 8 week course of Strategic Planning with Dr. Bruce Watson of Heads Together, a Professional Group in this field highly recommended to us by other users of their services including a number of other local groups and some associated with the Hobsons Bay City Council and other Councils around Melbourne, the costs involved are funded by a Grants from Councillors Tony Briffa and John Hogg with the balance from money raised from Calendar Sales.

The importance and benefits of this course is becoming more apparent as members must realise that detailed planning needs to take place if we are to continue successfully.

This type of future planning and training is becoming more necessary as volunteer groups and Associations such as ours seek Grants and

Funding from Councils, Financial Institutions and the Corporate world.

Heads Together act as Facilitators in order to allow groups such as ours to find the way towards a successful plan for the future.

The purpose of the Association must be clear and this includes to be accessible to the public and to educate, promote, collect and preserve past and contemporary history for people interested in the cultural life of Altona, Laverton and surrounding areas.

This will be of benefit to members and potential members.

The strategic plan is still in a draft format but should soon be complete and ready for implementation.



We do what we say we will do



Expulsion of A Member has been necessary

It has unfortunately become necessary to take the action of expelling a member and Past President Bob Richardson as from the 2nd November 2010.

This action has not been taken lightly by the Committee of Management who were placed into office at the July 2010 Annual general meeting.

Members must be aware that the Association is required at all times to carry out its legal duties under the Associations Incorporations Act.

Activities

On Sunday the 21st November the Homestead was open to coincide with the Community Safety event held in Logan Reserve and organised by the Retail Traders Association and the Police Community Consultative Committee.

President Peter and members Ann and Francis were on duty for the day and reported that it was a successful day with 75 people entering the Homestead during the day as visitors.

Members Sharon and Kim were also involved in the general overall planning of the event and thank you to new member Frances, Ann and Peter for opening and manning the Homestead between 12 and 5 p.m.

Events Calendar

A copy of the Events Calendar is attached please refer to the forthcoming events during December 2010

Including - Carols by Candlelight Sunday 12th (the Homestead will be open and available to Carols By Candlelight participants for changing etc.)

A Christmas Celebration Thursday will be held on Thursday 16th at Koorinal Golf Club 6.30 p.m., this is a pay your own way event, and it is recommended that you choose and order your meal early to avoid the rush on what will be a busy time at the Golf Club

Remember members are required to assist in filling rostered opening times, or for other activities from time to time to assist the Association and spread the work load.

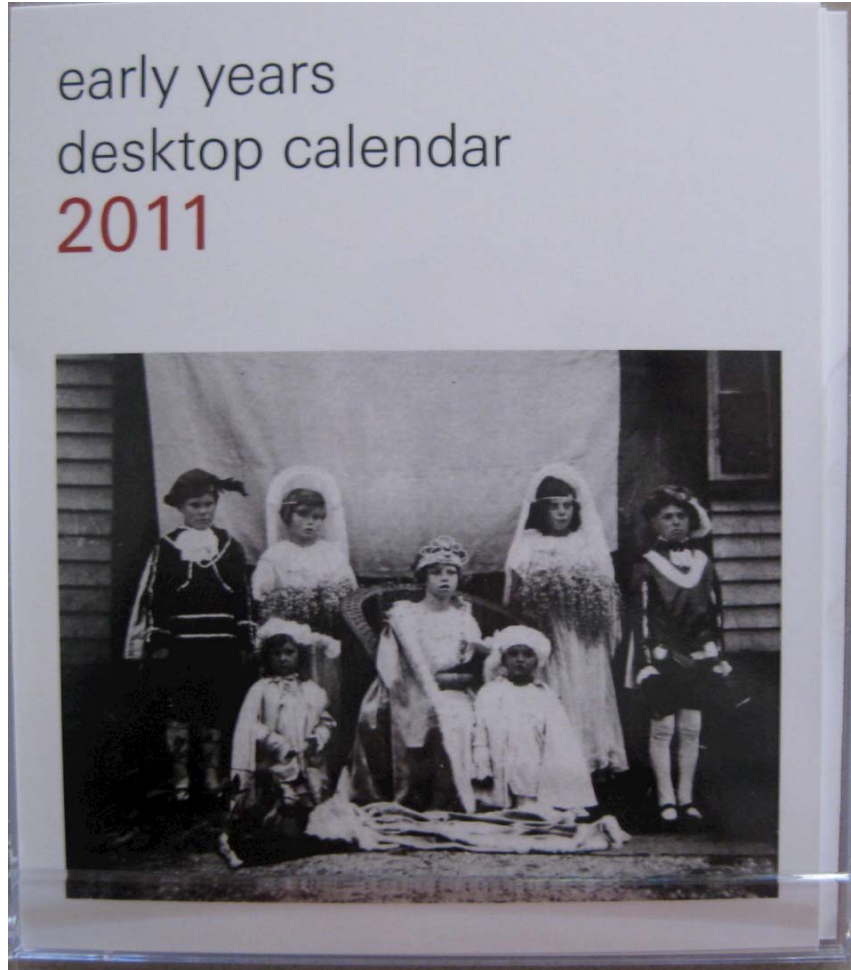
Merchandise

With the excellent work of Carol Winfield Calendars for 2011 are now available at a cost of \$15, and with her permission funds raised will be used to cover the cost of the balance of the amount involved in the Strategic Planning operations with Dr. Bruce Watson.

ALTONA LAVERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Calendars are \$15 and available from
Carol Winfield on 0414 742 686
cazw@dodo.com

ALL proceeds go to the Altona Laverton
Historical Society



Bendigo Bank - Community Grant

The Bendigo Bank through its Altona, Laverton, Altona Meadows and Point Cook Community Grants Program has awarded a Grant of \$3378.43 to the Society under their Grants Program for the provision of a number of Light weight Folding Chairs for use within the Homestead, and they would be available for similar community groups in the area who may have need of the use of them from time to time.

The chairs have been ordered and due to the heavy demand on the products for use in Schools and similar institutions the delivery date can not be

guaranteed until later in January 2010.

President Peter Weaver accepted the cheque as part of the Grants presentation at the recent Annual General Meeting of the Bendigo Bank Foundation, in Laverton.

The Association is grateful for the Grant, as information on the night indicated that a large number of Grant Applications were made with only a few being successful in receiving the amounts requested.

Altona, Laverton/Altona Meadows and Point Cook **Community Bank**® branches

Altona, Laverton, Altona Meadows & Point Cook Community Grants Program

Grant Recipient Altona Laverton Historical Society Inc.
Project Name Provision of Light Weight Folding Chairs
Amount Awarded \$3,378.43

Thanks for being an important part of our community

The Altona, Laverton, Altona Meadows & Point Cook Community Grants Program is a managed account of Community Enterprise™ Charitable Fund, Community Enterprise™ Foundation ABN 62-624 230 538, Community Enterprise™ Charitable Fund
888 12 122 842 955, The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo, VIC, 3550, (02) 151 42 42 (24/7) (2010)

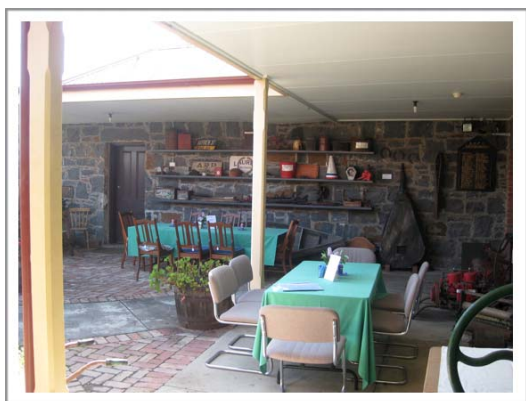
Community Enterprise Foundation™

Bendigo Bank

EVENTS AND VISITS

The Society has had a number of visits from Probus Groups, Haunt the Homestead events and an open day for the Community Safety event held in Logan Reserve.

As part of the one Probus visits a light morning tea was provided, and paid for by the visitors, photos attached show the attractive lay out of the provisions and the courtyard setting



MEMBER KIM WALSH ACTS AS TOUR GUIDE

Pictured below member Kim Walsh acts as host and introduces visiting Probus members to Altona, at

the Homestead and entertains them with tales of Altona, its residents and the

pleasures of the Bus Tour to come.

The visitors then had a walk through of the Homestead and



The following article is reproduced with the kind permission of Dr Bruce Watson of Heads Together and was written by him.

It serves as a reminder that we as a Volunteer Group need to show due respect one to the other at all times if we are to continue in a harmonious manner.

Civility in a cynical age.

I love to hear a choir. I love the humanity to see the faces of real people devoting themselves to a piece of music. I like the teamwork. It makes me feel optimistic about the human race when I see them cooperating like that. (Paul McCartney, 1942-, British Pop Star, Composer, Member of "Beatles")

Union gives strength. (Aesop 620-560 BC, Greek Fabulist)

I have a deepening frustration with the current tone of many conversations and debates. A growing incapacity for people to deal with a broad range of problems is largely attributable to the destructive ways in which issues are being addressed. People need to be able to raise tough questions and present their cases when important interests are being questioned. Avoiding the tough issues because they are unpleasant to address simply means the problems remain to surface another day. I often think we need to take stock that thoughtful and caring people may have very different views on how best to address their group's, community's or business's many complex problems.

Constructive dialogue and debate needs to focus on solutions which are most likely to be successful, and not upon personal attacks levelled by adversaries against one another - even though that is what we are pervasively indoctrinated with by television programs, movies and sporting events. When this is not done, conflicts tend to escalate to a point where key decisions are not made on the merits of challenging approaches or strategies. In my work I have often seen adults proceed into group dialogue on the basis of very inaccurate (and usually unjustifiably evil) images of the interests, positions, and actions of other people without even testing for the facts. A more civil approach would lean towards all players making an honest and continuing effort to understand the views and reasoning of their opponents and avoiding personal attacks. Any group, community or business needs to condemn the deliberate distortion of information and the presentation of unbalanced views as unacceptable. Also, to realise that personal attacks usually signal that something else is under the surface, probably best exposed and dealt with.

We have all, more than likely, witnessed a destructive confrontational escalation, when unintentional or intentional provocations result in even bigger counter-provocations in an intensifying cycle, that transforms a dialogue or debate into one in which mutual loathing becomes the primary motive. We tend to live in an age where winning at all costs is the done thing for some misguided self-esteem. What ultimately is achieved or achievable in such conditions? Wherever possible, the parties should try to look at the particular issue in ways which change win-lose confrontations into win-win opportunities. In cases where this is not possible, the parties might need to recognise the democratic processes and legal institutions that exist to make the tough decisions and break a stalemate. That done, it is time to move on - not produce yet another backlash.

Some broadly acceptable principles of fairness determined at the start of a dialogue or debate, which all group members have an interest in supporting, will at least provide a framework and help to avoid purely selfish objectives getting a grip. One crucial element of civility is recognition by all that it is possible that they are wrong and that the suggestions put before them are better. This entails an obligation to seriously consider the arguments made by opponents and to carefully try to explain and justify one's own objections.

The best ways to produce stable, long-term change is through exchange in which the parties negotiate mutually beneficial win-win trade-offs. Basic civility requires that any issues are addressed by a fair process in appearance and fact. Useful and binding decisions can only be made on the basis of substantive arguments, and assertively dealing upfront with advocates of the status quo who try and introduce endless procedural delays which prevent moving forward. Appointing an experienced, external facilitator has been shown to help address many of the issues briefly described here.

Cash Flow Report
Altona Laverton Historical Society

Cashflow for Periods Jul:2010/11 to Nov:2010/11

Opening Balance for all banks (excl. unbanked)		11,304.43
CASH IN		
1	Member Fee	615.00
10	Calendar Sales	60.00
11	Bank Interest	94.60
12	Hire of Homestead	250.00
13	Bendigo Bank Grant	3,378.43
2	Book Sales	470.00
3	Admissions	816.90
4	Donation	10.00
5	Calendar Sales	825.00
6	Bleriot Dinner	2,535.00
7	Ghost Hunt	705.00
8	Post Cards	9.00
9	Dept of Justice	70.10
Total cash in		9,839.03
CASH OUT		
50	Association Membership	0.00
51	Stamps	118.65
52	Stationery	53.12
53	Misc Purchases	630.02
54	Printer Supplies	21.85
55	Photocopying	30.00
56	Laminating	1.50
57	Sandwiches	266.00
58	Bleriot Dinner Expenses	2,524.60
59	Strategic Plan Program	2,464.00
60	Refund of Member Fee	15.00
61	Petty Cash	100.00
Total cash out		6,224.74
Total cashflow for all banks		3,614.29
Calculated Closing Balance for all banks		14,918.72
Ledger Closing Balance for all banks		14,918.72

The Cash flow report indicates amounts received and paid out from the 1st July up to the 30th November 2010. The amount of \$3378.43 being the Bendigo Bank Grant will be paid to the suppliers of the furniture during December 2010 and the equipment will be delivered as soon as possible probably during January 2011. The cash total also includes the Investment Account held with the Bendigo Bank.

Events Calendar 2010 & 2011

Members

2010		
December		
12	Sunday	Carols by Candlelight 8-10pm Homestead open 7-8pm
14	Tuesday	Point Cook Friendship Group – time TBA Members Night 7.30pm Guest Speaker – Anthony Ang
16	Thursday	ALHS Christmas celebratory dinner 6.30pm Koorungal Golf Club
2011		
January		
2	Sunday	Homestead open 2-4pm (Truganina Explosives Reserve closed)
15	Saturday	3pm Wedding in courtyard
18	Tuesday	General Meeting 7.30pm
26	Wednesday	Australia Day – Homestead open
28	Friday	Haunt the Homestead
February		
6	Sunday	Homestead open 2-4pm (Truganina Explosives Reserve closed)
15	Tuesday	Members Night 7.30pm (speaker TBA)
25	Friday	Haunt the Homestead
March		
6	Sunday	Homestead open 2-4pm Truganina Explosives Reserve open 12noon-3pm
15	Tuesday	General Meeting 7.30pm
19 or 20?	Saturday or Sunday	Altona Beach Festival (replacing Bayside Festival) <i>Date to be confirmed</i>

Queries

Contact ALHS Secretary, Ann Cassar 0419 370 935, alhs@optusnet.com.au