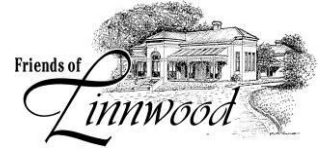


President: Dorothy Warwick  
Treasurer: John McKenna  
Secretary: Helen Olde



## **Minutes of Public Meeting Held on Sunday 21 May 2017 Venue: Linnwood, Byron Road, Guildford**

### **Welcome & Apologies**

John McKenna opened the meeting at 2.05pm and welcomed everyone to today's meeting, with a special welcome to our guest speaker, Goran Terzic.

### *In Attendance at today's meeting, as per the Attendance Sheet:*

Helen Olde, Pat O'Brien, Dorothy Warwick, Kevin Horne, Bev Clohessy, John McKenna, Margaret Grace, Goran Terzic, Margreet Leeftink, Pamela Zopf, Michael Griggs, Roland Zopf, Olive Wicks, Vanessa McNeill, Greg Cummings, Debbie Cummings, Cassandra Graham, Margaret Warn, Mervyn Mitchell, Milan Terzic, Gwen Terzic, Ken Morrissey, Kaye Weaver.

### *Apologies:*

Pam Richardson, Coral Hamilton, John & Elizabeth Brodie, Leah Armstrong, Sue Evans, Judith Moller, Angela Caire, Christine McKenna, Peter Warwick, Jill Finch.

### **Confirmation of Minutes of Public Meeting held on Sunday 12 February 2017**

The meeting confirmed the minutes of the Public Meeting held in February.

*(The Secretary would like to remind members that motions can only be moved and seconded by members who actually attended the previous meeting, which is why it is important to sign the attendance sheet - otherwise your name won't be recorded in the minutes. Thank you.)*

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

### **Correspondence**

The Secretary passed around the Correspondence book.

### **President's Report**

Good afternoon and welcome ....

Special welcome to our guest speaker Goran – I'm sure we are all looking forward to his presentation on Greystanes House – one of the 'grand' houses of our area, which is unfortunately no longer in existence.

We had another successful Open Day in March with The Old Car Social Club and the Morgan Owners Club displaying some classic old cars on the front lawn. Our Open Days are becoming very popular with the car clubs – we already have a booking for next March by the Isuzu Car Club of Australia, and have now confirmed the Mustang Car Club for September – having a 'Show and Shine' day with us, and also inviting the Camaro and Corvette car clubs as well. Talk about American muscle cars! July will see the American Independent Car Clubs back again and November is looking like being a BIG day with the Rolls Royce and Bentley car clubs joining with many other car and motor bike clubs for the Trevor Thomas Day, which is becoming an annual event. Lots of things to look forward to – not to mention the stalls and exhibitions in the house each time! We will be hiring outdoor amenities for each Open Day, as they seemed to work quite well last time – and it takes some pressure off the bathrooms inside the house.

We have entered our July Open Day into Cumberland Council's 'Locale Festival' in July – showcasing "Stories of the People and Places of Cumberland" – so keep your eye out for the promotional material for that event – there will be lots of events on during the Festival – and it will be a great way to spread the word about our Open Day throughout the whole Cumberland LGA.

I had a meeting with two Council staff members earlier in the month and can confirm that the Council has accepted a tender for the roof works and will be providing the balance of funds to cover the difference between the grant money and the quote. This is great news – we have been waiting a long time to have the **whole** roof repaired – and it's finally going to happen!!!!!! A programme of works will be organised and I believe that they will work around our Open Day dates, so that we can still keep them going.

You may remember that at the last meeting I showed some photos that had been donated by a former Lynwood Hall girl and that she had also sent us some slides. Well, thanks to member Julie Amos, who kindly offered to convert the slides to photos, I can show you some of the photos. They are lovely colour photos and a couple of them are quite significant, in that they show the position of the school room which was on the northern side of the house. We are very grateful to Nell for donating these photos to us.

We were asked once again to display some of our artefacts from the World War I era, for a display in the Council foyer at Merrylands, as part of the ANZAC Remembrance activities, so if you haven't seen it yet, please go and have a look – it will be there until the end of this month. The display will give you an idea of some of the items that have been donated to us – and it is surprising just how many items we have from that era – so thanks must go to all those members of the Friends and the local community who donated those precious items to us.

Well, I think that's about all the news I have – shortest Report ever! Please stay and enjoy Goran's presentation and then stay and have some afternoon tea with us. Thank you.

**Update on Cumberland Council**

Greg Cummings, Councillor on the former Holroyd City Council, updated the meeting on Cumberland Council matters, including waste removal services and employees. The first anniversary of the council mergers was acknowledged by Council which held a celebratory function at Merrylands Oval. Those against the merger held a wake. Greg and his wife Debbie then left the meeting for another engagement.

**Treasurer's Report**

John McKenna then gave the Treasurer's report for the months of February, March and April 2017.

Opening Bank Balance: \$48,230.92

	<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
February	30.54		460.00	incl \$150 BBQ refurbishment
March	3,469.21 (Open day)		2,593.46	incl \$300 new gazebo and \$800 portable toilets hire
April	2.00 (Interest)		456.00	Public Liability insurance
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,501.75</b>		<b>3,509.96</b>	
Loss of \$8.21				

Closing Bank Balance: \$48,432.06

Total bank balances and cash on hand	\$71,764.71
Current liabilities	Nil
Total Income YTD to April	\$14,504.47
Total Expenditure YTD to April	\$ 8,728.09
<b>Profit</b>	<b>\$ 5,776.38</b>

Seconded by Pam Zopf. The meeting accepted the Treasurer's report.

**Guest Speaker**

John introduced our guest speaker Goran Terzic who will share his research on the now demolished Greystanes House. Goran's family came to Australia from England in 1970 and settled in Greystanes. He became curious about the house from attending Greystanes High School. The school's front fence is made with bricks from the house.

Goran showed aerial photographs of the land c.1950's, and road maps from 1926 and 1943 showing the house. Also architectural floor plans from the 1930's. The house had 20ft high ceilings and covered 1,120 sq.metres. A 1927 series of black & white photos showed the gatehouse, and views through the house to the stables.

There were various eras of the house as it changed hands many times:

- 1836-1865 Nelson Simmons Lawson, third son of William Lawson, acquired the piece of land from his father.
- 1865-1868 Richard Cox – made a name for himself with the vineyards he set up on the land.

- 1868-1875 Walter Lamb – famous for horses and establishing his shorthorn cattle stud. His pride and joy was ‘Imperial Purple’, a 2,252lbs (1,022kgs) bull which sired 34 progenies which were sold at 100 guineas each.
- 1870 Land had been cultivated for 60 years and a large blue metal deposit was found.
- 1875-1881 Fitzwilliam Wentworth – imported and liberated Yellow Hummerbirds on behalf of the NSW Zoological Society.
- 1881-1884 Wetherill era.
- 1884-1898 Arthur F Smart – member of the Sydney Hunt Club which chased hares around the estate. He offered champagne lunches after the hunting. The club still exists today. Arthur’s wife Augusta Smart took over the estate in 1892 after his death from a riding accident.
- 1898 Philip Charley purchased the estate for £13,000. He was one of the “BHP Seven”, a syndicate formed in 1883. He was on the Board of Directors of Prospect Hill Metal Supply Co in 1913.
- 1910-1922 Dr Stewart McKay – senior surgeon at Lewisham Hospital – examined Phar Lap’s head in 1936. He performed surgery at the hospital in the morning and then travelled to the house, unless an opera or theatre production was being held in the city. He complained about the state of the roads as they were “not good for steady surgeons’ hands”. He entertained theatre guests at the house, including Dame Nellie Melba – he even examined her mouth and said she kept herself in good health.
- 1922 Dr McKay moved out and it is believed a variety of renters and caretakers moved in over the ensuing years.

Philip Charley auctioned the house in December 1936 and died in 1937. He was known as the father of the Hawkesbury District Agricultural Society.

The house seems to have been abandoned from now on. In 1938 there was a movement to save the house, but Holroyd Council refused to buy it. It was purchased by NSW Blue Metal in February 1940 for £30,000. A radio program on 2GB on 19 May 1940, “These Old Homes”, gave a description of the house even though it was not in good shape.

In 1942, the Department of the Interior took over the land and set up an army camp. When they left, the house had been vandalised beyond repair and was demolished in 1946.

As local members would know, that whole area became the very large Greystanes Quarry for many years, and is now the suburb of Pemulwy.

**General Business**

Ken Morrissey advised that when he was a Holroyd Councillor he stopped the removal of an historic tree, thought to be One Tree Hill on the former Greystanes House estate. He also showed a framed sketch of Greystanes House by Mavis Turner – it is a prized possession.

Helen Olde advised that a friend, Ruth Mackenzie, has donated four old door stoppers from her mother’s house. They need a bit of a clean but they will be nice to have in the rooms, rather than the cloth covered bricks that currently hold some of the doors open.

**Next Public Meeting**

The next meeting of the Friends of Linnwood is on Sunday 13 August 2017 at 2.00pm, and will include our Annual General Meeting. Guest speaker is Judith Dunn who will give us an update on what’s happening at the very historic St John’s Cemetery, Parramatta. August will be the first anniversary of the formation of the Friends of St John’s who are now ensuring the cemetery is being looked after properly.

**Raffle Draw**

The raffle was drawn by Goran Turzic and won by John McKenna.

The meeting closed at 3.30pm.

Confirmed:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Membership Renewals**

It's that time of year again – membership renewals for the 2017/2018 are due for those members who need to renew.

If you are a Perpetual or Honorary Member, or if you have paid some years in advance, you do not need to renew and you should not receive a form.

If you joined or renewed in May or June 2017 you do not need to renew your membership – your recent payment is valid through to July 2018.

Membership renewals are due and payable prior to the Annual General Meeting on Sunday 13 August 2017, in order for you to be able to vote on any motions.

Otherwise, we'll be happy to receive your payment at any time.