

▼ **President's Report 2018: Eudlo Public Hall and Recreation Grounds Assn Inc**

Peter Driscoll, 17 Sep 2018

- Before we begin, I would like to acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet; the Gubbi Gubbi whose land stretches from Caboolture to Bundaberg and westward beyond the Mary Valley. I pay respect to the Gubbi Gubbi Elders, past and present.
- This has been my fourth year as president and the committee makeup changed last year to include Thomas Miller as Vice President and Lyn Scott as a committee member. Lyn Scott has not been nominated for a position this year, which is a disappointment because we will miss her enthusiasm and ideas. We would all prefer that she stayed on the committee but she is moving to Nambour. The current committee members are myself, Thomas Miller (Vice President), Stephanie Tonkin (Secretary), Margaret Bradburn (Treasurer), Jenai Hooke, Christine Jones, Mark Shera and Lyn Scott. Clive Plater left the Committee last year but I understand may be back with us as of tonight.

▼ Performances

- Over the last twelve months the Association has hosted fewer performances in the Hall than in previous years. However, we continued our links with the Small Halls Festival with the Eudlo event on 17th December last year and we are lined up for another gig this December, which you will be hearing more about soon. This activity is proving reasonably profitable while keeping as true to our cause of encouraging live performances within the local community. The Anywhere Theatre performance held in May this year is another example of our links to the performing arts and a local, Nicole Prowse, was instrumental in bringing this performance to Eudlo. Stephanie has also kept us linked to other Sunshine Coast Community Hall associations, which I am sure will lead to more performances in the future. We also have our regular musos event, organised through Michael Whiticker, that helps our reputation as a great venue for live music.
- Now of course we are about to run our second Eudlo Music Nights at Wominjeka. The first was a success, hence we are hoping we can live up to our standards and achieve an even better result on 6-7th October. This collaboration between ourselves and the Glass House Musos, to run two events every year at Wominjeka has the possibility of showcasing Eudlo and its community to a great many people. I think it has already helped to attract more people to hire the grounds for their private events and while we keep improving the venue I think this trend will continue.
- Another event that is developing a life of its own is the monthly community meals at Wominjeka, lovingly and expertly organised by Merryn Cosgrove. The meal this Friday will help raise money and pay acknowledgement to our local rural fire brigades. You are all encouraged to attend. Over the last year Lyn Scott was instigated and organised the Christmas Lights celebration and continued with

the Games morning each week. She has had plenty of other ideas, so sorry to see her go but we will keep a lookout for her. She also started off the idea of the local newsletter.

#### ▼ Grants and projects

- Whereas last year Wominjeka was a work in progress, this year there has been a considerable payoff, with the two music festivals and much greater private use of the site. We received a grant later last year From the Palmwoods Heritage Bank to help with get power back on at the shed and for materials to get the kitchen up and running with a reliable water supply. We have spent more of your own funds recently in making the site even more presentable and there is more coming with our landscaping plans. Many thanks to all the volunteers and assistance we have had throughout the year with helping out at the shed. In particular there was a huge effort for the Eudlo Music Nights.
- We are fortunate enough to have financial assistance from the Sunshine Coast Council and have recently been approved for a three year cycle of partnership funding from the Council to help us with a basic running costs, thereby freeing up our hard earned funds for property improvements and serving the community.

#### ▼ Other activities or achievements

- We now have new curtains for the Hall thanks to Jenai Hooke who spotted a good sale and was able to match these curtains to our Hall.
- The Restored Wagon at Wominjeka will soon be joined by a reconditioned, Eudlo Log Carriage, thanks to the efforts of Clive Plater. We are hoping to be awarded a Council grant to help with restoration of this heritage piece of machinery.
- The revamped Rules of the Association are also a big story for us, with particular thanks to Stephanie Tonkin and help from Christine Jones. We are hoping soon to have a modernised set of Rules.
- We also are moving on with our website and will be operating more of the hiring functions through the website. We already have the capacity to accept renewals of memberships online with online payment.

#### ▼ Acknowledgements

- Thomas Miller, our Vice President was unavailable tonight but he has sent his sincerest apologies. Throughout the year, Thomas has presented some innovative, fresh ideas to the committee and having an inspiring young spirit on the Committee has been a pleasure. Unfortunately, he is resigning from the committee, not because he doesn't want to be still involved but because he has a young family, has many other responsibilities and demands on his time, and does not want to stay on doing a half baked job. I know he will stay in touch and I will keep talking to him about his ideas for community based communications and power generation projects. I hope others will do the same.

- Jenai is stepping down from her role as Bookings officer and only at this point, when we have had to step back and look at what she was doing is it obvious what a huge commitment she was making in keeping track of enquiries, exchanges of money and bonds, providing access to the venues and being absolutely professional in all that she did with the hires while fully looking after the interests of the Association.
- I have had other very involved year with the Association, as I know many of you have. Again, it has been a pleasure working with the committee and I acknowledge each and every member of the committee for their contributions.
- A lot has happened, yet again. There is a another changing of the guard with some key people leaving and others coming on board. I welcome the new committee members and hope that you can find some enjoyment out of being involved with the Association.
- Finally, I thank the membership for the opportunity to be involved with the Association over the last 12 months.