

▼ **President's Report 2020: Eudlo Public Hall and Recreation Grounds Assn Inc**

Peter Driscoll, 19 Oct 2020

- I would like to acknowledge and pay respect to the Gubbi Gubbi traditional custodians of the land on which we meet. Gubbi Gubbi land stretches from Caboolture to Bundaberg and westward beyond the Mary Valley. I pay respect to the Elders, past and present.
- This has been my sixth year as president of the management committee for the Association. Committee members this year included myself, David Hooke as Vice President, Stephanie Tonkin as Secretary, Margaret Bradburn as Treasurer and three other committee members, Christine Jones, Greg Watson and Judy Smith. I understand that Christine Jones is not standing for re-election to the committee. Chris has been a reliable member of the committee for seven years and she will be missed. On behalf of the committee I thank her for her lengthy participation. She has been able to assist the committee on some difficult matters over the years and has been a great mainstay for the committee, despite her busy working life and service to other community organisations. Christine, thanks for your time on the committee and I am sure we will all stay connected in one way or another in the future.
- It has of course been a most peculiar year. The committee has had to adapt to social changes brought about by coronavirus, that has affected us all in some way or another. It is as if we are just awakening out of a six month slow down. We had our first major performance at the Hall just this week. Let's hope it was a good sign for what's to come.

▼ Performances and activities

- I must hark back to October last year when we held our fourth Eudlo Music Nights event at Wominjeka. It had a bigger lineup of performers and much bigger budget of \$28,000 than the previous three Eudlo Music Nights. Including the grants, one from the Sunshine Coast Council (RADF) for \$5,412, and the other from the Heritage Bank Palmwoods for \$4,367 the event returned a profit of almost \$4,000, due to the efforts of the many volunteers from our local community. The songwriters workshops, run by Michael Whiticker, were an integral part of, and build up to the October Eudlo Music Nights. We have a lot to thank Michael and the Glass House Musos for making the Eudlo festival the success that it has been. It has been a great partnership. Earlier this year we were gearing up for a winter version of Eudlo Music Nights, but alas it was not to be. What lies ahead for the Eudlo Music Nights remains unclear.
- Early in February this year, again, with assistance from Glass House Musos, the committee organised the Rory McLeod concert. In true

troubadour fashion, it was a great success but as I mentioned earlier it was only last weekend when any other performances have been held in the hall since then. I must mention that there are a few exciting things coming up next month, Cigany Weaver, Katie Noonan & Louise King, and another Festival of Small Halls. But that belongs in next year's reporting. Otherwise, it has understandably been a quiet year.

- The regular monthly community meals at Wominjeka, organised by Merryn Gregson, also continued on until the coronavirus held sway. It was popular and helped to create friendships and connections in the community. Perhaps it will have another life in the year ahead, in another form perhaps.
- In June this year the committee was approached by a small group of locals with a plan to establish a partnership with the Association to encourage the Council and the community to get behind a Eudlo Farm project on the Olsen's Mill site. It is a great idea and deserves support but like Community Meal and Eudlo Music Nights, its future hangs in the balance at present.
- At the instigation of members of the Mooloolah community, there is now a Sunshine Coast Local Disaster Management Community Sub-Group for Mooloolah and Eudlo. Myself and Greg Watson are current sub group representatives for Eudlo.

▼ Grants and projects

▼ Sunshine Coast Regional Council Grants awarded:

- COVID Grant for \$4,383 (water filtration system: \$1831.72, to be installed; kitchen window awnings cost: \$1865.60, awaiting installation)
- Emergency Grant for \$3000. This contributes to a much larger total sum of \$11,962 that is current being spent to replace the amenities block roof, which was recently found to be leaking and in very poor condition generally. The balance to come out of general funds with volunteer assistance to remove debris.
- Major Grant for \$5,250 plus GST to refurbish the hall and supper room wooden floors. Work yet to be scheduled.
- Events Grant for \$1,500, which was originally to help with the cancelled winter Eudlo Music Nights can now be used to assist with costs of performance at the Festival of Small Halls event 29th November.
- Heritage Levy - Exhibition and Public Programmes Heritage for \$2,805 for the writing of "Historical Stories of Eudlo" to be primarily undertaken by Keith Boyle.
- Partnership Grant as a continuation of \$4,000 each year for three years for assistance towards running costs for the hall and grounds.

- Heritage Regional Collection Care Programme for \$7,318, some of which has been spent on extending the existing Heritage Wagon shed at Wominjeka. Remaining funds are yet to be spent on restoration of the Olsen's Mill Log Carriage, which will be placed alongside the Wagon in due course. There have been delays in getting skilled help to undertake the partial restoration.

▼ Submitted Grant Application - awaiting outcome

- Gambling Community Benefit Fund to replace fans (includes LED lighting) and to install stage lighting (results expected Jan 2021)
- As noted earlier we received and spend, in the early part of last financial year, a grant of \$4,367 from Heritage Bank Palmwoods for Wominjeka upgrades and a RADF Grant of \$5,412 from the Sunshine Coast Council for Eudlo Music Nights.
- Stephanie Tonkin has, largely on her own created many of these funding opportunities. David Hooke undertook the important role of applying for Gambling Community Benefit funds.

▼ Bookings and memberships

- We employed the services of Merryn Gregson last year to take over the difficult and time consuming role of bookings officer. We have continued with this arrangement because it is proving to be the best way to manage the hiring and use of the hall and the grounds. Merryn, has persevered under difficult circumstance created by the coronavirus. She has largely bore the brunt of having to interpret Covid regulations and hand out the bad news to people that we could not hire to them, or at least not the way they wanted. Of course we have lost revenue but because we were financially okay, we are more or less back in business now under the existing State Covid regulations.
- Under the new rules we are now allowed to have associate members to the Association, that is, people who have no voting rights but are happy to pay and be involved in our activities, and are covered under our volunteer insurance. We now have 9 such members and 8 entirely new members.

▼ Acknowledgements

- Willow Cosgrove and Indigo Canavan continues to be a driving force behind the monthly Eudlo News sheet, which I understand now has a circulation of about 150 copies. As noted last year, the Association's is not directly involved but we are very appreciative.
- I acknowledge each and every member of the committee for their contributions. In particular I thank the Secretary, Stephanie Tonkin, for her enthusiasm and attention to detail. Margaret Bradburn has again been our

treasurer and all of the committee, including Christine, David, Greg, and Judy have been great to work with all year. I thank them all, and hope that the community appreciates the time they put aside to make the committee function for the benefit of the people of Eudlo. We could not have been luckier than to have had the most recent two committee members, Greg Watson and Judy Smith.

- I welcome any new committee members tonight and hope that you can find 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. It is my thinking that another year as President might be the last. It is always best for a change to eventually happen. Although I would continue as a committee member if permitted, I feel it is best that I step down after another 12 months.