

Mt Evelyn History Group

PO Box 101, Mt Evelyn, Vic 3796

Newsletter 1

November 2007

Meeting at Mt Evelyn Library, 10.30 am Monday 13th November 2007

Present: Lorraine Seeger, Penny Robertson (Manager, Mt Evelyn Library), Paula Herlihy, Karen Phillips.

The Library is interested in partnering with the History Group. Eastern Regional Libraries are already associated with other History Groups, e.g. Knox and Montrose. The Local and Family History collections are kept mainly at Croydon. In general the aims of the Library and History Group are in harmony. Both are committed to open access to knowledge.

The Library could offer:

- use of the Community Room or Computer Room, possibly subsidised
- support for History events/displays/speakers
- promotion
- use of display cases in Café and Library
- ERL website for our history database.

Meeting places

Our best times for meetings are Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. We thought of alternating committee meetings on Tuesdays and events/speakers on Saturdays for the other months. These are expected to be open to the public. Tuesdays are already booked by Rotary. A sewing group led by Barb Lorey uses the Community Room on Saturdays but they are quite flexible and willing to finish early if someone else needs the room. They might like to stay and listen to speakers. The 'teenage' computer room next door was also suggested, but there would be issues with security and toilet access. It is most likely that we will hold our committee meetings at Morrison House and larger gatherings in the Community Room. Hardy House is another possibility; the RSL is looking for partner groups. History Group archives are stored at the Herlihy's house. Storage may become a problem if they move to a smaller house.

Costs

The Community Room costs \$11 an hour or \$22 for a whole morning or afternoon. The Library fights a losing battle for maintenance funds for the room. However they might subsidise costs if we partnered with them. Asking for a gold coin donation for events would generally cover costs. The annual fee for the website is about \$50.

Dates

We will need to hold another History meeting in February to work out our aims. We have to submit our aims when applying for incorporation. It could be about May before incorporation is finalised and we have sorted out our funds.

Website

Lorraine suggested we look at the Local History section of the ERL website and see what other groups have put on their database. We could create a database and update it as we sort and catalogue our collection. We would need to be prepared for more contacts and requests as a result and should plan how to handle them. The web technology person was not available, but uploading information shouldn't be a problem. Putting up the text of *Tracks to Trails* could be considered.