

MARCH UPDATE.

*** YOU ARE URGENTLY REQUESTED TO ATTEND THE NEXT MEETING AT 'TEMUKA' ON THURSDAY, MARCH 18TH AS DECISIONS NEED TO BE MADE.**

The main, rather shattering news is that we have to leave our present headquarters because the generous owner who allowed us to have them rent-free for the past eighteen months has himself had some bad luck and, due to ill health, has to engage a locum for his vet. practice. This locum needs accommodation.

We have had a meeting with Mundaring Shire Manager, Max Williams and Community Services Manager, Kevin Bentley. Most shire councillors have been contacted and all expressed an interest in helping secure accommodation. Various ideas came from them regarding properties which are in the hands of the Shire, or may become so eventually. None of the ideas seems tenable at present, and we are relocating to the large old dining room of the Parkerville Childrens' Home next weekend, as far as we can see.

WE NEED ALL MEMBERS PRESENT TO HELP US MAKE THIS DECISION. A SMALL CORE OF US HAS BEEN WORKING HARD-WE NEED HELP NOW.

IF WE DECIDE TO MOVE, THE MOVE WILL HAVE TO BE THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 20/22 AND WE NEED EVERYONE TO HELP.

Though the move away from the "main drag" of Mundaring is unfortunate, we would have long tenure and a huge space to utilise for school visits and other activities.

We were not fortunate enough to have our application for funding to set up a (caravan) Mobile Museum accepted by the Lotteries Commission. It seems that to make strides in setting up a permanent museum you have to have your own almost permanent museum - which seems a chicken and egg situation to us.

To gain more public exposure we have recently had two school classes visit to gain information on research topics for local history. This necessitated research and presentation, but went well. The school gave us a donation. We can add to our knowledge and gain funds by this type of programme - otherwise we have to look to cake stalls and Swap Meets.

We also co-operated with the Shire in running the Historical Costume Competition segment of their recent, first, celebration of Australia Day on the "proper" day. The committee meetings and working along with Shire people were worthwhile experiences for me. On the day, due mostly to being able to recruit the whole dressed-up cast of Helena Valley Primary School's Moondyne Joe, we had a presentable show of costumes. Six adults (mostly shop employees from the shopping centre where the event took place) were also there.

The Old York Road arts/drama series which our local Arts Society is sponsoring has meant that they have asked us to resource contributing groups with information on which to base their productions. We have decided to make The Old York Road the subject of the April 4th display we've contracted to put on at the Arts Fair in Mundaring. **WE NEED MORE PEOPLE WITH TYPING AND ART SKILLS TO HELP PREPARE THE EXHIBIT - AND IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT THESE SKILLS, HOW ABOUT HELPING US TO MAN IT ?**

We also have 4 fund-raising post cards with drawings of old shire buildings (courtesy of new member Joan Jordan) almost ready for printing - if we had the money.

Two of us are off to a course on museum management on March 18/19.

I will be conducting a session at the Mundaring School for Seniors on March 22nd - the "scholars" have expressed a wish to have help in writing up their life stories

P.S. April 15th at 7.30 at Yallambee Hostel dining room.

We are co-hosting guest speaker Stephen Smith to speak on the subject of C.Y. O'Connor and also the refurbishment of the Weir Museum. (Slide show as part of presentation). COME!

J. Love