

Item 8: Attachment 3 – Report on Heritage Advisory Service

At the budget briefing on 19 April, further information was requested regarding the heritage advisory service. This briefing explains what the Heritage Adviser does and how grants are used.

The service includes one scheduled visit to the council area each month. The Heritage Adviser:

- Meets with council staff and local community.
- Provides any requested advice regarding building repairs.
- Carries out any requested inspections.
- Responds to any DA referrals.

The heritage advisory service is currently funded by Heritage NSW at \$6,000 per financial year. The expectation is that Council matches this funding \$ for \$.

Lockhart Shire Council is halfway through 2-year funding from Heritage NSW (DPC). 2019-2020 was the first year with 2020-2021 left to go.

The Small Heritage Grants scheme is State funded at \$5,500 this financial year. The expectation is for Council to match this funding dollar for dollar to provide scope for a good project. To provide best value for money, grant work is directly supervised or carried out by the Heritage Adviser. For a few years, grants were rotated between the town and villages, so each community in the Shire had an opportunity to showcase its heritage. Some projects include:

- Pleasant Hills – History plaques installed by local volunteers.
- Yerong Creek – Streetscape painting and history plaques.
- Milbrulong – Verandah restoration, shop sign restoration, plaques, history boards.
- The Rock – Historic sign restoration, history plaques. Men's Shed did the work.
- Brookong Cemetery and Ashcroft Cemetery. These two heritage-listed cemeteries were extensively repaired and stabilised.
- Lockhart Cemetery. Falling headstones were straightened up and propped. A rare 19th century timber grave fence was replicated. The most stained headstones were cleaned. Some smashed family monuments were re-assembled.

2021-2022 grant: Proposal for this grant work is to repair the water damaged war memorial honour rolls in Lockhart Memorial Hall, repaint the exterior timber of Yerong Creek Hotel, and repair the lamp over the Green Street/Matthews Street roundabout.

The Heritage Adviser:

- Obtained Federal funding for the new museum building in Lockhart. The Federal funded flood mitigation grant was successful which resulted in the new museum (matched by other grants from Council, Bendigo Bank, and others).
- Obtained a State heritage funding offer for the Commercial Hotel but this was not taken up as it required matching funding.
- Obtained State heritage funding for the Lockhart grandstand which resulted in a restoration project (combined with other grants from Council, Bendigo Bank, and others).
- Assisted in obtaining State heritage funding (matched by Council and some local owners) for signage and painting in Lockhart's main street.
- Drafted a new heritage chapter for the DCP, adopted July 2018. Illustrations in the chapter give some simple, easy-to-follow examples. The chapter explains some heritage design principles and provides a clear guide for DA assessment.