



ANNUAL REPORT 2021 - 2022



Buda Historic Home and Garden Incorporated

Presented at the Annual General Meeting
Of Buda Historic Home and Garden Incorporated

Held in the Garden Room at Buda 42 Hunter Street Castlemaine

Tuesday 16th August 2022 at 4.00 pm

A.B.N. 53 208 103 038 Registered No. A0011259S

BUDA HISTORIC HOME AND GARDEN ACKNOWLEDGES THE DJA DJA WURRUNG PEOPLE AS THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND ON WHICH WE OPERATE. WE RECOGNISE THEIR CONTINUING CONNECTION TO LAND, WATERS AND CULTURE AND PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THEIR ELDERS PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING.

Photo Credits

Cover – Carol Henderson

Hedge, Marquees, Picnics, Bustles and Bows, Car Rally – Vivienne Hamilton

Garden report pictures – Carol Henderson

Group with Maree Edwards – Lisa Dennis

Diane Linton and Kevin Walsh – Laretta Zilles

Committee of Management and Staff 2021-2022

() = expiry date of term of office

Buda Committee of Management consists of 11 Committee members

10 elected from Members of Buda Incorporated Body & 1 Representative from Mt Alexander Shire Council

Officers:

President: Bronwyn Rudolph (2022)
Vice President: Peter Lukaitis (2022)
Treasurer: George Milford (2023)
Secretary: Pat Grumont (2022)

Ordinary Members:

Claire Bayliss (2023)
Colin Tracey (2023)
Christine Lloyd (2022)
Faye Shortal (2023)
Michael Freeman resigned December 2021
Hazel Anear appointed December 2021

Shire Council Representative: Tony Cordy

Staff:

Lauretta Zilles House Curator retired July 2021
Meredith Blake House Curator appointed December 2021
Carol Henderson Garden Curator
Vivienne Hamilton Communications & Admin Manager
Andrew Harvey House Cleaner

Curriculum Vitae Current Committee

Bronwyn Rudolph

Registered Building Practitioner
BA interior Architecture RMIT 1976
Runs Design Connections - a building design service specializing in home extensions and renovations, bathrooms and kitchens.
Member of:
BDV (building designers association of Victoria)
National Trust Victoria
Furniture History

Faye Shortal

Retired Teacher, Librarian and Retailer
Associated with Buda since 1981

Pat Grumont

Retired Teacher
Education Consultant
Associated with Buda since 1981

Claire Bayliss

Retired Assistant Principal (Maryborough Education Centre)
Professional Associations: Board Member Victorian Principals Association (ex)
Association with Buda: Since 1988 (intermittent)

Peter Lukaitis

Sergeant of Victoria Police (Retired)
Accredited Mediator

George A. Milford

Accountant FCPA, Trustee, Castlemaine Art Gallery & Historical Museum, Trustee S R Stoneman Foundation, previously Finance Controller Thompsons Kelly & Lewis Pty Ltd and has lengthy experience as Hon Treasurer of community organizations

Colin Tracey:

Retired: Operations Manager Telstra Satellite Services Bendigo
Campus Manager Girton Grammar School 2002 – 2007, retired again.
Moved to Castlemaine 2010, volunteered at Buda 2010 primarily associated with Buildings and Grounds maintenance work. Wife, Jennifer is a volunteer guide at Buda

Christine Lloyd

Retired secondary art and design teacher.
Buda Tour Guide since 2018.
Treasurer, Friends of Castlemaine Art Museum.
Castlemaine Art Museum trainee guide.

Hazel PM Anear

Company Accountant CPA(asa) MBL.
Grad Dip Bus Admin, B.Bus (Acc)
Membership:
CPA Australia
Women on Boards
Emerald Hill Art Group

We acknowledge the generous contribution and greatly value the support of our volunteers without whom we would have difficulty operating at our current level.

**We also appreciate the continued guidance and assistance of
Henry (Hal) C. Curwen-Walker Solicitor/Principal**

Financial Report 2020-2021

Buda Historic Home & Garden Inc.

ABN 53 208 103 038

Profit & Loss Statement for the year to 30 June 2022

Income	This year 2022	Last year 2021
Shop sales	29,212.06	23,188.86
Cost of goods sold		
Opening stock	4,040.00	7,377.15
Purchases	11,569.57	12,098.96
Closing Stock	<u>-3,871.10</u>	<u>-4,040.00</u>
Profit on sales	17,473.59	7,752.75
Nursery Sales	16,193.19	14,419.64
Cost of goods sold		
Opening stock	1,259.00	1,157.00
Purchases	6,542.64	7,280.80
Closing Stock	<u>-1,259.00</u>	<u>-1,259.00</u>
Profit on sales	9,650.55	7,240.84
Garden Room		
Hire	22,321.02	17,341.77
Morning/afternoon teas, lunch	19,097.37	7,877.26
Less cost of goods sold		
Catering, cleaning	18,267.64	9,649.00
Laundry, maintenance	<u>2,349.97</u>	<u>4,937.09</u>
Profit on garden room	20,800.78	10,632.94
Gate takings	42,851.50	37,230.47
Friends of Buda	8,148.19	6,651.43
Donations, including shire recurring grant	28,935.20	37,371.46
Fund raising, functions	7,610.46	5,625.46
Living Heritage Grant	0.00	12,000.00
Living Heritage Grant Bfwd	0.00	17,563.81
Covid Stimulus Grants	42,600.00	116,100.00
Traditional Arts Fair	0.00	3,894.54
Employment Subsidies	9,992.51	3,590.91
Interest	442.05	518.14
Copland Foundation Grant	7,500.00	7,500.00
Volunteer Grant	3,000.00	0.00
AMAGA Digitisation Grant	2,731.82	0.00
Stronger Communities Grant	9,396.00	0.00
Dept Regional Development, Victoria	60,000.00	0.00
Other grant	<u>454.55</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Income	<u>271,587.20</u>	<u>273,672.75</u>

Expenditure

Administration/Operating/Insurance	20,994.77	21,526.26
Advertising/Promotion	8,773.55	5,807.13
Bank Charges and interest	1,359.15	1,152.22
Depreciation	5,052.00	6,567.00
Functions expense	2,060.71	3,364.42
Maintenance and Repairs	22,514.62	53,689.50
Architect and consultant fees	67,114.34	0.00
Other outlays against grant projects	12,078.32	0.00
Printing Stationery, website	1,453.25	4,420.37
Utilities	7,551.17	6,324.66
Wages and annual leave accrual	98,805.14	122,902.66
Wages oncosts and staff expenses	13,151.64	9,142.28
Total Expenditure	260,908.66	234,896.50
Operating Surplus (deficit)	10,678.54	38,776.25



Buda Historic Home & Garden Inc.

Annual Statement Values

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2022

Assets	This Year	Last year
Current Assets		
Bendigo Bank	20,870.52	10,102.70
Cash Floats	383.75	2,212.40
Bendigo Ethical term Deposit	21,678.59	39,671.01
Sandhurst select mortgage Fund	119,070.00	119,070.00
Trade Debtors	7,757.60	3,411.22
Nursery Stock on hand	1,259.00	1,259.00
Shop Stock on hand	3,871.10	4,040.00
Fixed assets		
Plant & Equipment	66,019.05	63,802.83
Furniture & Fittings	46,877.38	44,075.11
Less Prov for Depreciation	-93,168.00	-88,116.00
Total Assets	194,618.99	199,528.27
Liabilities		
Refundable Bond	0.00	1,143.64
Bookings in advance	100.00	450.00
Trade Creditors	2,467.16	5,109.57
Gift Vouchers	241.63	236.63
accrued payroll	710.00	4,267.30
Unexpended grants Cfw	0.00	0.00
GST due to or (from) ATO	-1,765.79	3,701.02
PAYG Withholding	4,433.99	3,293.99
Superannuation contributions	5,586.93	2,411.66
Provision for Annual and Long Service leave	15,863.00	18,295.89
Total Liabilities	27,636.92	38,909.70
Nett Assets	166,982.07	160,618.57
Equity		
Opening balance	123,150.57	84,374.32
Deferred Income	33,153.00	37,468.00
Net operating surplus/Deficit	10,678.50	38,776.25
Total net equity	166,982.07	160,618.57

Buda Historic Home & Garden Inc.
Annual Statement Values
Cash Flow for the year to 30 June 2022

Cash Flow statement

Cash Flows from Operations

Receipts from patrons, venue hire and clients	158,053.99	144,464.89
Grants and employment subsidies	147,674.88	151,190.91
Decrease(Increase) in receivables	-4,346.38	-2,523.00
Increase (decrease) in liabilities	-11,272.78	6,667.56
Payments to suppliers	-182,629.74	-130,250.41
Wages , salaries and associated costs	-111,956.78	-132,044.94
<i>Nett cash flows from operations</i>	-4,476.81	37,505.01

Cash flows on tangible assets

Grants and special purpose donations		0.00
Plant and equipment purchases	-5,018.49	-2,381.20
Improvements to the premises		0.00
<i>Nett cash flows in relation to tangible assets</i>	-5,018.49	-2,381.20

Cash flows - financing

Interest Income	442.05	518.14
<i>Nett cash flows from financing</i>	442.05	518.14

Opening balance, cash	171,056.11	135,413.96
Closing balance, cash	162,002.86	171,056.11
<i>Nett change in cash</i>	-9,053.25	35,642.15



Buda Historic Home & Garden Inc
ABN 53 208 103 038

Financial Report for the year ending 30th June 2022

1 General Information

Chairperson;	Bronwyn Rudolph
Secretary;	Patricia Grumont
Treasurer;	George Milford
Committee;	Hazel Annear, Claire Bayliss, Christine Lloyd, Peter Lukaitis, Faye Shortal, Colin Tracey, (Cr) Anthony Cordy.

2 Principal Activities

The activities of the Incorporated Association are set out in its statement of purposes;-

- a) To operate the Historic Home and Garden known as "Buda" of 42 Hunter Street, Castlemaine in the State of Victoria as a Public Museum and Public Art Gallery
- b) To administer the said Historic Home & Garden for the general benefit of the public of the State of Victoria
- c) To develop, maintain, restore, research, preserve and exhibit the various works and collections of Ernest Leviny and his family including home, chattels, goods, silverwork, paintings, gardens and surrounds
- d) To promote and encourage the education of the public in heritage, art craft and horticulture.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the activities during the financial year.

3 Review of Financial Operations

The operating result for the year was an operating surplus of \$10,678 (previous year \$38,776). The prior year results included JobKeeper subsidies, which included some carry over from 2019/2020. Similarly, the current year finances include JobKeeper carried over from 2020/2021. Following a series of spasmodic, Covid-related lockdowns in the first few months of the financial year, post-pandemic visitation has been on an upward trend. Venue hire also returned to a more satisfactory level. Gift Shop and Nursery activity followed suit. However net profit on Gift Shop and Nursery was increased dramatically due to significant changes in mode of operation made by Buda staff.

The committee was grateful to be awarded several grants (detailed in the financial report) of which the most valuable was from Regional Development Victoria to fund the development of an ambitious Masterplan. All grants were fully expended within the year under review.

The scope of the accompanying accounts is necessarily limited to monetary transactions. A holistic appraisal of the operations would, realistically, bring to account the many thousands of voluntary and honorary hours annually devoted to the work of Buda Historic Home and Garden. The committee thanks the staff, friends, volunteers, donors and supporters for their efforts on behalf of the community's much-valued heritage listed property.

4 Review of Financial Position

The cash position of the Association at 30th June 2022 was \$162,002 (compared to \$171,056 at the 2021 balance date)

5 Significant changes in the state of affairs

In the opinion of the Committee there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Incorporated Association that occurred during the financial year under review not otherwise disclosed in this report.

6 Matters Subsequent to the end of the Financial Year

There is no matter or circumstance which has arisen since 30th June 2022 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the Association's operations in future years, the result of the Association's operations in future years or the Association's situation in future financial years.

7 Environmental Regulation

The entity is not subject to significant environmental regulation in relation to its activities.

8 Members' interest in contracts.

No material contracts involving members of the Committee were entered into since the end of the previous year or existed at the end of the financial year.

Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

1. Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commissions Act, the Associations Incorporation (Reform)Act and in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. The Association is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

These financial reports have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs. The financial report is a consolidated financial report incorporating the activities of the incorporated association and its ancillary fund, the Buda Historic Home and Garden Foundation. The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period, have been adopted in preparation of these financial reports.

2. Property, Plant and Equipment.

The financial reports exclude the value of land, buildings and the collection as these assets are owned by the Trustees of the Castlemaine Art Gallery & Historical Museum Foundation. Expenditure, by the entity, on improvements to the premises has been written off as an expense in the period when the asset or improvement was acquired. Plant and equipment and furniture and fittings acquired by the entity have been depreciated over the useful lives of the assets commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

<u>Class of Asset</u>	<u>Rate of Depreciation.</u>
Computer equipment	33%
Garden Equipment	33%
Furniture and fixtures	10%
Office Equipment	10%
Shipping Container	5%
Blinds	5%

At the end of each reporting period, the entity assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. The assessment will include the consideration of external and internal sources of information. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less cost to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognized immediately in profit or loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in accordance with another Standard.

3.(A) Critical Accounting Estimates

The Committee evaluates estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and

are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the company. Estimates and judgements are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected. The estimates and judgements that have a significant risk of causing material adjustments to the carrying values of assets and liabilities are as follows: The entity determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and intangible assets (if any) The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where useful lives are less than previously estimated lives.

3. (B) Employee Benefits

The Financial Reports include the entity's liabilities in connection with employment of curatorial and other staff. These liabilities have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid if the liability was to have been settled within twelve months of the end of the financial year.

3 (C) Grant Funding

Grant revenue is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt. If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until any such conditions are satisfied.

3 (D) Investments

Investments are valued at Cost. Interest income is recognized as earned.

3 (E). Inventories.

Inventories of merchandise and nursery stock are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

3 (F) Receivables

The receivables at reporting date have been reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that any of the receivables are impaired. An impairment provision is included for any receivable where the entire balance is not considered collectible. The impairment provision (if any) is based on the best information available at the reporting date.

4 Tax

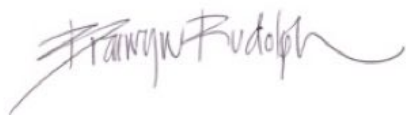
The entity is a registered charity under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act and is exempt from the payment of income tax under the Australian Income Tax Act 1997. Revenues and expenses are recognized nett of the amount of GST except where the amount of GST is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognized as part of the item of expense.

Statement by the Committee in relation to the Financial Reports.

In the opinion of the Committee;

- (a) The Financial Report of Buda Historic Home & Garden Inc presents a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30th June 2022 its performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date
- (b) At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by



(Signature)

Bronwyn Rudolph

(Name)

President

(Position)



(Signature)

Pat Grumont

(Name)

Secretary

(Position)

Date of signing 13 August 2022



Annual Report President 2021 - 2022

The Buda community is an extremely adaptive group as shown by the past couple of years managing our diverse workplace and visitor experience with the ongoing Covid19 situation. We have also adapted to the need to move our AGM closer to the end of the financial year so now instead of the end of October or into November we are reporting in mid August.

In July 2021 our dedicated house curator, Lauretta Zilles, tendered her resignation/retirement to the Committee, for family health reasons. This was a time of upheaval for Lauretta, and for the Committee, farewelling an extraordinary employee and looking at the role she had held for over 20 years, then trying to find another person to fill that position. There is a written farewell later in this report but I would again like to thank Lauretta for her energy, attention to detail and especially the ambition she held for Buda, not only locally but in the wider community, amongst historic houses in Australia and in the Arts and Crafts movement. Lauretta was an attuned networker and researcher and did so much behind the scenes to put Buda in the position she is today.

We extended a warm welcome to Meredith Blake who began work in her role as House Curator in the final months of 2021. Lauretta has left big shoes to fill and we are delighted that Meredith is so keen to care for Buda and our unique collection and has already shown her enthusiasm and energy for the task ahead. In the few months Meredith has been with us she has won a number of grants for specific house purposes which she will expand on in her own report.

Committee was surprised but understanding when our very long-standing house volunteer Diane Frappe-Linton tendered her resignation in December. We will miss her greatly in this role and thank her sincerely for the many, many hours of work she contributed as a volunteer cataloguer and carer of the Collection, as well as the outstanding support she showed to Lauretta over the years. A more extended thank you follows later in this report.

The announcement at the end of 2021 that Buda had been successful in securing a Grant from the State Government Investment Fast Track Fund, to prepare a Masterplan and Business Plan for a project to secure Buda's operations into the future, was extremely welcome.

I think it is appropriate here to sincerely thank Vivienne Hamilton and a small team of very keen Committee members for preparing the grant submission, to produce a way forward for us to secure capital funding from Government and possibly other investors, to achieve, in broad terms, the following:

Restoration of the seven rooms of the house, currently closed to the public.

A new function room to seat 120 people to continue to build our income.

An archival storage area fit for purpose to securely house the collection, long term.

Remodelling of the existing small function room into the admin and curators' offices, volunteers' room, gift shop and visitor's centre, in line with current workplace health and safety requirements.

New pathways, universal access and associated landscaping.

As you will all be aware there are many complicating factors at Buda and we will be working with the Architects, Engineers, Heritage Architects and Landscape designers, Heritage Victoria and Council Planning departments, our neighbours and the Buda community and staff, to deliver a plan that will meet these many requirements. We are aware through our previous work on forward and strategic planning that the Buda community is fully supportive making this special place secure into the future by building on, and expanding the capacity for it to be self-sustaining. We will deliver the Masterplan and Business plan at the end of September, to be further developed to the next stage, which is to be "shovel ready" for funding.

Thank you to Vivienne Hamilton our Administration Manager, who has continued to manage the on-going COVID situation, keeping us safe and within the Government requirements at all times while still bringing her considerable energy, attention to detail and creative flair to everything she does for Buda. I particularly note here the excellent job Vivienne has done in moving the office operations out of the old schoolroom and making the reception and shop, now in that space, an attractive and efficient interface with the public, for all volunteers and staff. The move from the schoolroom to the curator's room for both the admin and the house curatorial staff was done with willing help from many and we thank them for their support.

The resultant empty studio will be, for a time, used as a digitisation room for the digital recording of the collection and then will be on display to visitors as the Leviny artist's studio.

Thank you to Carol Henderson, our Garden curator, for her on going management and curatorial work in the garden. This year Carol initiated a 6-month project to revitalise and build the Buda nursery, and to try and increase revenue through workshops and tours, taking a third day per week. The nursery arm of this enterprise was very successful and has been extended for a further 6 months at a third day per fortnight. We value the enterprise and energy Carol brings to this and very much support her recruitment and care of the garden volunteers who achieve so much throughout the garden.

Thank you to the Committee of Management without whom we could not function. They are a small but vital group of committed volunteers who connect to Buda with their many skills and generous support. Thank you to Michael Freeman who resigned from the Committee March 2022, for his contributions. Welcome to our new Committee member Hazel Annear, who joined us in February 2022, and has undertaken to guide us through a succession planning process. I would like to especially thank Committee secretary Pat Grumont. Pat is always willing to do what is needed to keep Buda on an even keel and she brings her calm and steady counsel to everything we do. Her work is valued by the whole Buda community and we extend our appreciation and thanks.

Lastly thank you to the staff, volunteers, members of the Friends and Committee who continue to work hard to in their own ways to support and build Buda Historic Home and Garden into the future for our region and for Castlemaine. There is an outstanding commitment amongst us to never take for granted this unique asset and to ensure that we pass it on the next generations an even more captivating place for all to enjoy.

Thank you
Bronwyn Rudolph



Annual Report Garden 2021-2022

Rain and other challenging joys

The garden team has had our fair share of both challenges and joys this year. The heavy rain in late January was welcomed by the plants, but created many channels through garden paths, leaving them hazardous for visitors. This was disappointing as it came after extensive work on the paths over the last few years. Two more big downpours meant our small team of path repairers fixed some sections of path three or more times in just a few months. We have now reopened all paths to visitors, except for the steep path at the hedge which needs special attention.

We also faced mystery underground water leaks, solved thanks to the persistence of Peter Lukaitis and Colin Tracey. Of course we're still impacted by the legacy of COVID limitations over the last couple of years, as well as ongoing challenges of COVID impacting our team. So it's pretty satisfying to look back and see what we've achieved this year.

Growing our volunteer garden team

We have more than doubled our garden team in the last twelve months! We've also established new volunteer induction processes to ensure everyone is safe and knows their way around our precious plants. We've welcomed new volunteers: Beth, Cat, Christine, David, Denni, Elke, Helen, Jules, Mark, Mary, Roslyn, Yvonne and Zoya. Thanks also to our continuing, longer term volunteers: Andrew, Carmel, Jane, John, Julie, Steve M and Steve P, as well as those who step up to help with emergencies, summer watering, building projects and more: Colin, Kerry, Marshal, Peter and Pie.



Growing our nursery

This year we undertook two, much needed repairs to our propagation nursery, largely completed by our volunteer team:

The ramp containing our potting mix and our main potting bench had rusted through and was unstable and unsafe. Steve Plunket rebuilt the ramp, recovered the bench and repaired other sections of this important part of our production nursery. This has enabled the garden team to stay safe and to propagate more plants more easily.

The shade cloth covering our shade house was worn through and in danger of flying off in the next storm. Led by Andrew Pitcher, our volunteer team recovered the whole structure so our potted plants are now well protected from both frost and mid-summer sun.

A new garden project provided additional time to trial some strategies to grow our retail nursery. Over the first six months of 2022 we tripled our nursery profits. New plant tags have been created to profile Buda plants for sale and a greater range of Buda plants have been propagated to keep up with increased demand.

Events trial

We also offered a calendar of garden related events. Hands-on workshops included Propagation, Understanding Soils and Beginners Guide to Pruning. Seasonal garden rambles with children's activities in the school holidays also received great feedback from participants.

New interpretation signs

Seven new interpretation signs were installed throughout the garden. They include some garden history, stories of how the family enjoyed each area and photos from our archives. Thanks to The Copland Foundation for funding these, Lauretta Zilles for design and production, and Colin Tracey for installation.

Ongoing garden maintenance

Along with the usual seasonal weeding, pruning, mowing, hedging, tidying, planting and raking, we also:

- Mulched a number of trees in order to support moisture retention, reduce competition from weeds and build mycelium to support tree health
- Spotted and treated Elm leaf beetle on our elm
- Had annual tree maintenance works completed by our arborist and biennial drone footage analysed to track the health of our aging trees
- Installed dripper irrigation in some key garden beds

Donations/in kind support

- Mount Alexander Shire – green waste disposal
- Goldfields Region Rose and Garden Group – rose pruning and \$200 donation
- Ian McLure – gravel for path repairs
- Corrections Victoria – seedlings
- Ben's Bins – discount green waste removal

Deep gratitude to our wonderful team of garden volunteers who bring diverse skills, talents and many hours work to help maintain and develop this special garden.

Carol Henderson
Buda Garden Curator



Annual Report House 2021-2022

I began work as Buda's House Curator on 16 November 2021, a little daunted about trying to fill the large shoes left by Buda's previous House Curator of 20 years. Lauretta Zilles and her team of collection and conservation cleaning volunteers (Diane Frape-Linton and Denise Wheeler) have left the collection and house well-cared, documented and stored and I am grateful for their continual support, always being available on the end of the phone or just an email away.

I was fortunate enough to meet with Lauretta during the Easter holidays, and learned some invaluable background information which has eased my transition to this role, and really helped broaden my understanding of the organisation.

My induction to Buda began in a very pleasant manner, as I undertook 5 hours of tour guide training with Tour Guide leader, Margaret McCallister regarding the history of house and Leviny family. There is so much still to learn about, and I value the productive and energetic enthusiasm of the entire tour guide team (Margaret McCallister, Chris Lloyd, Christine Wakefield, Chris Wheat, Kerry Anderson, Jennifer Tracey, Elizabeth Beck, Anita Martess and Clive Willman for their willingness to share their knowledge with me, continually update and improve the archival files, and produce new research such as Clive Willman's report 'Living among the mines: land sales and mining near Buda'.

2022 marks forty years that Buda has been open to the public as a house museum. The curatorial team welcomed a project put forward by volunteer Mandy Leveratt to write this story. Since February 2021, Mandy has contributed her considerable history skills by utilising Buda's own records and archives, as well as conducting dozens of oral history interviews with influential members of Buda's long-term community of staff and volunteers and former committee members. We look forward to this project being finalised in 2022/23.

One of my first tasks as House Curator, was to consolidate the many weekly, monthly and seasonal cleaning tasks into two documents – a rolling 4 weekly cleaning roster for Buda's new house cleaner, Andrew Harvey, and a register of annual conservation cleaning tasks to be updated regularly by conservation volunteer Denise Whelan. I hope you'll agree the house is looking beautiful and well cared for.

Conservation and collection management tasks over the past 6 months include treating a small outbreak of carpet moths in the Music Room, continually monitoring other carpets and rugs, placing silverfish and insect traps as part of our integrated pest management plan, and the commencement of a new textile preservation team, consisting of volunteers Helen Richardson and Helen McLean. We have begun work reporting on the condition of Buda's textiles collection with plans to replace archival tissue wrappers and improve storage facilities with new polypropylene boxes and muslin dress bags.

In late March, Megan Stone, several volunteers and I installed a new display entitled *Bustles and Bows* around the House. Featuring the vintage dress collection of Buda Tour Guide, Anita Martess, the display also incorporated rarely seen items from Buda's textile collection including undergarments, hand worked embroidery, accessories and baby items.

Megan's considerable graphic design talents have also been utilized in the design of a set of 8 new panels of the garden history display held in the former tennis pavilion. With the help of a grant enabling Castlemaine artist and picture framer Michael Wolfe to build new UV-filtered showcases for the pavilion, we'll be installing this new exhibition in spring 2022. Michael has also contributed to the conservation of a collection object, replacing *gratis* for us the cracked glass of the much-loved framed embroidery of Leviny terrier 'Tigger' which is on display in the small sitting room.

In March, we were advised that we had been successful in being admitted to the Regional Digitisation Project, administered by museum industry body Amaga. From 7-9 June Geraldine Brault visited Buda for 2.5 days, and carried out a digitisation workshop attended by 10 Buda volunteers and members of Castlemaine Photography club. We digitised over 100 items, which will be added to our collection database, and ultimately be available to the public on Victorian Collections website.

In order to continue digitising Buda's collection, we applied for and were successful in earning \$3,000 worth of Cultural Heritage and Arts Regional Tourism Program funding to enable us to purchase a camera, tripod, scanner, photography backdrop, lights and associated equipment. Buda volunteer Mandy Leveratt has been instrumental in setting up the resulting digitisation studio and helping with this project.

My time in the first quarter of the year was much occupied by applying for grants for future conservation works to be carried out in the second half of 2022, and in 2023. We were successful in raising over \$30,000 for window treatments including UV filters and new blinds for the house through the Regional Collections Access Program fund.

There were no donations to the Leviny collection, however we were pleased to accept a donation by Susan Rowland of a vintage wicker children's pram and trolley into the auxiliary collection as examples of the sorts of toys the Leviny children would have played with. Many thanks to members of the Castlemaine Men's Shed who refurbished the wheels for both toys. They will be used in an inter-generational school holiday program in spring 2022, bringing grandparents and children together to learn about Buda's history and the children who lived and played here over the past century.

I am grateful to fellow heritage professionals at organisations such as the National Trust and Heritage Victoria, who assist me regularly with conservation questions, and I especially enjoy my day-to-day interactions with Buda colleagues Vivienne Hamilton and Carol Henderson whose dedication and love for Buda are evident in all they do here.

Many thanks to members of Buda's committee for entrusting me to care for the collections and house at Buda, and for their wisdom and practical help in so many ways in their management capacity and on sub committees. Thanks to Bronwyn Rudolph, Pat Grumont, George Milford, Peter Lukaitis, Colin Tracey, Chris Lloyd, Faye Shortal and Claire Bayliss.

Meredith Blake
Buda House Curator



Annual Report Administration and Communications 2021-2022

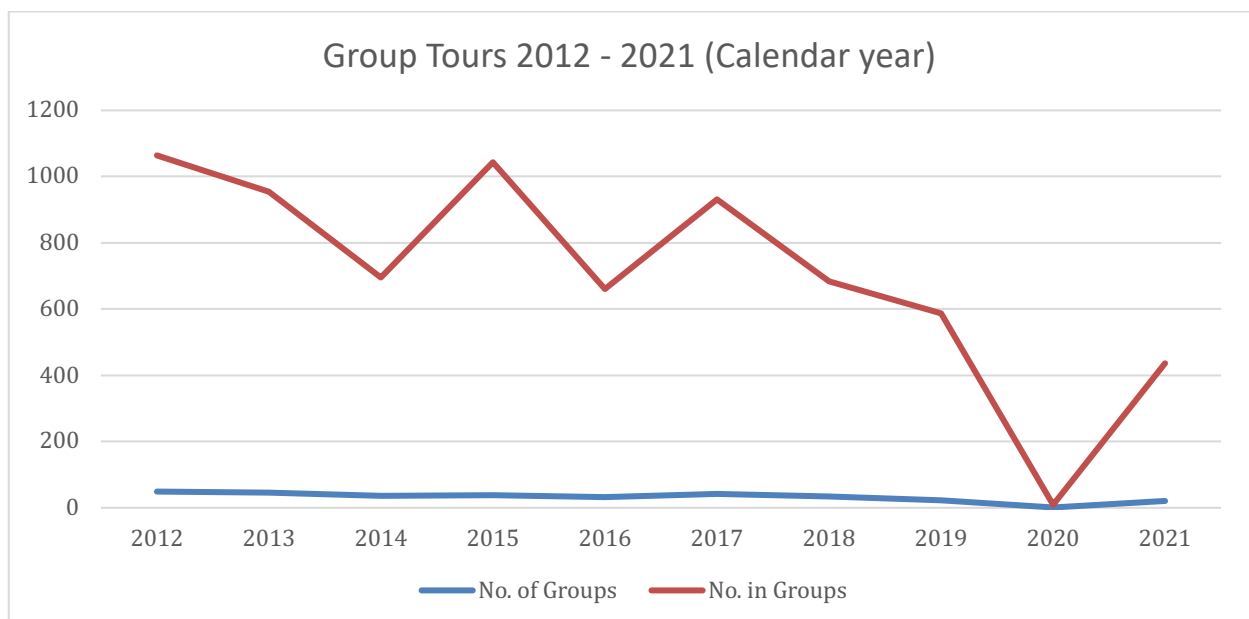
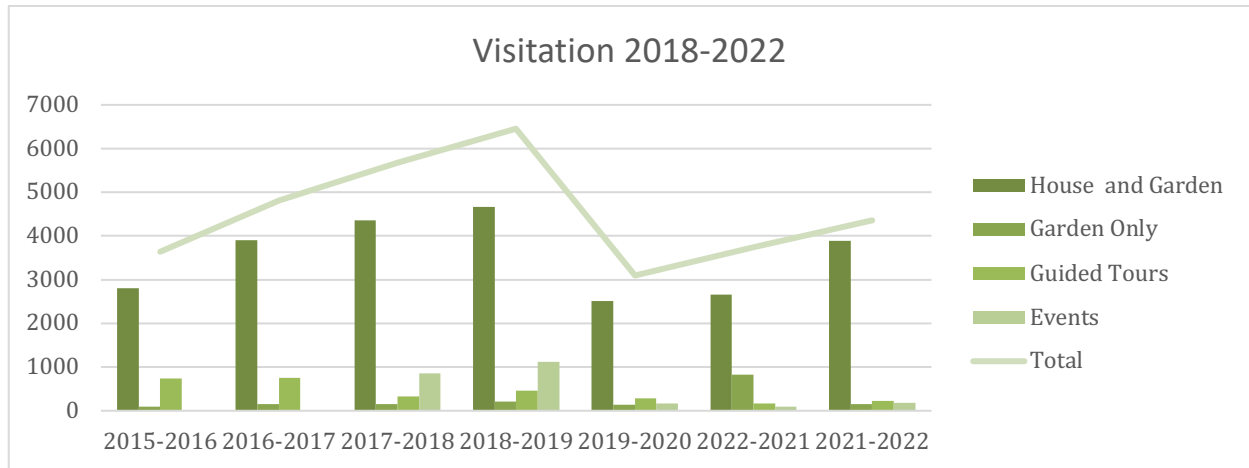
Visitation Statistics:

Total Visitors 2021-2022

Visitation has had a slight recovery but continues to be impacted by Covid illness. Tour groups have particularly been impacted and continue to be infrequent.

	Single	Concession	Child	Family (av 4 pp) family)	Garden	No. of Groups	No. in Groups	Locals Deal	FOB +1	Total	Comparison 2021-2022
Jul	146	117	20	88	0	2	43	2	2	418	390
Aug	24	48	4	8	5	0	0	0	1	90	2
Sep	54	54	5	24	13	1	10	3	2	165	54
Oct	78	110	2	8	14	5	120	4	1	337	220
Nov	147	209	0	16	23	3	70	0	8	144	263
Dec	182	157	4	52	12	1	43	1	3	478	399
Jan	172	86	10	52	19	1	25	4	6	374	613
Feb	78	131	0	12	11	1	27	3	1	263	225
Mar	132	240	6	16	9	6	148	5	1	634	854
April	128	203	4	72	20	11	308	7	1	743	578
May	154	332	6	20	13	1	14	2	4	545	469
June	100	165	2	28	12	1	60	1	2	164	205
Total	1232	1509	48	99	819	31	367	11	47	4355	3931

Visitation 2018-2022							
	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
House and Garden	2803	3909	4,356	4,665	2,517	2,657	3,883
Garden Only	98	146	151	205	140	821	146
Guided Tours	741	751	321	466	277	165	221
Events			850	1,118	162	99	178
Total	3642	4806	5,678	6,454	3,096	3,742	4,355
					Covid	In recovery	



Garden Room Usage 2021-2022

	Garden room numbers	Comparison 2021-2022
Jul	342	50
Aug	125	0 (Covid)
Sep	0 (Covid)	0 (Covid)
Oct	63	10
Nov	144	0 (Covid)
Dec	291	261
Jan	38	138
Feb	299	126
Mar	132	374
April	153	549
May	425	166
June	203	230
Total	2218	3931

Garden room usage also continues to be impacted by Covid illness and resultant hesitancy. Cancellations are common. Takings for Buda Garden Room were \$17,341. This was a drop of \$6565 from \$23,906 in 2019-20 due to COVID cancellations.

The Buda Garden Room continues to be used for a multitude of purposes, including, seminars, workshops, meetings, birthdays, weddings, Christmas parties and memorials.

Our Community & Educations Members also regularly hire the room at a reduced rate on a regular basis.

Friends of Buda

237 current Friends of Buda members 9 of whom are Life members. Friends of Buda receive a quarterly newsletter, free entry for themselves and friend year round, special invitations to events and discounts on events, the nursery and giftshop.

Corporate Members

Corporate members are The Mill Castlemaine and Beleura House & Garden. We thank them for their continued support.

The Hungarian Ambassador His Excellency Dr. István Mikola and the Embassy of Hungary are complimentary corporate members.

Community and Education Group memberships

Buda offers annual membership to local community groups that provides a reliable funding stream through the membership fees and regular venue hire. (Reduced rate for venue hire offered) Community & Education Group members in 2021-2022:

Embroiderers Guild of Victoria - Castlemaine, Castlemaine and District Garden Club, The Festival of Gardens, Frances Gall Violin in conjunction with CSC, Goldfields Roses and Garden Group, Dugald McLellan Italian Lunch Group, The Criterion Club, The Victorian Hungarian Council and The Friends of the McKay Gardens.

Locals deal

Buda offers free entrance to residents of the shire if they bring a paying out of town customer. In this way we are encouraging the continual revisit of our local community. This offer has been extended to Big4 Castlemaine customers on trial as a co-marketing initiative.

Volunteers

Buda currently has 82 registered volunteers that volunteer across a range of areas including Committee of Management, reception, tour guiding, collection management, gardening and maintenance, events and administration.

The garden team consists of 22 volunteers across 2 days plus a supplementary team of 4 one morning per week who clean up prior to every weekend. This 4 person team was a new initiative by the volunteers themselves who saw a need for this service.

Buda could not continue without the huge input of volunteers. The average hours spent by each of the 82 volunteers over the course of a year is 92 hours each. We thank every one of them for their valued contribution.

Volunteer hours 2021-2022

Date	Name	Admin	Reception	Gardening	Collection	Tour Guide	HOT	House Cleaning & Maintenance	Committee	Aviary	Special Projects
	July	45	139	111	18	12		4		2	14
	August	31	139	107	11	7		3		2	14
	September	10	135	152	15	4		2		3	16
	October	6	139	174	36	17		0		2	45
	November	50	135	198	35	19		0		4	79
	December	34	139	87	18	6		0		2	15
	January	70	139	127	7	3	33	3		3	0
	February	73	139	184	6	20	44	0		5	14
	March	82	139	206	8	18	45	0		3	22
	April	62	135	118	4	40	32	0	Average 5 hrs per week x 9 members	2	14
	May	73	139	202	6	9	21	0		0	76
	June	74	135	161	2	18	19	2		3	197
	Subtotals	610	1652	1825	166	172	194	13	2340	31	571
	Total	7574	Average 92 hours each per year x 82 volunteers								

Schedule of Annual Public Programs:

Buda operates an annual schedule of public programs that reflect our Mission Statement: to present and promote exhibitions, activities and events that link closely with history, arts, culture and horticulture.

The house currently holds 2 exhibitions a year which must hang in conjunction with the collection. Historically exhibitions attracted a discount at the gate but this policy was abandoned in 2019. They do not generally bring in a great deal more visitors, but are crucial to upholding the Buda vision statement creating greater engagement and encouraging repeat visitation. *Buda will engage broader audiences to become involved in the arts, horticulture and heritage through an inclusive range of public programs linked with our key themes.*

Talks, workshops, demonstrations and seminars are presented relating to history, conservation, the arts, collections and horticulture. These are either stand-alone events or sometimes linked with social events such as Buda Sunday Arts & High Tea, the Josine McEwan Annual Lecture and Dinner etc. which are always well attended by both local and outside community members.

The Events and Exhibition Program 2020-2021:

The events and Exhibitions program was largely cancelled in the first half of this financial year due to Covid restrictions. Events we were able to hold were

- **Buda Special Exhibition: Aug 30 – Oct 4 2021** Regional Arts Victoria (Kitty Owens project) Children's works house exhibition (See here for a video <https://youtu.be/wyNV03jyRIY>)
- **23rd February 2022 Garden ramble** Summer with Carol Henderson
- **March Exhibition – Still going** Bustles and Bow's costume collection
- **Wednesday March 23rd Workshop – Pruning** with Carol Henderson + A/noon Tea
- **Wednesday 20th April Garden Ramble** Autumn with Carol Henderson
- **Friday 22nd April Tour - Twilight Tour** with Kerry Anderson + Wine and Cheese
- **Saturday 23rd April Tour - Living Amongst the Mines Tour** with Clive Willman
- **Mother's Day: Sunday 8th May 2021 High Tea – with Christine Nixon** 2 pm
- **Saturday 4th June Workshop - Soils** with Carol Henderson 1-4pm
- **Wednesday 29th June Garden Ramble** Winter with Carol Henderson 1pm

Traditional Arts Fair

The committee made the difficult decision to cancel the fair due to Covid safety. A raffle and Pop up Shop were run in lieu which raised \$7,721.

Grants initiated by administration

- We were successful in obtaining a \$60,000 grant to prepare the Buda Master Plan from Regional Development Victoria. Thanks to Maree Edwards for her support and Bronwyn Rudolph for Project Managing the application.
- I was successful in obtaining a volunteer equipment grant of \$3000 via invitation from Lisa Chesters to apply to the Australian Government Community Grants hub. This enabled the purchase of 2 portable wheelchair ramps for the house that are lightweight and easily manoeuvrable for our volunteers and volunteer first aid training.
- I was successful in obtaining a \$10,000 grant via invitation from Lisa Chesters office to apply for a Bendigo Electorate Stronger Communities Grant to upgrade to a reverse cycle heating and cooling unit in the Garden Room. Thanks to Peter Lukaitis for helping with this grant.
- I was successful in obtaining a Regional Arts Victoria grant of \$10,000 for a direct marketing campaign which will be implemented in partnership with Daylesford Macedon Ranges Tourism in the next financial year.
- I was successful in obtaining a quick response grant of \$500 from the Mount Alexander Shire Council to pay musicians for the Traditional Arts Fair next financial year.

Fundraising Initiatives

Castlemaine Vintage Bazaar

Jane Goodrich, manager of the Castlemaine Vintage bazaar generously placed a donation box on the counter of the Bazaar for three months and donated the proceeds to Buda. \$236 was raised and we thank them very much for their support.

Buda continues to seek funding opportunities and apply for grants.

Buda's goal is to become a central focus for arts, heritage and cultural events and activities in Central Victoria, adding more to the already vibrant artistic and heritage strengths of the Castlemaine and Mount Alexander region. We aim to work closely with other cultural and artistic organisations in the region to enhance our strengths in the

arts, history and cultural circle, nurturing greater community participation and engagement in the arts and cultural activities through our events, exhibitions, research and educational programs.

Buda does what it can in relation to development, presentation and promotion of our activities with what resources we have available. Our ability to further develop and successfully conduct program initiatives lies with funding and resources.

Buda will continue to work toward its goals as set out in the *Strategic Interpretations Plan* document (2009), The *Buda Feasibility Study* (2014) and *Buda's Forward Plan* (2018-2023)

Marketing Initiatives

Tourism Marketing Memberships & Partnerships

Tourism marketing partnerships remain crucial for Buda to stay connected to shire and state level tourism marketing opportunities.

While expensive to sustain, these marketing partnerships are vital to maintain a presence in the key visitor information centres and Visitor Guides throughout Central Victoria and Melbourne, plus allow access to subsidized marketing workshops and networking opportunities. Fees for the following partnerships have been waived during Covid 19 and we thank them for their support.

- **Tourism Victoria**
- **Bendigo Tourism**
- **Mount Alexander Shire Marketing Partnership**

I continue to participate in the Mount Alexander shire Tourism working group, who meets on a monthly basis. This has been really worthwhile as it has encouraged the Shire to action promotion of the various ideas and campaigns that the active participants have come up with. The Shire has been promoting our workshops and also our Picnics. It also has encouraged marketing partnerships such as Buda and Big4 locals deal, co-marketing with The Festival of Gardens and Daylesford Macedon Ranges Life.

“Council values Buda Historic Home and Garden as a key delivery partner in sustaining and supporting cultural, social and economic outcomes in our shire.” To this aim, council also initiated a marketing partnership producing DL flyers with one side promoting Buda and the other side promoting the Goldfields Railway, offering locals deals which went out in every rates notice in October. 10,000 flyers were produced at a cost of \$3000 for design, print and distribution. We thank the Council very much for their support with this initiative.

Email and Social Media

Our combined email and social media database of over 5778 people continues to build engagement.

Some examples of feedback are:

John MacLeod GOOGLE

Reviewer stats 38 reviews • 15 photos

★★★★★

Excellent story telling coupled with well preserved rooms, furnishing and artefacts ending with a stroll around the beautiful gardens. Strongly recommend visiting the shop selling pickles and preserves.

Adam G GOOGLE

Reviewer stats

Local Guide • 1314 reviews • 11190 photos

★★★★★

If you want to see a house full of historical items, bric-a-brac, photos, craft and art works from the Victorian gold rush era, then this is it. Simply amazing. It's a beautiful home, definitely a national treasure. This historic home and garden is a must visit.

Venue hire

A variety of customers use the Garden Room venue for a multitude of purposes from the Trustees of the Castlemaine Art Gallery and Historical Museum who do not pay, to community groups holding workshops or meetings, corporate workshops and seminars, music events, funerals and memorials to parties and weddings.

Venue hire has a set fee schedule, however there are community groups who attract negotiated prices, such as the Castlemaine Embroiderers Guild. In return these groups are expected to maintain a Community membership and cut maintenance costs by doing their own cleaning etc.

Tour groups also use the garden room for their catered lunches or morning/afternoon teas. They do not pay a venue hire fee, but pay a guided tour fee of \$9 per person, plus a tour package catering fee. Buda also takes a profit margin on tour groups catering of 40%.

The schedule of fees are as follows.

	Hire Rate no catering	Hire Rate including kitchen use
Full rate	\$50 per hour (Minimum 2 hrs)	\$50 per hour plus \$100 (kitchen flat fee per day)
Community Member Rate	\$40 per hour	\$40 per hour plus \$100 (kitchen flat fee per day)
If required for more than 10 hours a flat rate will apply	\$500 per day	\$600
2 day discount	\$950	\$1080
3 day discount	\$1350	\$1650
Weekend or public holiday flat rate	\$500 per day	\$600

Frequency of use of course varies from month to month but a typical month would be as below

Day	Date	Event	Time	Numbers	Inhouse Catering	Cost
Tuesday	1-Mar	Don KR Training	9-4.30pm	20	Yes, 3/4 day workshop catering plus fruit platter	\$390 + \$29pp Catering = \$1053
Wednesday	2-Mar	Memorial	12-6pm	50	No	\$390
Thursday	3-Mar	Don KR Training	9-4.30pm	25	Yes, 3/4 day workshop catering plus fruit platter	\$390 + \$29pp Catering = \$1198
Saturday	5-Mar	Tour and lunch	12pm Tour 1pm lunch	32	Yes. Tour package	\$9 + \$21pp = \$30 Total \$920
Sunday	6-Mar	Memorial afternoon tea	all day	60	No	\$500
Monday	7-Mar	Workshop - Don KR	All Day	10	Yes, full catering package + extra fruit platter	\$390 + \$35pp Catering = \$1516
Tuesday	8-Mar	Workshop Don KR	All day	10-12pp	Yes, full catering package + extra fruit platter	\$1516 for 2 days
Thursday	10-Mar	Memorial	10-2pm.	12	No	\$265
Friday	11-Mar	Wedding set up	From 2pm		No	

Saturday	12-Mar	Wedding Tier 2	all day	150	No Own caterer	\$2,550
Tuesday	15-Mar	Marquees pull down	8am			
Tuesday	15-Mar	violin lessons	4-5.30pm	5	No	\$60
Wednesday	16-Mar	Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership	10-1.30pm	11	Yes \$29 package	\$265 plus catering \$29pp = \$584
Thursday	17-Mar	CAGHM meeting -	5-6pm		No	0
Monday	21-Mar	Tour guide meeting (filing day)	1-3.30pm		No	0
Tuesday	22-Mar	Meeting NCCMA	9-4.30pm	16pp	Yes Full day catering \$35 pp x 14, 3/4 day catering \$29 pp x 2	\$390 + \$35pp Catering = \$938
Wednesday	23-Mar	Tour and lunch TBC	10.30 ish tour, lunch 1200pm	18	Yes Tour lunch	\$9pp tour + \$21pp lunch = \$510
Thursday	24-Mar	Lunch and tour, Ross Garden Tours	lunch 12.30, tour 1.30	25 + 2 crew	Yes Tour lunch	\$9pp tour + \$21pp lunch = \$750
Friday	25-Mar	Tour and lunch	Tour 10.30, lunch 1130am	22+ 1 driver FOC	Yes Tour lunch	\$660
Saturday	26-Mar	95th Birthday lunch	12-4pm, tour 11.30am and lunch after	13 for tour, 17 + 2 kids for lunch	Yes. Beef buffet x 25pp + 2 half price kids.	\$480 plus catering
Sunday	27-Mar	Tour and lunch	11am tour, 12.15pm lunch	20	Yes Tour lunch	\$720
Monday	28-Mar	Dept Education and Training interviews	9-12pm	5	yes, morning tea only	Hire \$390 plus catering \$29 x 4pp = \$266
Tuesday	29-Mar	Memorial	12-5pm	80	No	own catering \$200 GR + \$100 kitchen fee + Fridge \$350
Tuesday	29-Mar	Violin lessons	5-7.30		No	\$60
Wednesday	30-Mar	Embroiderer's Guild, class	10-3pm	TBC	No	\$60
Wednesday	30-Mar	Criterion Club Dinner	6.30pm		yes	\$130

Feedback

- Hello Vivienne. Well we made it at last, and the wait was worth it. Please thank our two lovely tour guides, we so enjoyed their part of our visit to Buda. Our lunch was delightful, and I think we did our best to put a dent in the Pop up Shop, with our early Christmas shopping.
Our day out in Castlemaine and later at Buda was much appreciated by our ladies, who had eagerly awaited their frequently re-scheduled trip, but they say everything comes to those who wait, and the wait was definitely worth it.
Best wishes to you all, keep up the good work and once again, many thanks.
Sylvia Anderson. President. Sunbury Ladies Probus Club
- Hi there,
Last Friday I ordered a 2022 calendar. I was most surprised to find it waiting for me in the letterbox on Sunday morning! WOW, what fast service is that. Thanks for getting it to me so fast, and thanks to the person who was coming Ballarat way who dropped it off. Hope it didn't take them too far out of their way. Can't wait to get to visit Buda again when the weather gets bit warmer. Love the pics in the calendar, too.
Kind regards,
Rosemary Butterworth.
- I just wanted to say thank you so much for your organisation's fabulous hospitality to the Florence Thomson Tour on Saturday. Gee it was good. The lunch was delicious. Your volunteers are amazing. Everybody just loved the visit. I think you'll get quite a few more car events from it..... everyone was just so impressed.
Thanks again
Wandy (Florence Thomson car rally, visit of 150 lady vintage car drivers with catering).

Thanks must go to administration volunteers Andrea McKey, Jenny Renfrey and Marianne Day who help enormously with the day to day running of the office.

Vivienne Hamilton
Administration and Communications Manager



Thankyou and farewell Laretta Zilles

Buda House Curator December 2000 until August 2021

It was with deep regret that the committee of Management at Buda accepted the letter of resignation/retirement of our long term House Curator.

Laretta began at Buda at the end of 2000 at a time when Buda Historic Home and Garden was in deep trouble. Laretta brought her energies and enthusiasm to the position of 'House Manager' to bring Buda to where she is today. The job description was enormous on 3 days a week and included Employed to manage historic property and its facilities on a day-to-day basis including: administration; collections management; supervision of volunteers; preparation of funding submissions; grant project management; publicity and promotions; programming of special exhibitions, workshops and events; liaison with management committee, staff, Friends of Buda members, and the public.

Laretta led us through the Museums Accreditation Program developing museum policies, procedures and strategies for Buda Historic Home & Garden from 2001-2005. Accreditation was granted in 2006.

In 2005 the organisation changed its mode of operation and Laretta was employed as 'House Curator' a position which took some of the administrative tasks away but didn't stop the energy and skills that Laretta put into this special place. Her job description now included maintenance of the interior of historic house, including all fittings and fixtures and collections on display and in storage. Research and develop exhibitions themes relating to collection. Liaise with Committee of management, other staff, various sub-committees, peak bodies, community organizations and the public, as necessary. Apply for grant funding for conservation projects, interpretation, education and public program initiatives etc. and manage grant projects and budgets. Coordinate and supervise house cleaning and collections volunteers.

We thank Laretta for the way in which she supported her role and liaison with other peak bodies. She successfully procured grants and monies to maintain the house to the way in which you see it today. The level of research into details like paint type and work was just so carefully completed Buda remains a legacy of the manner in which works were carried out at the time of their original construction. Her careful attention to detail has ensured remnants from the past items of the house have been restored to the closest they can be by the best artisans that are available.

We know that Buda and the Leviny family will stay with Laretta and will look forward to remaining in close contact.



Thankyou

Diane Frappe-Linton

Our very long standing volunteer Diane Frappe-Linton decided to retire at the end of 2021, to follow up on some other interests. Diane volunteered over many years at Buda and at the Castlemaine Art Gallery, particularly in the area of cataloguing their collections.

Diane was a tremendous support to Laretta in her curatorial work, helping tirelessly not only on exhibitions, but especially on the cataloguing of the collection. She also provided a strong link for the transition from Laretta to Meredith, our new House Curator.

Diane brought enthusiasm, discipline, patience and attention to detail to this time-consuming task which is required for the many fascinating items in the Buda collection. We will miss her greatly in this role and thank her sincerely for the many, many hours of work she contributed as a volunteer cataloguer.

Diane was also deeply connected and appreciative of the history of the Leviny women, showing her commitment as she cared about, and cared for the collection, with hands-on cleaning, repairing, pest control, archival storage and an amazing knowledge of how to clean things, where items were, and their history or story. Diane put to work her outstanding skill with needle and thread and repaired and remade textiles in the collection. Think of her when you look into the bedroom and see the Frances Burke fabric bedspread and dress, knowing that they were meticulously restored by Diane.

Look at the 'rag rugs' on the floors and think of Diane. She spent hours sourcing then making replicas of the Leviny rugs so that the originals would not be damaged.

Diane was extremely generous to Buda in other ways too. Where she saw a need for something to either help Laretta or to preserve an object, or something in the house, she didn't hesitate to donate what was needed to make that happen. Diane didn't want accolades and was happier being anonymous much of the time so the Committee felt that we would like to show the appreciation of the whole Buda community by making Diane a Life Member, which we hope makes her feel part of the family here in a very special way.

Thankyou Diane and we wish you all the very best in your retirement



Vale

Kevin Walsh

22.11.1957 – 14.6.2022

Kevin played a really important role in the way we manage our historic Buda Garden and was, along with Peter Cuffley, our Expert Gardening Advisor, all completed on a voluntary basis.

It has been a great advantage to Buda to have had Kevin's generous support for our Garden Curators, bringing his horticulture knowledge and understanding of historic gardens to the Buda Garden with all her foibles.

His direction with the Living Heritage Program was greatly appreciated, linking us with the appropriate personnel to ensure we were following the best path when caring for our special trees.

Well remembered for his diverse horticultural knowledge and practical gardening advice in the broader community, he worked in many areas during his professional life including the Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust in Melbourne. This was the subject of a talk he gave at our Josine McEwan annual dinner in 2017.

It was always so good to know that Kevin was there if we needed reassurance or guidance in our administration of Buda's heritage garden and we will miss his support very much.

The Committee of Management at Buda and the Buda community pass on our greatest condolences to Laretta, Callan and Natalie and our thanks for sharing Kevin with us at Buda over the many years that the family have been involved.

We also respect and admire the courage, energy and love Laretta has shown in making Kevin's last months a special time for their family. This has been inspiration to all of us in the Buda community and we want the family to know that the Buda community will always be here for them.



DONORS: Financial Goods and Inkind

(Over \$100.00 acknowledged),

General

Andrea McKey
Ken and Lorna Mansbridge
Duang Tengtrirat
Rae McPhee
Judith Robertson

George Milford
Diane Linton
Max Beyer
Bob Cameron

Grumont family
Jane Goodrich
Gwen Davey
Dianne Semmens
Peter Watts

Garden

Goldfields Roses and Garden Group,
John Rudolph, Colin Tracey, Andrew Pitcher

Giving Appeal

General

Jean Dowie
Margaret Calister

Tom and Dorothy Minchin
Christine Lloyd
John Rudolph

Marion Downe
Nola McKinnon
Bronwyn Rudolph

Administration

Viv Hamilton

General House and Collection Financial and Inkind Donations

- Artwork conservation mounting/framing Project (Unions Studio): Funded anonymously
- Recarpeting of office: Funded by Diane Linton
- Mount Alexander Shire Council rate notice insert Oct 21 for our locals deal.
10,000 flyers at a cost of \$3000 for design, print and distribution
- Castlemaine Vintage Bazar donations box for 3 months. April, May, June
- Curatorial Supplies: Funded by Diane Linton
- Max Kaye: Gravel for paths



BUDA HISTORIC HOME & GARDEN INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 19th OCTOBER 2021

4pm

MINUTES

1.0 Present: Bronwyn Rudolph, Peter Lukaitis, Diane Linton, Carol Henderson, Vivienne Hamilton, George Milford, Chris Lloyd, Claire Bayliss, Colin Tracey, Faye Shortal, Michael Freeman

1.2 Apologies: Pat Grumont,

2.0 Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting 26th October 2020

MOTION: that the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting as tabled be received and passed

Moved Claire Bayliss Seconded Bronwyn Rudolph

3.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Nil

4.0 Presentation of Reports

4.1 President's Report

4.2 Financial Report

4.3 House Curator's Report

4.4 Garden Curator's Report

4.5 Administration Report

5.0 Motions Arising from the Presentation of Reports

MOTION: that the President's Report be accepted

Moved Claire Bayliss Seconded Colin Tracey

MOTION: that the Financial Statement of Buda Historic Home & Garden Inc. 1/7/'20 to 30/6/'21 be received.

Moved George Milford Seconded Bronwyn Rudolph

MOTION: that all other Reports be accepted

Moved Claire Bayliss Seconded Peter Lukaitis

MOTION: that the annual fee be set at the same fee as Friends of Buda

Moved George Milford Seconded Bronwyn Rudolph

MOTION: That sincerest gratitude be expressed to Laretta Zilles, Jill Hildebrandt, Carol Henderson, Vivienne Hamilton, Jacinta Stone and Suki Lee for their hard work and dedication over the last twelve months.

Moved Bronwyn Rudolph Seconded Claire Bayliss

6.0 Election of Committee Members

Call for nominations for 5 vacancies for a term of office of up to two years expiring in 2023 and 1 vacancy for a term of office for 1 year expiring in 2022

George Milford, nominated by Bronwyn Rudolph seconded by Faye Shortal

Claire Bayliss, nominated by Bronwyn Rudolph seconded by George Milford

Colin Tracey, nominated by Bronwyn Rudolph seconded by George Milford

Michael Freeman, nominated by Bronwyn Rudolph seconded by Claire Bayliss

Faye Shortal nominated by Colin Tracey seconded by Bronwyn Rudolph

As there were no further nominations these five people were duly elected, it being noted that there is a vacancy on the committee.

7.0 General Business: Nil

Meeting closed: 4.45 pm

BUDA HISTORIC HOME & GARDEN INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday August 16th 2022

4pm

AGENDA

1.0 Present:

1.2 Apologies:

2.0 Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting 19th October 2021

MOTION: that the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting as tabled be received and passed

Moved

Seconded

3.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

4.0 Presentation of Reports

4.1 President's Report

4.2 Financial Report

4.3 House Curator's Report

4.4 Garden Curator's Report

4.5 Administration Report

5.0 Motions Arising from the Presentation of Reports

MOTION: that the President's Report be accepted

Moved

Seconded

MOTION: that the Financial Statement of Buda Historic Home & Garden Inc. 1/7/'21 to 30/6/'22 be received.

Moved

Seconded

MOTION: that all other Reports be accepted

Moved

Seconded

MOTION: that the annual fee be set at the same fee as Friends of Buda

Moved

Seconded

MOTION: That sincerest gratitude be expressed to Laurretta Zilles, Carol Henderson, Vivienne Hamilton, Meredith Blake and Andrew Harvey for their hard work and dedication over the last twelve months.

Moved

Seconded

6.0 Election of Committee Members

Call for nominations for 5 vacancies for a term of office of up to two years expiring in 2024 and 1 vacancy for a term of office for 1 year expiring in 2023

Vacating Positions (all eligible to re-nominate) Bronwyn Rudolph, Pat Grumont, Peter Lukaitis, Christine Lloyd, Hazel Annear

7.0 General Business:

Meeting closed:

Presentation of latest development for Buda's Masterplan