



OTAGO GOLDFIELDS HERITAGE TRUST
PO BOX 91 • CROMWELL • 9342
PHONE: +64 3 445-0111 • EMAIL: terry@cavalcade.co.nz
WEBSITE: www.goldfieldstrust.org.nz

The Annual General Meeting of the Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust Inc was held on Saturday 3 September at the Kurow Hotel, Kurow. 7:30 pm.

Welcome

Attendees -

Rex Johnson Jenny Stevens David George Mckenzie Bride Connor Bride Sue Webb Steve Clark Anna Clark Jack Davis Clair Davis Ann Paterson Fern Gould Helen N Horton IAN FINDLAY Jeanette and Bob McKay Susan Heal Gerald Goodger Roger Cain Sandra Cain Denise Ng James Ng Eva Ng Lindsay Eagle Lycan Goodger Meredith Crawford Leslie Darla Le Fleming Odette Hopgood Terry Davis

Apologies - Roberta Laraman, Martin Anderson, John Wekking, Stu Ide, Bruce McMillian - Moved Steve Clark - Second Jeanette McKay

All read the Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting held on October 2021 at Frankton and it was moved they were true and correct

Moved Steve Clark Second Jack Davis Carried

Matters Arising from previous minutes - No matters arising

The Executive Committee Report was read by Steve Clark see attached - Moved Steve Clark - Second Warrick Hawker.

Cavalcade and Events, Heritage Sites review and secretaries Report - Terry read his Report see attached - Moved Steve Clark - Second Jeanette McKay

Financial Report and Gold Panning Report from Odette see attached

Moved by Odette Second Warrick Hawker Carried

Membership Subscriptions - Membership will remain at 50 single 70 couple

Appointment of Financial Reviewer - Our reviewer to remain Dunedin Audit Services

Moved OdetteHopgood Second Terry Davis Carried

Election of Officers and Committee members

President Warrick Hawker, Vice President Vacant, Secretary Terry Davis, Treasurer Odette Hopgood, Committee Suzanne Rae, Jeanette McKay, Steve Clark, Rex Johnson, John Wekking, Stu Ide.

Consideration of nominations for Life membership Rex Johnson nominated Jeanette McKay second Steve Clark. Unanimous

Presentation of Honorary Member Award - Dr James Ng

Presentation of Service Recognition Award - Sandra Cain- Cavalcade Walking Trail boss for 20 years.

General Business

Meeting should be conducted nearer the middle of the day - later in the evening not ideal.

Meeting included 8.45pm

**Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust
Annual General Meeting
3 September 2022, Kurow
Executive Committee Report**

In lieu of not having an elected President, the Vice-President and OGHT Executive Committee have collaborated to provide this report to members.

OGHT President

At the OGHT AGM of 2021 the position of President became vacant with sitting President Rex Johnson having reached the constitutional limit of his term in that role. No nomination for President was made at that meeting and members agreed that it would be acceptable for OGHT management to be controlled by a Vice-President and a knowledgeable committee which would seek an acting-President during the year if possible.

In practice Vice-President Steve Clark chaired committee meetings, and he and the committee ensured activities were suitably progressed. No acting-President was identified. However, this also meant we placed more reliance on our already-busy Secretary and Treasurer. In fairness to them the committee recommends to members that, where possible, the AGM should aim to fill all designated OGHT office holder and committee positions.

National Lock-downs

Once again the National Lock-downs affected OGHT activities, the main events being cancellation of the 2022 Cavalcade to Millers Flat and of the National Gold Panning Championships in Arrowtown.

Goldfields Cavalcade

As noted, the 30th celebratory Goldfields Cavalcade to Millers Flat planned for February-March 2022 was cancelled. While individual trails could still have continued within Government COVID management rules, there was a gradual pulling out of Cavalcaders, support services, and access to trail sections. Thus, the OGHT had no choice but to cancel the event and accept that we would make a loss through denial of planned income from holding the event, plus losses for unrecoverable services already paid or purchased.

Cavalcade planning for 2023 is to again have trails converge on Millers Flat and to celebrate the 30th holding of the Goldfields Cavalcade. Thanks to Terry, Odette, Roberta and Jeanette for the efforts they put into managing and planning the 2022 and 2023 iconic OGHT Cavalcade event.

Gold Panning

In April the Arrowtown Autumn Festival was cancelled (due to Government lock down issues) and therefore the scheduled 2022 National Gold Panning Championships could not be held. The OGHT Gold Panning sub-committee will now hold the event in conjunction with the Alexandra Blossom Festival this month.

Following our successful application last year to gain membership of the World Gold Panning Association, this year we submitted a proposal to host the 2026 World Gold Panning Championships in New Zealand. At its August AGM the WGP Committee approved our application. Thanks to Odette, Stu Ide and the Gold Panning sub-committee for their continuing great work supporting New Zealand gold panning.

Heritage Sites Review

This year the Heritage Sites Review (HSR) program visited existing and new sites in Bannockburn, where residential development is proceeding; and adjacent to the Cromwell Gorge Cycle Trail. Heritage sites that were on the cycle trail had already been updated as the trail developed, however, we were aware that there were additional sites close to the trail that were not part of the trail archaeologist's mandate. This HSR visit recorded those additional sites.

HSR Planning: Terry has established contact with the Roxburgh Museum and has received an enthusiastic response from Museum members to an HSR visit. The Teviot Valley has significant goldfields heritage, both on land and at gold dredge remnants in the Clutha River. The OGHT has also been requested by Ophir residents to make a return visit to Ophir to cover an area not reviewed in the HSR Pilot Study.

Another big 'thank you' to Terry for leading the Heritage Sites Review project and to Odette for securing the finances and supporting the visiting archaeologists to make the Review a continuing success.

Field Trips

Lockdowns and a significant office workload have again limited our ability to provide field trips this year.

Gold Dredges: A group of three members attempted a 'short-notice' jet boat survey of gold dredges near Roxburgh, but the jet boat failed on them so they did some river-bank quick checks instead. We still seek an opportunity to schedule the Clutha Valley Gold Dredges event that Ian McFarlane proposed some time ago.

Naseby - Kurow: We hope you are enjoying the Naseby - Kurow field trip activities made available this weekend.

Future planning includes a day trip into the **Nevis Valley** in conjunction with replacing a group of interpretation signs; and a day trip to **Stewart Town** cottage orchard to install a purpose-built picnic table.

Accommodation

Regarding our bid to purchase the former Methodist Church, Cromwell as our permanent office, we have received confirmation of grants from two funding bodies. In addition, Odette worked with the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) and re-arranged a submission to them so it better fits their grant-request needs. We await the DIA funding-round outcome in December. Approval of that grant will allow us to complete the purchase of the church.

Regarding heritage listing the building, we found that it was already listed in the CODC District Plan as a heritage building. We have also submitted an application to Heritage New Zealand for Category One listing in the national heritage database. Heritage NZ have accepted the listing application and will review all listing applications received during the year with decisions due in December.

As a part of heritage research on the former Methodist Church we identified that it had officially opened on Easter Sunday 1891. Consequently the OGHT held a 'Funday-Sunday' at the church on Easter Sunday 2022 to celebrate its 131st birthday. Activities included gold panning, Devonshire teas, and a series of movies on the big screen showcasing some of our projects. The horse and cart rides had to be cancelled because the horse (and driver?) had flu-like symptoms.

In anticipation of a successful purchase outcome we have met with Breen Construction Company regarding building earthquake strengthening issues, with Cromwell Architect Jessie Sutherland about harmonising earthquake strengthening and potential office upgrade work, and with Louise van der Voort, CODC Executive Manager - Planning and Environment regarding how the church community rooms may be best utilised within the range of community facilities the District has available to it. We are also seeking time with Anna Harrison, Chair of the Cromwell Community Board to ensure we do not overlap with other planned developments in the community, such as the re-development of the Cromwell Memorial Hall. Thanks to Accommodation sub-committee members Rex Johnson, Martin Anderson, Warwick Hawker and Odette Hopgood for progressing this endeavour.

Interpretation Signs

The OGHT Signage sub-committee has progressed replacement of fading signs in the Nevis Valley. A lady interested in heritage has also volunteered research time to support this project. Our thanks to

Jaquie Rose-Anderson for her interest and commitment to this valuable work. The Signage Team also have a Bannockburn Village Walking Trail evolving quietly as well. Thanks to Terry, Odette and Bruce McMillan for their signage work.

Finance

Our Financial Reviewer has again provided a rapid review of our financial documents. Thanks to Odette for her skills and effort in her role as OGHT Treasurer.

Postie Bike Rally

The OGHT Inaugural Postie Bike Rally in November 2021 was very successful with many keen riders gathering in Cromwell. They were happy to brave some rain as they toured into the Ida Valley and up to St Bathans. They had some river fording excitement along the way before their return to Cromwell. The 2022 Postie Bike Rally will be on 12 November and will begin and end in Twizel.

Thanks to John Wekking for his management of this event, proceeds of which go into the John Douglas Memorial Fund to support goldfields signage projects.

Administration

Central Otago Heritage Trust (COHT): The OGHT is a member of the COHT, as are many other Central Otago history and heritage bodies. Warwick Hawker has represented the OGHT as a Trustee-nominee for most of 2022 and was appointed as a COHT Trustee at their AGM in July. The COHT acts as a policy co-ordinating body for twenty bodies which have a heritage or history interest in Central Otago. The COHT has created the brand 'Heritage Central Otago' for its members to use if they wish. The CODC funds a salary for part-time employment of a COHT Heritage Coordinator. Having a paid employee for what is otherwise a volunteer group has markedly increased the COHT exposure and output.

Life and Honorary Membership Awards

The Committee has sought a means of recognising non-OGHT-members who have provided significant value to Central Otago goldfields heritage. We chose to create an Honorary Membership award which could be presented to appropriate candidates. The Honorary Membership carries no voting or other rights within the OGHT, but recognises the special contributions that people have made supporting activities that are aligned with the OGHT goldfields heritage interests.

In November 2021 we convened a great wee celebration in Alexandra beside the Central Stories water wheel. We presented a Life Membership award to archaeologist **Matthew Sole**, an OGHT member, active supporter of the HSR program and a fount of knowledge on heritage around Central Otago. Then we presented Honorary Membership to; **Johny Simons**, a Central Otago restoration engineer whose feats include recovering the Central Stories water wheel from the back of the Old Man Range/Kopuwai Reserve and restoration of the Come In Time stamper battery in Thomson Gorge; and to **Stuart Edgumbe**, now retired, but long-time operator of Roxburgh Gold Panning Ltd where he shared his knowledge and passion for gold mining with everyone he could. His office (and head) are stuffed with information about the heritage and history of the Teviot Valley goldfields.

OGHT Library

At a time when it was proposed that the OGHT move into the Cromwell Museum, the OGHT library collection was donated into the Museum's reference collection. Our planned move came to a halt when it became clear there wouldn't be sufficient room for us in that building, so we turned our thoughts to purchasing the former Methodist Church instead. However, we now seek to re-build our goldfields heritage library collection and ask members to keep us in mind if they have books, reports or magazines they could donate to us. Note that we may already have copies of items being offered, so we may turn down a donation offer, or suggest another option for that material.

Conclusion

The OGHT is in good heart, though we have been hard hit financially because of Government's lock-down and the subsequent cancellation of the 2022 Cavalcade.

The committee has worked well under Vice-President Steve Clark and we have really taken advantage of using our sub-committee's to share the tasks and pleasures of progressing the OGHT's wide range of activities. If any members are interested in having a closer involvement with OGHT activities, please feel free to offer yourself for nomination to the OGHT Committee.

(Signed) Steve Clark
Vice-President
On behalf of the OGHT Committee

Treasurer's Report by Odette Hopgood

The Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust finances took a big hit from the cancellation of the 2022 Cavalcade due to government covid restrictions; this has resulted in a loss of \$57,000 for the trust for the 2022 financial year.

We are currently holding cavalcade funds for over 300 participants (\$170,000) and are working hard to cut costs and at the same time promote and deliver a Cavalcade celebrating our 30th event.

Terry has gone on half wages and I have been busy applying for funds to help with the loss and have had some success if sufficient funds cannot be raised further cutbacks will need to be made.

Better news has been our success in securing 50% of the funding required to purchase the Old Methodist Church. We will receive notification from our final funder before Christmas and will be able to complete the sale in early January. Owning our own space will enable us to receive funding for the necessary repair to the building and enable us to create better working spaces and community facilities that can generate income for the trust .

Gold Panning

The 31st national championships will be held on 24th September at the Alexandra Blossom Festival. We had a good turn out at the 30th Champs and lots of positive publicity and feedback. As we are now registered as part of the World Goldpanning association we will need to make changes to how we run the New Zealand championship. For example we will need new tubs to regulation size and a better timing system. We also have secured the World Goldpanning Championship 2026. We are hoping to hold this event in Arrowtown and have received a lot of support from the district including Jaquie Dean, Joseph Mooney, Jim Bolt and Tim Cadogoan.

The World Championship will require a lot of hard work from OGHT so if anyone is interested in being a part of the action please come and have a chat with me.

James Ng Honorary Member



James Ng came to New Zealand from China as a five-year-old refugee during the Second World War. He, his mother and siblings joined his father, who for many years had been running a laundry business in Gore.

Although at first they had temporary residence permits only, after the war anti-Chinese legislation was relaxed and the family was allowed to stay. Like many Chinese refugee children, James saw education as the way to success and he became a doctor, and later a leading historian and archivist of the Chinese community in New Zealand.

(Te Ara – The Encyclopedia of New Zealand)

James was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Literature by Otago University in recognition of his literary work. For community work James has been awarded an MBE, CNZM, the Medal of the Dominican Order, is a Rotary 'Paul Harris Fellow' and he has a Seyip Cantonese Association Citation.

<https://www.lawrencechinesecamp.co.nz/james-ng>

Today, the Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust would also like to recognise James for his work relating to the Otago Goldfields. Back almost 20 years ago James had recognised the importance of the Lawrence Chinese Camp in Otago gold-mining history and in the pioneer history of the Cantonese Chinese in New Zealand. In 2004 he purchased the land that was the site of the Camp, and established the Lawrence Chinese Camp Charitable Trust to administer, develop and preserve the site. James was the Trust chairman until 2017. Now retired, he continues to be supportive of the Trust and its work.

James, on behalf of the OGHT we thank you for the years of work you have put into raising the historic profile of the Chinese community in Otago, and for the light that research brings to Otago Goldfields history.

Acknowledgement – James Family:

Wife: Eva Wong Ng, Author – Chinatown Girl

Daughter: Denise Ng, Current Chair of the Lawrence Chinese Camp Trust

Jeanette McKay Life Member



The motion is that Jeanette McKay be awarded life membership of the OGHT.

Jeanette has been a stalwart supporter of the OGHT from back in the day when her horse used to be a bouncy pony! Her association with the Goldfields Cavalcade makes her one of that elite group who has participated in cavalcading for over 30 years.

Think of that! Over thirty years of family holiday time diverted to enjoying amazing hilltop scenes, sharing trails with legendary people, and supporting those who needed a wee boost to get the most out of their

Cavalcade experience.

Jeanette will happily don her Victorian hat and dress for a good event, whether that be involved with horses, gold panning, heritage celebrations, or honouring an unknown gold miner.

The OGHT Committee has been very thankful to have Jeanette as part of its management team. Her passion for horses and the riding world are always close at hand when new trail options are being discussed. She holds her flag high when lobbying for trails to support the wider range of users and not just pedestrians or cyclists. Jeanette is part of a core group that shares organising and planning events to the benefit of the OGHT, such as providing a heritage walk and talk through the main street of Clyde for a field trip, or when exploring in her own family grounds around Kyeburn.

From an OGHT management perspective, I have been very pleased to know I have had Jeanette as a solid rock at my side when needed.

I consider that awarding Jeanette Life membership of the OGHT would be very apt recognition and thanks for her ongoing support of the Trust and its Goldfields Heritage mission.

Rex Johnson *Immediate Past President*