

Media Release

The Hon Gavin Jennings MLC
Special Minister of Statement
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council



Monday, 28 May, 2018

NEW LOCAL HISTORY PROJECTS REWARDED ACROSS VICTORIA

Local history groups and other organisations are set to share in further grant funding from the Andrews Labor Government for community projects that preserve and share Victoria's history for generations to come.

Special Minister of State Gavin Jennings, has today announced that forty community groups will share in \$350,000 worth of local history grants.

This year's winning recipients included the Country Women's Association for their project to preserve photographs and documents from their 90-year history, the Ballarat Memorial Concert Band for their Century of Music project, as well as the Kilmore Historical Society for a textile conservation project to conserve rare wedding dresses dated from 1760 to 1885.

In celebration of our diverse cultural history the Maccabi Sport Victorian Association, which has been linking local Jewish athletes with Israel for over 90 years, will also begin a project to celebrate Maccabi sport history online.

Other successful projects ranged from digitisation of historic newspapers to the development of new historical signage on walking trails.

The funding is part of the annual *Local History Grants Program* which provides small grants to community organisations to support projects that preserve, record or publish Victorian local history.

The program is about putting our dedicated community organisations first, who do such a great job of collecting and preserving Victoria's fascinating history.

Victoria's diverse history is a real drawcard for visitors, with 6.8 million people visiting a museum, gallery, heritage site or monument on their trip in the year ending December 2017 – up by 27.2 per cent since the year ending December 2014.

A full list of winning recipients is available at prov.vic.gov.au.

Quote attributable to Special Minister of State Gavin Jennings

"Congratulations to all the successful community groups with their fantastic local history projects. This funding will help ensure we can bring their projects to life."

"Their work to capture the memory of unique aspects of our state's history, ensures that future generations of Victorians can appreciate and understand our varied and diverse history for many years to come."

Quotes attributable to Public Record Office Director and Keeper of Public Records Justine Heazlewood

"There is such a broad range of amazing work being done in our local communities to preserve and share Victoria's history."

"We congratulate these groups and encourage future applicants to apply for the next round funding. Applications will open later this year."

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