



HISTORY ROOM

NEWS



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Yep! It's me again – Dawn keeps figuring out how to undo the ball and chain, and she and Bruce have gone on a long cruise to look at the country they named after him. (I'm not sure whether he took his bagpipes with them – surely Customs would have declared them Weapons of Messy Distraction?).

Meanwhile, the new Master Plan for Ratalang Basham Beach Conservation Reserve, (what used to be called Basham's Forest), has - after much work and discussion – been finalised, and a copy thereof is in the History Room to be perused. The Reserve is a wonderful area, with history as well as lots of lovely open space and lots of trees and plants looking healthy, many of them planted in the last 20 years or more by various of the umpteen Friends of the Reserve. There is a marvellous interpretive shelter with Ngarrindjeri history in it, (as per the frodograph on the next page), near the main Port Elliot entry, with a Native Food Garden, very well labelled, just near it. It is hoped that in the future a similar display of the Basham history of what was their farm will be put up, perhaps most appropriately in one of the old dairy buildings on the Middleton end, as seen in the photo above by I. Dunno Who, which is the cover of the Master Plan.



Half-way through February, we had the unveiling of the bust of Joe Barton made by Michael Smerd, next to the Old Council Chambers, Port Elliot. I videofrodeed the event, with some lovely memories of Joe by Lorraine Pomery and Michael Scott. Joe was a fine gentleman, who contributed a huge amount to our community, not least as a Councillor and Mayor. Apart from said vidfrodeo, we also have available in the History Room a book of an interview I did with Joe, and also the wonderful book by his daughter, Isobel, *Carriage Wheels To Automobiles*, the carriage wheels of the title being a reference to the Barton's Works, which - from 1879 to about 1883 - were where the Goolwa Museum now is.



**HAPPY RESEARCHING
FRODO**

Help is available in the History Room when a volunteer is on duty. If you are travelling some distance it may be advisable to phone the Library on 8555-7000 to ascertain whether a volunteer is available.

For comments, suggestions or to receive this newsletter via email history.goolwa11@gmail.com

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