

Nomination of Graham Goulding for an RHSV Award of Merit

Graham Goulding, OAM, of Moe & District Historical Society has made outstanding and enduring contributions to the preservation of Gippsland's history and heritage.

Through M&DHS, he has performed many duties as Vice President 2002- , and *Coach News* journal co-editor. But his work has benefitted societies well beyond.

In 2006, Graham became Secretary/Treasurer of the Gippsland Association of Affiliated Historical Societies (resigning in 2023 after 17 years), organising the day-long AGMs for regional representatives, as well as instigating then improving digital communications between all, including group newsletters, and efficiently and expertly managing individual requests.

Graham was instrumental in establishing the Gippsland History Awards. Presented annually at GAAHS, these acknowledge members' contributions to their own societies and the region as a whole.

'As a Centre for Gippsland Studies Advisory Committee member to Federation University (Churchill) Graham played a leading role in advocating for an archive to be kept at the Churchill campus. Graham travelled to the Public Records Office in Melbourne, the Bendigo Regional Archive and to Federation University Ballarat as part of the advocacy. Ultimately the University decided on creating the Centre for Gippsland and Regional Studies Collection.'

Graham's many publications include:

Short History of Moe Newborough, 2005

A Brief History of The Former Walhalla Post Office, 2011

75th Anniversary History of the Moe Fire Brigade, 2011

Morwell Bowling Club Recreation Centre: One Hundred Years of History, 2013

Moe 1860s to 1960, DVD, 2013

Knowledge is Power: A History of Yallourn Technical School 1928-1998, 2024.

Editor, *Moe & District at War: A Collection of Articles and Letters from the Moe Narracan Shire Advocate and M&DHS archives, 2005*

and has co-edited:

Moe Newborough The Way We Were: A Pictorial History, 2008

Stories from The Wall, 2012

A different testament to perseverance and meticulous research is Graham's Gippsland Heritage Walk around Morwell's lake. It tells Gippsland's history in visuals and text, embracing First Nations activities and representations including farming, mining, the SEC, education and town development activities. Graham again travelled widely for information then designed the panels.

Graham has been or remains:

Secretary, Gippsland Immigration Park Inc, 2005-

Secretary, Walhalla Board of Management, 2010-2021 , and President, 2007-2010

Member, International Relations Committee, Latrobe City Council, 2006-2015.

He received the Victorian Multicultural Award for Excellence, 2014.

Graham's knowledge and skills have been a regional 'stand-out'. An easy decision was to invite him to join RHSV's Historical Societies Support Committee. In only several months, he has contributed vision to meetings, reviewed sections of the RHSV website, agreed to present at the inaugural Network Leaders' Day and is already co-organising the next Gippsland HSSC seminar.

Lyn Skillern: Secretary, Leongatha and District Historical Society

Rosalie Triolo: Chair, HSSC.