

## **Nomination for Award of Merit – Robert (Bob) Lambell**

The Camperdown & District Historical Society have much pleasure in nominating fellow committee member Robert (Bob) Lambell for a RHSV Award of Merit.

Bob joined the Society as a member in 1988, shortly after moving to Camperdown. Later that year he joined the committee and has served continuously for the past 35 years, including 12 years as President between 1991 and 2017. He is a Life Member.

In 1990 Bob instigated the production of our quarterly newsletter and regularly contributes articles. He also contributes biographies to Society publications.

He was instrumental in the historical society transforming from a museum into the current Heritage Centre in the early 2000's.

Bob has represented the Society on various Shire committees, including the steering committee for the Camperdown Heritage Study (1990 to 1998), the establishment of the Wombeetch Puyuun Aboriginal Reconciliation Park; and restoration of Camperdown's famous Robert Burns statue, including input into signage and brochures.

Bob has been the organiser of the annual Lecture Series section of the Robert Burns Festival on behalf of the Society for the past six years, securing a diverse range of excellent speakers.

He is also the Society's representative and co-organiser of a series of highly successful two-day events over the past two years, each consisting of both seminar and tour, featuring Aboriginal History; Natural History; European Settlement and later this year Built History.

Bob is a well-respected and knowledgeable authority on the history of the local Aboriginals and often shares his expertise with local school teachers, Corangamite Shire staff and other groups. He continues to work on projects in liaison with the Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation, including their recent successful Victorian Heritage Register nomination of the Aborigines Monument and Dawson family graves at Camperdown Cemetery.

Bob hosts many visits to the Heritage Centre by school groups, Probus and other historical societies and is a regular speaker at U3A and other groups, often hosting local bus tours.

He was behind a drive to obtain grant funding for our major building renovation plans for a kitchen refurbishment, accessible toilet and supper room rebuild. Over quite a few years all have been achieved. Bob's organisational expertise as well as being a willing labourer in the kitchen project (including painting and concreting), has resulted in a greatly improved facility. The toilet and supper room renovations were undertaken by the shire, owner of our building. Partial funding for the new toilet was provided by the Society by way of donation and a grant.

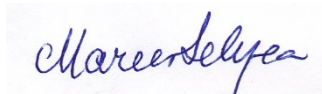
Bob then worked on plans to beautify the backyard for use by members and volunteers after removal of the old toilet block; obtained a Commonwealth Govt grant; organised tradesmen, plants, BBQ and outdoor furniture and coordinated the planting.

Bob was the Society representative on a committee working towards the building of a Volcanic Interpretation Centre for many years although this did not come to fruition.

He has been extremely successful in obtaining grants to keep our technology and equipment up to date and spends a lot of time ensuring all are in top working order and backed up.

Bob continues to give an incredible amount of time and labour to the Society.

His fellow committee members strongly believe he would be a very worthy recipient of the RHSV Award of Merit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maree Belyea". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Maree Belyea  
Secretary  
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