### **Braidwood & District Historical Society**



# DISPATCH NEWS SHEET

NOVEMBER 2024

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## The Heritage Centre

The \$3.75 Million Bush Fire Recovery Funding originally deemed sufficient to complete the total project is unlikely to be sufficient to complete Stage 1 to a useable state, (accommodation with no beds and no furniture, no blacksmith shop, no retaining walls and no fencing) unless some urgent top up funding is forthcoming.

The project managers, NSW Public Works (State Government) have a lot to answer for but provide no answers. We need to find the way forward, by establishing a recognition of the waste by those responsible and lobbying those with authority to provide the solution. Otherwise, things will get pretty messy.

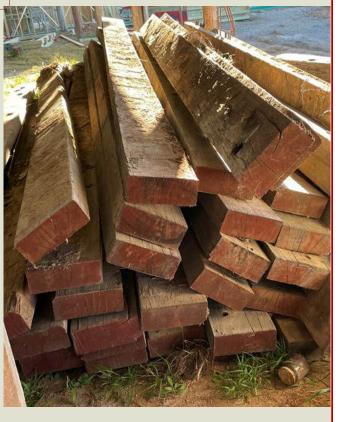
We have not been idle. We have met with our Federal Member, Kristy McBain and State Member, Steve Whan, seeking their support. Both responded with letters of support. Kristy said, "This community-led initiative sought to activate heritage tourism and offer Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council the largest tourism infrastructure ever invested in the Southern Tablelands. This is an important part of the Queanbeyan-Palerang's bushfire recovery, and cultural work to keep the history of Braidwood local."

Steve said, "The centre, once completed, will be a boon to the local tourism industry and build on the arts and heritage philosophy the Braidwood community has become known for. Additionally, because the site is not councilowned, this will come at no cost to Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council in terms of ongoing management and upkeep.

This project will bring hospitality workers, craftsmen, and tourists to our area and I support this project."

We have met with the Mayor and General Manager of QPRC, senior staff from the Minister responsible for Public Works, Director of NSW Regional Development, Director of Public Works and have more meetings planned for later in the week. We have the ear of the those who can provide the solution.

Not only do we need to complete Stage 1 but



Some good news- the timbers from the demolished Charleyong Bridge have been reprocessed by Treecycled of Moruya and are now ready to be repurposed as cladding for the front of the homestay accommodation. They are 250 mm x 5 metres sections which will be mounted vertically with 50mm caps. When the homestay is finally operational this feature will be the welcoming sight.

Braidwood & District Historical Society

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**COMMITTEE** 

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### The Inside Story

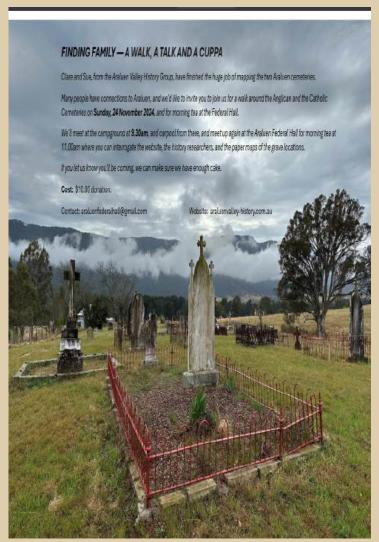
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Not only do we need to complete Stage 1 but of course the project does not fully function without the completion of Stage 2. Our efforts are directed to complete the original vision.

Meanwhile we wait to hear if we are successful in our application with Clubs NSW Grant for \$200,000 and our application for Growing Regions Program for \$924,310. These are both leveraged on the pledge from our wonderful, supportive Braidwood Community Bank, provided there is funding to complete the project, for an additional \$520,000

We are encouraged by the support of our community and know there will be a community backlash if this project fails to gain the funding it needs to completion after the waste and mismanagement is revealed.

### Peter Smith- President.



Members and friends of BDHS are invited to join the Araluen History Group for a walk, a talk and a cuppa.



Charleyong Bridge- served the Nerriga Road from 1901 to 2019. The timber bridge style is known as an Allen Truss.



Charleyong Bridge

Community Bank Braidwood

