

AUSTRALIAN MUTUALS HISTORY



NEWSLETTER

Australian Credit Union Archives Trust

Number 18

September 2021

New Website Launching Soon

We have had a new website in development for some time and we plan to unveil it during the week beginning October 18. The new website will have improved navigation and search functions, more content and a very new look. As a preview we can show you our new logo. Both our website and new logo were developed with Ultradata. Click "view this email in your browser" at the top of the page for optimum viewing of the logo.



50 Years of CUFA Book

Ben Woods was honoured to assist Professor Greg Patmore with research for his book recording the history of CUFA, an organisation that has its roots in the Australian credit union movement. We are pleased to announce that publication of the book is imminent and you can order your copy direct from CUFA [here](#).

Lysaght Credit Union History Preserved



David Morgan (left) of Horizon Bank and Ben Woods hold displays of historical Lysaght Credit Union documents and photos

In June, Ben Woods made a trip down to the former Lysaght Credit Union office and now Horizon Bank branch to chat with David Morgan, Paul Dwyer and Kim Morris about the transfer of Lysaght Credit Union business to Horizon Bank and collect some of Lysaght's important records for preservation. We also arranged for a donation of historical Horizon Bank material which was delivered to us separately. Read the story [here](#).

Documenting COVID-19

As the Covid-19 pandemic has ramped up this year, we have again sought out important statements issued by COBA, the RBA and individual mutuals via their online platforms that may help researchers to understand how our sector responded to developments in these unprecedented times. If your mutual has produced any documents of note during the pandemic please send originals or copies to us.

Seeking Support and Donations

With the reducing number of Mutuals, Australian Mutuals History is in need of additional funding in order to maintain our services. Australian Mutuals History would value donations

from the Mutual Industry Support & Service Providers along with donations from individuals who support our movement's history.

Donations can be made direct to our account and add your name or business in the reference field - **Australian Credit Union Archives - BSB: 611-000 -Acc Number: 900079607**

Please contact the Chair, Greg Stevens by phone on 0420 990 620 or email; stevensgm@hotmail.com

Best of the Blog

Australasian Mutuals Institute: Instilling Confidence



On 5th March 2020, the Australasian Mutuals Institute (trading as Instil) closed its doors after almost 40 years educating mutual finance professionals. For most of those 40 years, it was known as the Australian Institute of Credit Union Management (AICUM). To a large extent the brainchild of Graham Humphreys, it was beloved for its annual convention held in Albury (site of the 1994 convention picture above). Its remaining capital was bequeathed to the Australian Mutuals Foundation. Read more [here](#).

A Tribute to Reg Elliot



Reg Elliot (pictured above) was a genuine legend of the Australian credit union movement and sadly he passed away in February this year at the age of 87. He was heavily involved in the development of CUSCAL and was described as " a sailor, a thoughtful reader, a snappy dresser and a dedicated runner and marathoner with his friend Richo". Read more about Reg [here](#).

Mark Genovese - Mutuals in the Blood



Mark Genovese (pictured above) left financial mutuals last year after an illustrious career spanning almost 40 years. Mark says he “must’ve worked for more credit unions than anyone else”, but highlights include working with CUSCAL’s CreditCare and CUFA as well as steering the ship of Unity Bank as CEO for 18 years. Mark was also a Trustee overseeing the work of Australian Mutuals History. Read more [here](#).

Betty Shearman - Credit For Teachers



The financial mutuals movement lost another of its champions in February. Betty Shearman was a teacher and school principal and was a founder of what today is Teachers Mutual Bank. On her work with the credit union Betty said, "I regard this as one of my achievements in assisting this to come about and grow into an organisation that has meant so much to teachers in the country as well as the city". Read more [here](#).

Joanne O'Donnell - From London to LCU



Joanne O'Donnell (pictured above) is the Risk and Compliance Officer with Laboratories Credit Union (LCU). She is also on the Board of the Australian Credit Union Archives Trust, the body that oversees Australian Mutuals History. Hailing from London, she has called Australia home for many years and has had a fascinating career in customer owned banking. Read more [here](#).