

ITEM 2. HISTORY PUBLICATION SPONSORSHIPS**FILE NO: S122677****SUMMARY**

The City's grants and sponsorship programs provide funding or revenue forgone support across a range of activities encompassing community, cultural, economic and environmental initiatives. The provision of grants and sponsorships is a mechanism for the City to further the aims identified in its social, cultural, economic and environmental policies. In this way, the City and the community act collaboratively to bring to life Sustainable Sydney 2030.

The major aim of the History Publication Sponsorship Program (the Program) is to support publishers and historians with the cost of publications that are considered relevant to the ongoing research and recording of the history of the City of Sydney as a city of villages and as a global city.

The City has received four applications for funding support under the Program. The requests have been evaluated against the aims of the City's Grants and Sponsorship Policy. Under this Policy, applications to the Program are considered on an ad-hoc basis and are assessed, as part of a competitive process, on final manuscript and a supporting letter responding to the evaluation criteria. The City's funding is a contribution to a committed publication to improve the quality and reach of Sydney's history.

Of the four applications received, the following two are recommended to Council for funding support:

- *Not just pin money: Colonial businesswomen in Sydney*, authored by Catherine Bishop; and
- *The rise and fall of the Nugan Hand Bank*, authored by Peter Butt.

The existing Program for publications relevant to the history of the City of Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) will be rolled into the wider Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program from 1 July 2015. Applications for the existing Program were open until 31 March 2015 to allow time for assessment and recommendations before the end of the 2014/15 financial year.

All figures in this report are exclusive of GST. Total funding of \$50,000 was available in the 2014/15 History Publication Sponsorship Program budget. Of this, \$30,000 has already been allocated, leaving funding of \$20,000 available for allocation.

RECOMMENDATION

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve a cash sponsorship of \$10,000 (excluding GST) to Catherine Bishop for *Not just pin money: Colonial businesswomen in Sydney*;

- (B) Council approve a cash sponsorship of \$9,994 (excluding GST) to Peter Butt for *Rogue bank: The rise and fall of the Nugan Hand Bank* on the condition that \$5,000 be used to engage an editor to improve the identification of sources and references, and the integration of interview testimony within the text; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to enter into agreements with Catherine Bishop and Peter Butt under terms consistent with this resolution and the Grants and Sponsorship Policy.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

BACKGROUND

1. The History Publication Sponsorship Program (the Program) provides cash sponsorship of up to \$15,000 to assist with the costs of publications that are considered relevant to the ongoing research and recording of the history of the City of Sydney.
2. The Program responds on an ad-hoc basis to requests from publishers and historians. Applications received are assessed independently by two City Historians against the following criteria:
 - (a) the general historical interest of the proposed publication;
 - (b) originality and new historical research;
 - (c) the quality of the content, including the research, writing and scholarship of the manuscript;
 - (d) the quality of the proposed publication;
 - (e) the relevance to the City LGA; and
 - (f) the capacity of the applicant to complete the project and ensure publication.
3. The Program aims to provide funds to contribute to publication costs, not to meet the entire print or publication costs.
4. The City's History Publication Sponsorship program is a competitive program. Applications that are not recommended have not scored as highly against the assessment criteria. The City's Historians provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants.
5. The City has received four applications for support under the Program. Of these, two are recommended for funding and two are not recommended. The two that are not recommended did not meet the criteria for the Program. These were Lyn Gallacher's *Remember me, I am forgetting you: The Nancy Keesing Archives* and Sydney Living Museums', *Dora Byrne and Leslie Walford: The correspondence of mother and son, 1929-1972*.
6. This is the final allocation of the existing Program for publications relevant to the history of the City LGA. From 1 July 2015, the Program will be rolled into the wider Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program. Applications for the current Program were open until 31 March 2015 to allow time for assessment and recommendations before the end of the 2014/15 financial year.

Catherine Bishop – *Not just pin money: Colonial businesswomen in Sydney*

7. The City has received a request for support under the Program from Catherine Bishop of \$10,000 (excluding GST).

8. *Not just pin money: Colonial businesswomen in Sydney* is a new manuscript that gives a highly readable and carefully researched account of the role of women in creating a city and an economy in early Sydney. The manuscript presents the range and extent of business enterprises led by women in early Sydney, from expected female occupations – for example needleworkers, teachers, and boarding-house keepers – to publicans, shop owners, entertainers and more surprising pursuits including skilled trades and con artistry. The work details the legal and social constraints that businesswomen operated within, and shows how these evolved across the 19th century.
9. The manuscript is an original piece of scholarship by Catherine Bishop. It is based on research undertaken for her PhD thesis completed in 2012 at the Australian National University. Bishop has been creative and lateral in her approach to sources to overcome the invisibility of female economic enterprise in surviving statistical records, such as census records. In the category of traditional archival sources, Bishop's use of insolvency papers at State Records NSW has been particularly productive. She also makes full and productive use of the newly available digital archive. What emerges from the available sources – many newly searchable through recent digitisation initiatives – is a clear picture of the strength and significance of women's economic contribution outside of domestic duties. This has not been revealed before.
10. The proposed publication is particularly relevant to the City LGA. Given the evolution of Sydney through the 19th century, most business activity was conducted in the area now included within the boundaries of the City of Sydney. Bishop brings the history into contact with the present by describing the location of various 19th century businesses and discovering their traces in the contemporary urban space.
11. As well as building on current feminist historical scholarship and illuminating Sydney's economic history, the manuscript includes detailed biographical information about many individual women, which will be of great interest to family historians, genealogists and local historical societies.
12. The author has entered into a contract with NewSouth Publishing / UNSW Press which plans to print 2,000 copies of the book as a C-format paperback with 8pp or 2x8pp colour sections, as well as release it as an e-book. NewSouth Publishing project total production costs (copyediting, design, typesetting, illustration preparation, printing and transport costs) to be approximately \$12,250. This figure excludes in-house editorial assessment and management, publicity, marketing, and distribution, which are also covered by the publisher. City staff estimate these costs to be approximately \$10,000.
13. The City's sponsorship will enable the inclusion of illustrations of people and business premises, which will connect the history to the contemporary urban space of Sydney, making the story tangible and visible to the reader. The subsidy of production costs will also assist to keep the price-point below \$40. This will make the book accessible and appealing to a wide general audience.
14. The draft manuscript has been assessed by two historians within the City's History Team and meets all the criteria of the History Publication Sponsorship Program and will contribute to a better understanding of 19th century Sydney. The City's Manager Grants oversaw the assessment process in line with all other City grants and sponsorship programs. It is recommended that cash sponsorship of \$10,000 (excluding GST) be provided to Catherine Bishop to assist with the publication costs of the book.

15. The City's support will be acknowledged in the publication, at any launch or event associated with the publication, and in media releases. Six copies of the book will be supplied to the City for its libraries and archives. A further condition of the sponsorship will be that the author delivers a talk on the subject of her research at one of the City of Sydney libraries.
16. *Not just pin money: Colonial businesswomen in Sydney* complements the work being done by the City's History Team. The book will make an important contribution to the historical understanding of women in 19th century Sydney, and the significance of their economic activity in the establishment of the city.

Peter Butt – *Rogue bank: The rise and fall of the Nugan Hand Bank.*

17. The City has received a request for support under the Program from Peter Butt of \$14,994 (excluding GST). This amount includes \$5,000 to pay a publicist. However, since publicity costs are beyond the scope of the Program, only \$9,994 of the amount sought, which is towards meeting publication costs, is recommended for funding.
18. *Rogue bank: The rise and fall of the Nugan Hand Bank* is a gripping investigation of a significant corporate scandal that unfolded in Sydney in the 1970s and 80s. Since its collapse in 1980, the Nugan Hand Bank has been the subject of many Australian and international inquiries, including a NSW Corporate Affairs Commission investigation and a Royal Commission of Inquiry. While these investigations showed that the bank was involved in illegal activities including money laundering, arms and drug trafficking, many mysteries remain unsolved, including the location of the bank's surviving partner Mike Hand who disappeared from Sydney in 1980. Peter Butt's investigation has uncovered many new chapters in the Nugan Hand Bank story, which he records in this manuscript.
19. The manuscript is based on original research by Peter Butt. He has used original investigation documents, newly declassified ASIO and FBI files and other records sourced under freedom of information (GIPAA) legislation, and forensic and court documents. He has also tracked down many key witnesses with whom he has recorded extensive interviews, testimony from which appears throughout the manuscript.
20. The Nugan Hand Bank was an international operation established by Frank Nugan from Griffith and Mike Hand from New York. The story stretches from country New South Wales across southeast Asia to the Middle East and the USA. But the key partnerships were brokered in Kings Cross, the bank was headquartered on Macquarie Street and its operations implicated many high-profile Sydney businesspeople and politicians.
21. The author plans to self-publish and proposes a print-run of 2,000 soft-cover C-format with 8pp of colour photos, with print-on-demand and e-book formats available too. Sponsorship of \$9,994 was requested to meet production and printing costs.

22. The draft manuscript has been assessed by two historians within the City's History Team. The City's Manager Grants oversaw the assessment process in line with all other City grants and sponsorship programs. While the application meets all the criteria of the Program, the reviewing historians agree that in the interests of historical rigour (as specified earlier in criterion c), and because the manuscript will be self-published, the proposed publication requires the services of a professional editor. It is recommended that cash sponsorship of \$9,994 (excluding GST) be provided to Peter Butt to assist with the publication costs of the book, with no less than \$5,000 to be spent on engaging an editor to work specifically on improving the identification of sources and references, and the integration of interview testimony within the text.
23. The City's support will be acknowledged in the publication, at any launch or event associated with the publication, and in media releases. Six copies of the book will be supplied to the City for its libraries and archives. A further condition of the sponsorship will be that the author delivers a talk on the subject of his research at one of the City of Sydney libraries.
24. *Rogue bank: The rise and fall of the Nugan Hand Bank* complements the work being done by the City's History Team. It places Sydney within the financial global economy that emerged in the post-Vietnam war era and shines a compelling light on illegal financial activities in Sydney in the late 20th century.

KEY IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Alignment

25. *Sustainable Sydney 2030* is a vision for the sustainable development of the city to 2030 and beyond. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the city, as well as 10 targets against which to measure progress. These sponsorships are aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
 - (a) Direction 6 - Vibrant Local Communities and Economies – the histories support the provision of a rich layer of accessible community level social infrastructure and information and build opportunities for lifelong learning;
 - (b) Direction 7 - A Cultural and Creative City – support for research, documentation and presentation of the City's history through publications helps facilitate cultural production and participation and demonstrates cultural leadership; and
 - (c) Direction 10 - Implementation through Effective Governance and Partnerships – history provides contextual information and precedence that support good governance by informing policy, planning and decision making.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

26. Two sponsorships are recommended in this report, which includes a total value of \$19,994 in cash (excluding GST). This amount is provided for in 2014/15 History Publication Sponsorship Program budget.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

27. Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993.

CRITICAL DATES / TIME FRAMES

28. The planned publication date for Catherine Bishop's manuscript is November 2015, to capitalise on the Christmas market.
29. No time frame is indicated in Peter Butt's application, but the book will appear in tandem with a documentary film directed by Peter Butt on the same subject.

ANN HOBAN

Director City Life

Lisa Murray, City Historian