



STRATEGIC PLAN 2025 – 2029

INTRODUCTION

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith.

Our former President, the late John Leary OAM was instrumental, along with Barrie Reynolds, Ian Jack and Peter Stanbury in lobbying the Blue Mountains City Council to form the BMCC Heritage Advisory Committee, of which John Leary was an inaugural member from about 2011.

CONSTITUTION

AIMS and OBJECTIVES

1. To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage.
2. To encourage and assist cultural heritage.
3. To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.

One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership comprises Organisational Members including historical and heritage groups, family history societies, museums, heritage buildings, local government (local studies units, library collections, archival collections) and commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in the core of the business, and a limited number of Individual Members.

The numbers of Organisational and Individual Members of BMACHO has remained stable over time, including throughout the COVID lockdowns. The number of Organisational Members **currently stands at 27 and the number of Individual Members stands at 11 (July 2025).**

MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

The BMACHO Constitution was developed in accordance with a model developed by NSW Fair Trading and is reviewed regularly. It sets out the structure of the operation of the Association including membership eligibilities and entitlements, fees, the roles and responsibilities of the principal office bearers and other matters such as insurance, funding and winding up.

The BMACHO Management Committee is the key governance body for the Association. It is chaired by the President and comprises the Vice President, Treasurer, the Secretary and at least 3 other members with functions as determined by the Management Committee. A Public Officer is also appointed.

Documents which support the operation of the Management Committee include:

- Disaster Preparedness Plan.
- Refund and Cancellation Policy.
- Strategic Plan.

These are published on the BMACHO website, along with the Constitution and are available to members on request. They should be updated when due.

BMACHO is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC), subject to submission of an annual report. **BMACHO has been assessed and provided with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).**

OUR COLLECTION

The BMACHO collection consists of archives such as minutes, correspondence, financial reports, some publications and limited equipment. The collection is kept at the home of the Secretary/Public Officer at 1/19 Styandra Place, Springwood, NSW, 2777, as at December 2024.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2029

In order to continue BMACHO on an effective and sustainable path forward, key strategic objectives have been identified by the Management Committee. They are set out below together with actions which the Committee considers would enable them to be achieved. It is noted that achievement is constrained by the availability of funding and volunteer time.

Strategy	Action	Time frame
Conduct monthly meetings in accordance with Fair Trading directives	Monthly meetings to be held at various members' premises, encouraging at least one member of the host organisation to attend to provide updates.	Ongoing
Maintain registration with Australian Charities Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC)	Conduct an annual report to ACNC, as opposed to an annual report to Fair Trading NSW.	Annually
Maintain best practice	Review and update the Constitution as and when required.	Ongoing
Maintain website and social media initiatives	Increase use of website and social media where possible, including monthly reporting of usage data to the Committee.	Ongoing
	Commence budgeting for a website overhaul.	Within 5 years
Provide history and heritage information to members and the wider community	Blue Mountains History Journal.	One a year (TBA)
	<i>Heritage</i> Newsletter.	Every two months
	Emails and internet/social media.	Ongoing
	Issue Occasional Papers on relevant heritage matters.	Opportunistic

Provide opportunities for networking and interaction	<p>Blue Mountains History Conference.</p> <p>Stage presentations, seminars, workshops.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - fees for presentations should be a minimum of \$15 with allowance for a concessional rate of \$10, but each event would be considered on its merits, based on the costs involved. - content of presentations should be aimed not just at member museums but also at other types of member organisations. - sometimes location based, considering a theme relevant to that location, minimising travel times. - initiate social outings at least once a year or alternate years to the conference. 	<p>Every 2 years</p> <p>3-4 per year</p> <p>Costs to be reviewed annually</p>
Share member information and events	Utilise emails, the website and Facebook page, and in the <i>Heritage</i> newsletter.	Ongoing
Familiarise with member organisations	Visit member organisations in addition to our hosted meetings, such as at AGMs or when the opportunity arises.	Ongoing
Provide advocacy and support for members	<p>Produce submissions on significant issues and policies affecting members and the wider heritage community.</p> <p>Finalise the Curating Guide.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Within 12 months</p>
Increase member involvement in BMACHO	<p>Seek to increase attendance at BMACHO meetings by members.</p> <p>Utilise zoom attendance when available and appropriate.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

	Revise the <i>What Can BMACHO do for You</i> document.	Annually
Communicate and cooperate with authorities with influence in the heritage environment	Maintains relations with all levels of government.	Ongoing
Utilise financial opportunities	Seek sponsorship in the commercial sphere.	Ongoing
	Seek funding opportunities at all levels of government and other sources.	Ongoing
	Renew effort for funding providers to review the criteria for funding to fit our organisation.	Ongoing
Remain relevant and effective	Review the Disaster Preparedness Plan.	Every 5 years
	Review the Refund and Cancellation Policy.	Every 5 years
	Review the Strategic Plan.	Every 5 years
	Include a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis as part of the review.	Ongoing
	Share our own experiences with self-analysis, encouraging members to look at their own operations and carry out their own evaluation and assessment.	Ongoing
Make allowance in the event of winding up of the organisation	Subject to the Act and the Regulation, and the BMACHO Constitution (Clauses 45 & 46), in a winding up of the association, the assets of the association must be transferred to Blue Mountains Historical Society.	Ongoing

Acknowledgement and endorsement:

The above BMACHO Management Manual has been considered and agreed upon by the whole BMACHO Committee.

Plan endorsed by BMACHO:

Patsy Moppett (President) Date: 6th December 2024

Date this Plan adopted by BMACHO Committee: 6th December 2024

Date the Plan was amended 4th July 2025

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