



# The Kernel

## Campbelltown and Airs Historical Society

*"Love and Cherish the City in which you live"*

*Newsletter*

*June, 2022*

### *President's Report*

*by Kay Hayes*



Welcome back to The Kernel after a long break for various reasons and constraints. Activities at Glenalvon and for the Society are starting to pick up again and we have been pleased to welcome tour groups for morning tea and tours. Our visitors always enjoy these mornings, so if you know any social group looking for a morning out, please get in touch. We were also pleased to host wedding photos after a long break.

With the development in Gilead, we have had a number of inquiries for images and information from some of the companies involved. Glen Lorne, now long demolished, is of particular interest, as the Society has 3 models of the house in our collection, as well as many photos.

South West Sydney Community and Justice Precinct community consultation is an ongoing project by Campbelltown Council and it is now in the community consultation phase, it is quite a detailed proposal and we have met with the architects involved with the plans. The continued preservation of the heritage buildings in this precinct is of great concern to us and we will be kept informed of the progress. Full details are on the Councils website.

The Handmade and Homegrown Markets were held in Lithgow Street again on Sunday June 19, and Glenalvon was open. We served Devonshire Teas on the back terrace and in all it was a great success! With close to 290 visitors through the door and over 70 teas served, it was a financial boost as well as great exposure for Glenalvon.

*Our society is in the enviable position of having as our "home" Glenalvon Historic House and we have obligations to follow as per our licence. Part of this is to have Glenalvon open for public visits, which we do 3 mornings a month, and to maintain the garden. Due to Covid, illness and other reasons we have a desperate need for additional help! It is not a difficult task, mainly to greet visitors at the front door and, if you chose, to become a guide.*

*I ask all members who live in the area to please consider lending a hand, the kettle is always on and morning tea is provided. Plenty of assistance will be given.*

*Give me a call or talk to one of our volunteers – you will be welcome!! Kay – 0418 493 676.*

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On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May, at our monthly meeting we celebrated the life of Alex Goodsell, with many people from various areas of his life, happy to share their memories, the chance conversations they had and the difference he made to them.

The meeting was well attended, with many guests as well as members. Members of his family, of the society and of the school in which he taught, were all keen to share an aspect of his life.

His daughter, Margaret Young, talked about the family background. Born in Milby Hospital, his parents moved to Dorchester Park in Airds where his father managed two properties, moving around on horseback. Alex had recalled being tied to a milk can on the back of a dray to get a ride to school. One of five children, he was regularly sent to Manly to the care of his aunts; a label tied to his clothes and put in the care of the train conductor.

He loved adventure, exploration and science of all sorts, was selected from Ingleburn Public School to attend Sydney Tech High, was part of the air cadets and a King scout. He also loved cycling and was highly competitive with his brothers, placing in the Goulburn to Sydney race.

He studied at Sydney University becoming a maths and science teacher and was one of the establishing teachers of Campbelltown High.

His dedication to this career was testified by the presence of several students from 1954, the first intake of the school, coming to the meeting and very willing to testify to how he influenced their lives, and from each of his students was the theme of fairness and respect.

Jeff McGill spoke of Alex as a mentor to the young reporter interested in local history and Margaret Francis of the photographic record that we have as one of Alex's legacies.

Alex on failure

*There is no such thing, it's a temporary setback,*

*A worthy challenge*

*Work out where you went wrong and go from there*



*Left: Alex's granddaughter Ebony, Right: Judy Armstrong, nee Gwynne*

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*From the first intake of Campbelltown High, Neil Blinman,(school captain) Alan Doble, Peter Tolnay, Gordon Nelson and Marie Penberthy*

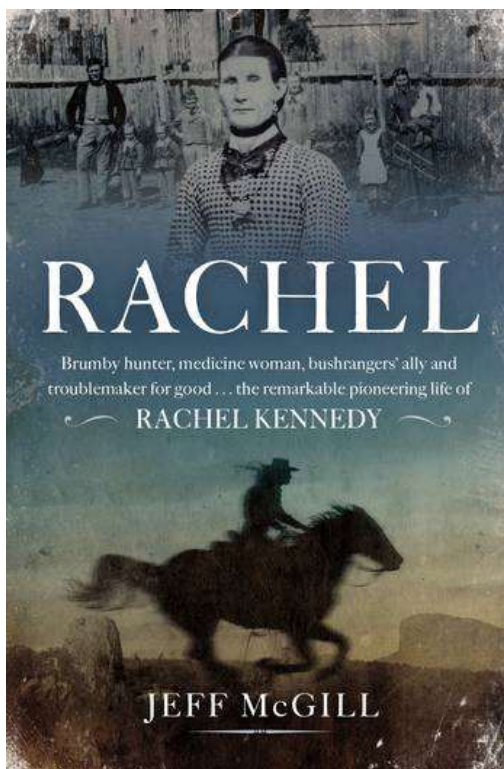
The previous member's meeting, on 28<sup>th</sup> April was the launch of the Grist Mills *Minto: Our Childhood Memories*. This collection of stories was compiled with the huge support of Anne Ross (nee Dewar) and Robyn Simond, who called on family members and childhood friends to write their stories of growing up in the village.

The launch was well attended and we were pleased on this occasion to welcome many of the contributors, some travelling quite a distance to join us.



*Keith Stockall, Greg Wallin, Tony Bennett, Anne Ross (Dewar) Vicky Kennedy (Hannaford), Robyn Simond, Ron Leemon, Vicki and Graham Andrews*

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*Have you heard the news, the talk of the town?????*

Our own Jeff McGill is making wide acclaim, having very successfully had the story of his great-great grandmother, Rachel Kennedy published by Allen and Unwin. 'A vivid and at times heartbreaking story of a pioneering woman.

Rachel is a brumby hunter, medicine woman, bushrangers' ally and troublemaker for good . . .'

### *A beautiful new acquisition*



An elegant dinner set has now been placed in the Glenalvon dining room. This setting has been donated by Liz Breden, granddaughter of Dr Ivor and Mary Thomas. It is a valuable set and has been a treasured family item, one the family wanted to honour by finding an appropriate home.

It is a large setting for eight, including dinner plates, entrée plates, bread and butter plates, soup saucers, cups and saucers etc, an oval patter and 2 two-handled serving pots with lids.

It is known as Royal Worcester 'Lady Evelyn'. Made in England, it is now a discontinued pattern, beautifully done with hand applied, fired enamel red and yellow dots. The pieces are numbered with a red stamping.



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# Memories

We have had sad news too often over the last few months. Rather than write 'Vale' for those friends we have lost, I thought to just share a few memories of time spent together.





75<sup>th</sup>

*Anniversary  
Celebrations*

Our Society will be holding a special afternoon tea in  
October

**Dates to Remember**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June** Glenalvon open morning 10am-1pm.

Members Meeting. Time 1.30pm. Guest Speakers: Fran Musico-Rullo and Jo Cavallin (College Archivist) Topic: The History of St Patrick's College 1840-2020. Afternoon tea to follow

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July** Glenalvon open morning 10am-1pm

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July** Glenalvon open mornings 10am -1pm

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July** Glenalvon open mornings 10am -1pm

Members meeting 1.30pm. Afternoon tea to follow

**\*\* Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept \*\* Change of Members Meeting Date.** For September it will **not** be the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month, due to a long term Wedding booking

**October** 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration special afternoon tea on a date yet to be decided.