

THE KERNEL



Newsletter of Campbelltown and Airds
Historical Society Inc
"Love & Cherish the City in which you live"

July 2014

From The President:

Welcome to the July edition of The Kernel – yes in case you hadn't been aware of all the advertising of the end of the financial sales etc, we are already in July! Winter seems to be well and truly here as shown by the lovely crisp frost on the lawn of Glenalvon early this morning (9th July).

I would like to draw your attention to the sentence at the top of the newsletter, "Love and cherish the City in which you live." This is an adaption from a quote mentioned at a meeting by our member and Patron Rev Dr John Bunyan. My feeling is that this what the Society is about, although Campbelltown and district has changed enormously over the past few years, and many of our members do not live here, I am sure you all have an affinity with our City. The Society aims to preserve the history of Campbelltown, and also to bring it to the attention of the many new residents in the area. We do this in many ways including conducting tours, open days, this newsletter, assisting with research and the publication of our journal Grist Mills. I would encourage all members to assist in any small way they can to help our team of volunteers to honour this quote.

As you know the work of the Society is twofold, primarily to continue the work of the Historical Society, but also to maintain and profile Glenalvon Historic House and its contents as well as the gardens. Any member who is interested in the house and its history may find becoming a tour guide a satisfying position. Please contact myself or Jenny to find out more. Plenty of training will be given. The many tour groups we have welcomed recently have all expressed their pleasure in our guided tours.

As the latest edition of Grist Mills is now available, I take this opportunity to thank all the people who contributed their stories and memories, and to Stella Vernon and her team for their tireless work.

Also Stella is very busy organising the programme for the upcoming Ivor G Thomas Memorial Lecture. Thanks particularly to John White and Julie Crowley with their work on finding and collating the photographs.

Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society Inc

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For some time we have been asking for help with the library and Dennis Roach has taken up the challenge, thank you Dennis.

Also we appreciate the work of Kathryn Millar who is working with Stella on material for Grist Mills and also completing the archive filing. Kathryn has also undertaken the position of Publicity Officer, so we hope to see more articles in the local papers soon.

Kay Hayes, President

Open Days and Meeting Programme:

The Museum is open to visitors on 1st Monday, 2nd Saturday, 3rd Monday of each month, February to Mid December, 10.00am-1.00pm; other times by appointment.

Visitors welcome at all general meetings, held on 4th Saturday of each month commencing at 1.30pm.

2014

Saturday July 26th. Monthly meeting 1.30pm.
Speaker: Chris Bettridge. Topic: Glenalvon Gardens.

Saturday August 23rd. Annual General Meeting 1.30pm. Speaker: Kay Hayes. Topic: The Oar Factory and Fire Service - stories about the Gonsalves and Favelle families.

Saturday September 27th. Monthly meeting 1.30pm.
Speaker: To be advised.

Saturday October 25th. Monthly meeting 1.30pm.
Speaker: Otto Cserhalmi. Topic: Glenalvon

Saturday November 22nd. Monthly meeting 1.30pm.
Speakers: Member's Choice Topic: "My Favourite Australian Book".

Condolences

Some of our members attended the funeral of Pearl King who died at the age of 106 recently.

News from Queensland

A Phone call from Bob Jones advised us that his father's nurse at Milby Hospital, Dulcie Badham is still doing well at 104, but sadly Gwen Coffin who also worked for his father passed away recently.

Curator's Report

Our current display is entitled Journeys through Time, and will continue until August. It features the journeys of our first settlers, the indigenous people, and the caves they decorated. It follows the journeys and ships of the convicts, and later migrants, and the different cars in which we made journeys. Open days are first and third Mondays and second Saturday.

Assistants to the Curator. This is varied and interesting work. It involves documenting and storing exhibits, changing exhibitions, working with photographs and the MOSAiC database.

Book Advertisement

Campbelltown District Family History Society and Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society are looking to jointly publish 2 books, during the next few years.

1. Campbelltown residents serving in Militia / Military units between 1788 - July 1914. To be published during 2016. This book will basically be a coverage of Colonial times and early Federation.
2. Campbelltown residents serving in / supporting military units during WWI. To be published 11th November 2018.

During 2014 we will conduct research on these 2 books and we will invite anyone who has relevant information to provide that.

Please contact either:

David Beddie newsletter@cahs.com.au

Learna Coupe ruby02@tpg.com.au

Ivor G Thomas Lecture

The annual Ivor G Thomas Memorial Lecture will be held on Saturday 16th August 2014 at St David's Church Hall, Lithgow Street, Campbelltown.

It will be called:

“Between the Wars”.
The Buildings and People
of Queen St Campbelltown
in the Twenties and Thirties.

It will be loosely based on a list supplied by Norm Campbell of buildings in the main Street of Campbelltown and nearby areas in those times. Norm Campbell grew up in one of the 'Queen St' houses.

Cost \$10.00 per person, which includes afternoon tea.

Come with us as our members recall the main street, illustrated by photographs from our collection.

Please RSVP by Wednesday 6th August 2014 to Kay 0418 493 676 or Jenny 0417 556 756 or to president@cahs.com.au.

Volunteers are still needed.

If you would like to learn more about how the Society works, please join us at Glenalvon on one of our usual Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday administration mornings. Contact the Society on 02 46251822.

Research

For research questions please contact Marie Holmes at: mariejholmes@gmail.com

Webshop

Please visit our webshop at the following site:
<http://www.cahs.com.au/store/>

We have 12 IGT publications, 30 Grist Mills and 20 General titles. The prices are reasonable.

St Peter's Font

St Peter's requires funding for repair of its' original baptismal font - not used for its original purpose after the new one was given in 1875. It travelled out to Glen Alpine, where the Reddall sisters lived until 1900 when the surviving sister died. After that date the font was bought by the Sedgwick family and was taken to Smeaton, where it was used as a bird bath. It was noticed by Dr. Thomas, who had established the Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society in 1947. He recognised it for what it was, and bought it and moved it to his garage where it was stored for some years. On his death in 1960 it travelled to his widow's home in Lindesay St, and when she moved from the district it was given to the Rev Geoff Chandler for safe keeping and kept in the old rectory garage. When that was needed by the Youth Group it was taken over by the Historical Society where it lived for a few years in their Stables Museum. When they moved to Richmond Villa it became a problem and it was just when the church was establishing the Church Office in the current administration building, so it was moved into the entranceway and has proved a talking point there for many years. When the present Senior Minister, Rev Nigel Fortescue was re-furbishing the entrance he moved it out and hearing its history decided to get a quote for its renovation and restoration. James Gardner is a local heritage stonemason, and his quote was reasonable for the work to be done.

This is a heritage project worthy of consideration from all of you - it has links with our historic church, and the families baptised in the font, until 1875, with the Reddall family of Glen Alpine, with the Sedgwick family of Smeaton and with Ivor Gwynne Thomas, founder of the Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society and parish historian.



You may give your donations via CAHS. Please mark your donation: “For St. Peters Font restoration”.