

THE KERNEL



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

May 2014

From The President:

Hello to all members and friends. The Society has been busy since the last newsletter, including the very successful launch of Grist Mills – The Bishop's Farm. Over 70 people attended the launch with many visitors from distant areas, some of whom told of their memories of growing up either at The Bishop's Farm or other dairy farms.

We also had a successful trip to Appin, visiting St Bede's and St Mark's churches and also properties including Northamptondale and Testons Farm.

The work on the "old" RSL is progressing well and the adjoining wall is certainly looking much better than the blocks and damage we have been seeing for so long. Thankfully damage to the garden from the scaffolding has been minimal and we are assured that it will all be repaired. The builders had to pay a substantial bond to Council, so I am sure it will be restored well. There will be shops at street level and Government Offices upstairs.

At the March and April general meetings we were treated to talks by two knowledgeable guest speakers. Ron Ringer who spoke on the "Snowy Mountains Engineering Scheme", and Gerri Nicholas who has published a book for her grandchildren about her uncle Gordon Scurrah called "One Boy's War." Both of these books are available from our library for any interested members.

The curator of Science, Technology & Industry from the Powerhouse Museum, Margaret Simpson, visited Glenalvon to research and photograph the items in the Alex Goodsell Rural Exhibition Centre. Margaret has sent us a comprehensive report on her research, with photos and she has listed a number of items as "rare." These include Wiard Subsoil Plough, Charles Tripp Plough and Scarifier, Paul No.2 General Purpose Plough made in Parramatta, Miller "Ideal" Incubator, Quirk's "Light of Australia" Safety Air Gas Plant and the A.B. Cohen Maize Sheller. A copy of this report was presented to Alex at the April meeting.

The 2014 Campbelltown City Council Heritage Medallion was presented recently and a number of members attended. The Medallion was awarded to "Uncle" Ivan Wellington for his past and continuing

Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society Inc

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work in promoting their heritage and assisting indigenous youth.

Members of the Executive met with Council's Cultural Director, to discuss any concerns about Glenalvon building and the garden. A number of safety concerns are going to be addressed by Council. He also arranged for the fig tree which was encroaching on the well and very liable to cause permanent damage, to be removed. Council workmen have also planted dwarf agapanthus around the sculpture of Mrs Macquarie in Mawson Park and located and tidied the site of Paddy Hunt's birdbath and plaque. A number of members had raised concern about the neglect of these important memorials.

Visitor numbers have been good on the March and April Open Days, and we have now purchased two flare banners to advertise the Open Days, and already they have proved to be eye-catching to passersby and encouraged them to visit. I would also encourage all our members who are able to visit Glenalvon – it is something to be proud of for our Society and the district.

We look forward to welcoming 4 tour groups in May, coming from Menai, Blue Mountains, Sutherland and the "Friends of Historic Houses." A very busy month.

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 May 24th. Monthly meeting 1.30pm.
Speakers: Stella Vernon and John White. Topic: Ron Moore and the Campbelltown Historical Society.

Saturday June 28th. Monthly meeting 1.30pm.
Speaker: Stephen Szabo. "Heraldry in Australia, with special reference to Campbelltown and surrounding areas".

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".

Research

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

Condolences

We wish to give condolences to the family of Ken Reid
who 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.

The Open Day on Monday 7th July is cancelled.

There will be a working display of work by the
Airds Arts and Craft Group on Open Day 14th
June.

Books in our Library

The following book is available in our library.
Members can borrow this. Please visit our library for
other books that may interest you.

* Tom Bass - Totem Maker - by Tom Bass - 1996 –
Softback – 177 pages.

We are in need of a librarian. If anyone has an
interest in helping us in this area, please contact Kay.

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.

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'
Buildings and People of 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.

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.



Our new banners