

THE KERNEL



Newsletter of
Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society
May 2007

Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society Inc.

Correspondence to the Secretary
P.O. Box 257, Campbelltown NSW 2560
Phone: (02) 4625 1822
Email: secretary@cahs.com.au
Website: <http://www.cahs.com.au>
ABN 68 199 688 264

From The President:

At a Civic Reception on 12th April 2007 the Memorandum of Understanding between our Society and Campbelltown City Council was signed allowing us to use Glenalvon as a museum. Council has established a Subcommittee, to be chaired by Cr Julie Bourke, to ensure that all aspects of operation run smoothly. The Mayor, Councillor Aaron Rule made special mention of the contribution made by Verlie Fowler to the Society over many years.

Our challenge is now to present Glenalvon House and changing exhibitions to interest visitors. We have already received some donations and offers of the loan of furniture, including chairs and a cradle.

Committee News:

Greg Simoni has resigned from the committee. Our thanks to Greg for the work he did while holding the office of Secretary.

New committee member Jackie Green has offered her services as Acting Secretary.

The editorial committee of Stella Vernon and Marie Holmes is working on the July issue of Grist Mills, and also the book for the Ivor G Thomas Memorial Lecture.

Researcher Marie Holmes is kept busy with enquiries.

Heritage Items:

Macquarie Field House has been offered for sale. Scots College has owned this property for some years, during which time the house has been tenanted.

Fieldhouse's Store in Queen Street is to be restored as part of The Mall development. The extensive single storey additions have been demolished, and the new parking area will come quite close to the building.

Changes to the old RSL building in Lithgow Street will present a new aspect to Glenalvon garden. A narrow strip of the garden will be enclosed in the building site while the redevelopment takes place.

It is noted that the adjoining property to Varroville, containing the outbuildings has recently been sold.

Special Events:

Theatre Night: 16th June. 'To Kill a Mocking Bird' is being presented by Campbelltown Theatre Group at the Town Hall Theatre. Tickets \$16.50. Joint outing with Campbelltown and District Family History Society. For details and bookings email social@cdfhs-aus.com.

Quondong has never looked better. David Cartwright has given the exhibitions a transformation, and we provided a display of a selection of blacksmith's tools and other implements.

Meeting Dates and Open Days:

26th May, 2007: General Meeting. 'The speaker at this Meeting will be member Dr Denys Cato. Denys will provide an illustrated talk about the health aspects of disaster management. This will include the responses and medical problems associated with such events as the tragedy at Bali, bush fires and tsunamis. Denys is the National Coordinator for the international major training package, Major Incident Medical Management and Support (MIMMS) and is also an Associate Lecturer on the subject with Victoria University.'

2nd June, 2007 - Open Day - 9.30am - 1pm. - tours of Glenalvon, Demonstration of hand-craft- preliminary display of Lithgow St. School photographs - see also June 9th.

9th June, 2007 - Special showing of Lithgow St. Primary School photographs to enable further identification, scanning of new photographs. Museum open 10am to 4pm. Ph. 4625 1394 or 4625 1822 for a list of photographs still needed.

20th June, 2007. Wednesday. Working Bee from 10 am. Visitors welcome 11am - 1pm. And similarly each third Wednesday from now.

23rd June, 2007 - General Meeting - Speaker Tony Dawson. Subject 'James Meehan - A Most Excellent Surveyor.' James Meehan has a special interest for our Society, as his original grant lies within the City Council area and also for his association with the Governor, Lt. Colonel Lachlan Macquarie. Tony Dawson is secretary of Manly / Historical Society and his book on his chosen subject was well received in 2004.

14th July - Open Day - Museum open 9.30am - 1pm - demonstrations of hand-craft - tours of Glenalvon House - Launch of Grist Mills by Alicia Bowie, journalist.

NOTE Change of Open Days from now on from 1st to 2nd Saturdays.

28th July, 2007 - General Meeting - 1.30pm Speaker : Sister Mary - Subject: 'Wivenhoe c.1837'. Wivenhoe is one of the more interesting buildings in the Narellan district.

11th August - Open Day - 9.30am-1pm.

25th August, 2007- Annual General Meeting - 60th Anniversary Afternoon Tea - Members Tour of Glenalvon - Photograph display.

8th September, 2007 - Open Day - 9.30am- 1pm

15th September, 2007 - Annual Ivor G. Thomas Lecture at St. Peter's Church Hall - Subject: Dorchester Farm. Speakers : Harris family members, Alex Goodsell. Refreshments . Cost for the afternoon \$7.50 Booklet available for purchase. \$8 up to and including day of lecture - \$10 + \$2.50 postage after that.

Campbelltown City Show:

'Crime and Punishment in the 1800s' was the theme of our display, organized by Wayne Williams. The pillory and the gallows proved to be very popular exhibits, especially for children. A photographic display was also provided.

Grist Mills

Our last issue of Grist Mills 'The Romance of Glen Lorne' was launched at the Museum Open Day in March. In launching the book Alex Goodsell gave an interesting account of the history of our Society and of Glen Lorne and other demolished buildings.

At our March meeting, Val West took us on a fascinating journey through the life and times of 'visionary and reformer' Governor Lachlan Macquarie.

Our display in April featured Anzac photos, and at our meeting on 28th, Greg Morgan gave an address on Anzac Day, the RSL Sub-branch, and their exhibition of memorabilia. Greg is a Director of Campbelltown RSL Club and curator of the exhibition.

Returning to Crime and Punishment, Colin Menger was the speaker at our Museum Open Day on 5th May. His talk on the duties of a court officer included information on the handling of prisoners in the Criminal Court, and the selection of the jury.

Members News:

At our Open Day on 5th May, we helped Jim Summers celebrate his 80th birthday by providing a cake for morning tea. Jim, a long-time member has donated various items including documents relating to his previous home in Lindesay Street.

Brenton and Ruth Banfield are again proud grandparents. Their new granddaughter, Woonoona Vashati Wentworth Banfield is the first girl born to the Banfield family for several generations.

New Members:

We welcome the following members to the Society: Caroline Flood, Phillip Brailey, Jan and Bob King, Carole Cockshott.

Local Studies Librarian:

Several committee members attended a farewell morning tea for Georgina Keep, who has left Campbelltown City Library for a new position at Randwick Library. Georgina will be sadly missed. Annette Gleave is currently filling the position.

Volunteer Award:

As President of the Society, Jenny Goodfellow accepted a Commonwealth Government Volunteer Award, presented by Chris Hayes, member for Werriwa, on 18th May, 2007.

Several members attended the Sunrise Macarthur Rotary Club Pride of Workmanship dinner at Campbelltown Catholic Club. Trevor Rhodes was a finalist in the Volunteer of the Year category. Our congratulations to all who received awards.

Narellan - Hidden Treasures.

A new book produced by the Committee of WRARG, Narellan, written by Pam Browne and illustrated by Marion Starr is available from the Society at a cost of \$30 posted.

Volunteers Activities:

Our success at Campbelltown Show was thanks to a number of volunteers, while many hands have been at work in the museum, office and garden.

In the museum Jackie Green has given practical demonstrations of tating and knitting to accompany her exhibition of fine handicrafts by members of the Willott family.

Wayne Williams and Colin Menger have been busy in the library, and the bookshelves are filled.

Ken Green can always be found doing practical jobs including window cleaning, dusting, and repairs and maintenance to our furnishings.

Updating documents and the data base keeps Trevor Rhodes at the computer, while Jackie and Ken Green have updated our news clippings by about six months.

A large team of gardeners recently 'dug in' to move many plants from the Eastern garden that will become the building site.

It has been decided to hold our regular working bee on Third Wednesday of the month. We open at 10am, and visitors are welcome between 11am and 1pm. Working Bees for special purposes can be called at other times. Volunteers always enjoy a chat at morning tea and lunchtime.

Knitters are needed to complete an old-fashioned cot-cover for our 'nursery' This room will be enhanced by the loan of the whicker cradle by Dana Vale.

Positions Vacant:

Museum Open Days: 2 positions for people to 'just sit', 1 for book sales.

Donations and Sponsorships:

Website: Ezimetal, Leumeah. Phones: Patrick Briscoe of Doro

Grist Mills: Campbelltown Catholic Club

Glenalvon Museum: Some donations from members and friends have been received.

Memberships: Annual Fees will be due on 1st July, 2007 for the financial year 2007/2008. A slight increase has been made. Family membership will be \$24.00 and single membership \$18.50. A membership form will be sent with notice of AGM.

This is your Newsletter. If you have an item or anecdote you wish to contribute to this Newsletter or if there is a Historical item you would like us to explore for Grist Mills, or a comment to make please advise the President or Secretary.

Email Newsletters: Future issues of 'The Kernel' when a 'Grist Mills' is not included can be sent electronically to anyone who has given an email address. If you are happy to receive your Newsletter in this format, please advise David Beddie on newsletter@cahs.com.au. News items can be sent in the same way.

We acknowledge the assistance of Graham West, Member for Campbelltown, with the printing of this document.