

# THE KERNEL



Newsletter of Campbelltown and Airids  
Historical Society Inc

May 2009

## From The President:

My prediction in the last Kernel that this year was going to busy is certainly coming true. The last three months have been rewarding for all, and an indication that our Museum is gaining recognition, and our Society is flourishing.

Glenalvon Museum has been visited by a number of group tours, and more are booked for the coming months – these are a good opportunity for members to meet new people, accompany them on the guided tour and learn more about the house, grounds and collections, and to contribute to existing knowledge of local social history.

Her Excellency, Governor Marie Bashir, and her husband, Sir Nicholas Shehadie, visited Glenalvon on 2nd May, 2009 after the service at St Peters Anglican Church to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Governor Macquarie's appointment. They were very interested in the Lazzarini display and continued on to enjoy the house, garden and Agricultural Shed and meeting our volunteers.

Continuing the Macquarie theme, our May Saturday Open Day speaker was Dana Vale on the Isle of Mull and Macquarie's Mausoleum.

Council has done some work removing dead wood from our trees, and our garden team have done a wonderful job keeping our grounds looking good – the rain will also help to relieve the stress from the recent dry and windy spell. On Council's instructions we have removed the grass around 5 tree bases and have more to do, so we will need to fertilise in the spring. So if anyone is able to donate manure or other suitable fertiliser, or garden products, they will help us to bring these trees back to their usual flourishing selves.

We have run several successful activities lately, including our Heritage Festival event, "Australians' Place in the History of Space" with the Macarthur Astronomy Society, and stalls at the Campbelltown City Show, where we won the trophy and ribbon for the Best Non-commercial display, and at both days of the Steam Fair at Menangle. Even though the Show was only over 1 ½ days and attendances were consequently reduced we still seemed to do quite well with book

## Campbelltown and Airids Historical Society Inc

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sales and enquiries. The Steam Fair was well attended on both days and we had a good response even with the high winds on Saturday. This is a really fun event to take part in, and provides a great opportunity for photography, and meeting new people who are interested in agricultural machinery and history.

This year's Campbelltown City Council Heritage Medallions were won by Jeff McGill and Broughton Anglican College for their commitment to Campbelltown's built and natural heritage.

Our speaker and Grist Mills programs have been well received, and have attracted first time visitors to Glenalvon – the schedule is included in this newsletter. Thank you Stella and Marie.

Learna has organised some interesting tours for 2009 – Meroogal and Berry was very good, Nutcote and Government House is fully booked for June, and the following tour this year is to the impressive Vacluse House and a mystery destination. More details to follow.

Thank you all for your support and all the volunteers for their hard work.

Jackie Green, President and Curator.

## Open Days and Meeting Programme:

The Museum is open to visitors on 1st Tuesday, 2nd Saturday, 3rd Wednesday of each month, February to Mid December, 10.00am-1.00pm; other times by appointment. Visitors are welcome at all general meetings.

**Saturday, June 13th 2009** Open Morning. 10am – 1pm Embroiderers Guild. Displays for today and open mornings for the next month will feature the Fitzpatrick curtains.

**Saturday, June 27th 2009** General Meeting 1.30pm. followed by speaker Ted Sedgwick. 'The Dairy Farms of Campbelltown.'

**Saturday, July 11th, 2009.** Open Morning 10am -1pm. 10.45 am. Launch of Grist Mills 'Lazzarini' Tours of the house and grounds.

**Saturday, July 25th, 2009.** General Meeting 1.30pm followed by speaker Trevor Richardson 'Trains of the Southern Line'

**Saturday, August 1st, 2009.** Family History Society Event \*See separate note.

**Saturday, August 8th, 2009.** Open Morning 10am-1pm Tours of the house and grounds.

**Saturday, August 22nd, 2009.** Annual General meeting 1.30pm followed by speaker Kathryn Thornton. 'The travels of the Ivy Cottage piano.'

**Saturday, August 29th, 2009.** Ivor G. Thomas Annual Lecture [see separate note]

**Saturday, September 12th, 2009** History Week. Open Morning 10am-1pm 'The Story of Fishers' Ghost'

**Saturday, September 26th, 2009** General Meeting 1.30pm followed by Speaker Carol Baxter. 'The True Story of Jane New - A Colonial Scandal'.

**Saturday, October 10th, 2009** Open Morning 10am-1pm. Working display by Macarthur Spinners and Weavers.

**Saturday, October 24th, 2009** – General Meeting 1.30 pm followed by speaker to be advised.

**Saturday, November 7th, 2009** Fishers' Ghost Parade Day. Museum open 10am – 4pm

**Saturday, November 14th, 2009** Fishers' Ghost Street Fair. Museum open 10am-1pm

**Saturday, November 28th, 2009.** General Meeting 1.30pm followed by Members' Show and Tell.

**Saturday, December 12th, 2009** Open Morning 10am - 12 noon. 1pm Members social and trivia time.

### **Museum update**

An interesting range of donations for the collection and Museum have come in recently, including a book cabinet for the library from Lorraine Voss, an Edwardian brown silk wedding dress from Wendy Meurant, some agricultural equipment from John Jeremy and \$500 from Butlers Funerals to sponsor archival materials for the original photographic collection.

The results of the VIM Grant application for migrating cataloguing information into MOSAiC have yet to be advised.

The framed pictures in the collection have all now been catalogued and stored upright in the stables in shelving donated by the Council.

Work is progressing slowly but steadily, and anyone interested in helping will be greatly appreciated. Jackie Green, Curator, Mob 0402 008 970

### **Condolences.**

Sympathy is expressed to the families of members Betty McCarthy (d. March 23rd, 2009) and Ellen Wojtynski who died in a car accident at the end of April. An obituary will be included in the next Grist Mills.

### **Members**

Farewell to Robin and Lorraine Voss, who have left to live in Hobart, Tasmania. They have retained their membership and Lorraine intends to do some research, so we will hear from them from time to time.

### **Display**

The Fitzpatrick/Sedgwick curtains, which will be on display for most of June, are of red velvet, and were hand-embroidered by Elizabeth Susan and Mary Ann Fitzpatrick in their school holidays c. 1890. They hung in the Fitzpatrick home at Glenlee for some time and then when Elizabeth married Edward Sedgwick, she took her curtains with her to hang in her new home at Smeaton. They were then cared for by her daughter, Mrs Bessie Nash and have been donated to the Society by the Nash family. They can only be displayed for short periods.

**Saturday, August 29th** – Annual Ivor G. Thomas Lecture in St. Peter's Church Hall. 1pm for 1.30pm commencing time. The lecture will be followed by afternoon tea and fellowship. Speaker Mrs. Bev Harrison. Theme 'Glimpses of the Gore family in Campbelltown' Cost for the afternoon \$10

### **Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> August 2009.**

The Campbelltown District Family History Society will be holding its' AGM and 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party at Glenalvon. AGM starts at 12.30 pm.

Photo of Gough Whitlam's visit to Glenalvon for the Lazzarini exhibition.



### **Campbelltown North Public School 50 Year**

Reunion: Former staff and students are invited to a reunion, celebrating 50 years of education, on Friday 7 July to Sunday 9 July, 2009. To register interest, call 4625 1788, email [campbelln-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:campbelln-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au), visit [www.campbelln-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.campbelln-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

If you would like to learn more about how the Society and/or Museum works, please join us at Glenalvon on one of our usual Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday administration mornings. Contact Jackie on Mob 0402 008 970 or Jenny on 0417 556 756. Thank you.