



November 2007

From The President:

As this is our last newsletter for 2007, I wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas Season. This has been a very busy period at the Museum.

Volunteers and Committee Members deserve accolades for continuing hard work on both Society activities and museum duties.

Glenalvon Museum will be closed during the Christmas/New Year period, and regular meetings and Museum Open Days resume in February 2008, but two special events are in the program for January and early February 2008.

The first is a Queen Street Slide Show and talk, on 19th January.

The second, arranged by The Fellowship of First Fleeters, is a small ceremony and placement of a plaque on the James Ruse grave in old St John's churchyard, followed by afternoon tea at Glenalvon. It will be good for our Society to be well represented at this event. Sunday 10th February is the provisional date.

Glenalvon Museum:

Spring has brought a number of tour groups to Glenalvon.

The Irish Speakers had a tour of the house and Museum and were treated to a recital of Irish Tunes played by Jan King.

The museum will be closed to the public (except by appointment) from 9th December until end of January 2008. We will take the opportunity at regular working bees to maintain gardens, install new exhibitions, and work on the museum collection. All members are welcome to participate.

Our thanks to Ashley and Shelby Milton for the loan of a cot a pram for the nursery exhibition. If anyone has an old white sheet we can use to make cot sheets, or an old cot quilt to offer they would be very much appreciated. If anyone has a spare doll to represent a baby or small child, or any old children's books or toys for display in the nursery, these would also be appreciated. This exhibition will be launched on 12 April 2008 as part of the National Trust Heritage Festival.

Fellowship of First Fleeters: When the James Ruse headstone was installed at Glenalvon the First Fleet plaque was removed. The Fellowship of First Fleeters will put a new plaque in Old St John's Cemetery to mark Ruse's burial site. A small ceremony will be held at Old St John's Cemetery. The date is provisionally set for Sunday 10th February at 2pm. We will confirm the date.

Fisher's Ghost Festival: Once again Wayne Williams organised and produced our float for the Fisher's Ghost Parade, held on 3rd November. Our entry was a model of Glenalvon, with Dr. & Mrs William Mawson and servants represented on the float by Ken and Jackie Green, Dianne Williams and a friend.

Once again we have to thank Wayne for the enormous task of building and painting our model.

Glenalvon Museum was open until 4pm. After the parade, visitors to the museum were intrigued by Society members hoisting large objects up into the loft above the stables, which is where the "house" will be stored until Campbelltown Show next year.

We held a successful stall at Fisher's Ghost Street Fair on 10th November, doing a brisk business in book sales, and handing out fliers directing people to Glenalvon. The museum was again open until 4 pm, and we had a record number of visitors, 130, on the day. Tour guides at the museum toiled as hard as convict servants, and their efforts deserve great accolades.

Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society Inc

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Meeting Dates and Open Days:

NB the Museum is also open regularly on first Tuesday and third Wednesday. Visitors are welcome 11am-1pm. Also note the change of Open Days 1st to 2nd Saturdays as from July 2007.

1st December, 2007 - Saturday - Foundation Day. Assemble near Mrs. Macquarie's statue in Mawson Park at 10am then morning tea at Glenalvon at 11am. Come in colonial dress if you can. Any number of farmers, settlers, wives and children needed to greet Governor Macquarie. (This is also the date of the Family History Society's Annual Christmas Barbecue so some of our Committee are responsible for the organisation of that.)

8th December, 2007 Saturday - Open morning 10am - 1pm. 11 am. Campbelltown Girl Guide History and Information to be handed over. Annual Christmas Social starts 12.30pm. Please bring a plate.

The Society and regular Museum activities are in recess until the end of January except for booked tours and special events. To book please phone 4625 1822 or Mob: 0417 556 756. Members please check for access for working bees, gardening etc. During the Christmas recess we will change displays and work on the collection. All Members are welcome to participate.

February 9th, 2008, Saturday - Open morning 10am to 1pm. Information on proclamation coins - so-called because of Governor King's proclamation about the use of coinage in the colony. Questions answered by Paul Ware.

February 23rd, 2008 Saturday - General Meeting 1.30pm. 'Macquarie's Kingdom' Speaker: Almis Simans. The presentation covers the 12 years of Elizabeth and Lachlan Macquarie's time in the colony. Almis introduces his presentation as Captain Antill, Macquarie's aide-de-camp. This is followed by a twenty minute audio-visual presentation and then questions and answers. Almis will have copies of his book of the same name for sale. (\$20)

March 8th 2008 -Saturday - Open morning 10am- 1pm. Display by Beverly Harrison - photographs of A.J.Gore and family of Campbelltown together with the plans of architect Geoff Gore

March 22nd - Easter Saturday. General meeting commencing at 1.30pm. Speaker Beverly Harrison 'The Gore Family of Campbelltown'.

April 12th - Saturday. Open Day and opening of the nursery exhibition.

Advance Notice

The Annual Ivor G. Thomas Lecture in 2008 will feature St. Helens' Park and the speaker will be Dr. Cyrill Brookes. Time has been set for August 30th at 1.30pm at St. Peter's Church Hall.

Campbelltown Show 2008. We will need volunteers for the show next year. Dates to be advised. Note the earlier time for Easter. Please contact Trevor or Jenny on 02 46251822 to register your interest in assisting.

CONDOLENCES/OBITUARIES

Condolences to the families of Eric Henson and Lloyd Perry. Obituaries will be found in November Grist Mills.

Condolences are expressed to the members of the Embroiderers Guild NSW Branch in the death of their convenor Marie Cavanagh. Marie was very helpful with her advice on the Fitzpatrick curtains when we visited last year.

Outings:

Campbelltown Theatre Group again showed their wealth of talent with their excellent performance of the musical "Hair". The next Theatre outing will be in February to "Calamity Jane". This is a joint outing with Campbelltown District Family History Society. As it will be before our first general meeting, please ring Jenny on 0417 556 756, or email social@cdfhs-us.com for enquiries or bookings.

Bobbin Lace: Members of the Bobbin Lace Guild recently demonstrated their craft at Glenalvon. The work is done on a block or cushion, and members personally decorate all their bobbins. Many hours of intricate work weaving fine threads goes into creating exquisite items of lace.

Bobbin Lace



Fisher's Ghost Stall



Foundation Day: There will be a re-enactment in Mawson Park on 1st December. Look for details in program list.

The Society conducted a stall on Friday 16th November at Campbelltown Public School Market Day. Helpers were Trevor Rhodes, Stella Vernon, Jackie and Ken Green, and Joyce Baker. Books were sold, and some valuable contacts made due to the display of historic photos of the school.

Heritage Items:

Varroville: The Cornish Group applied to establish a 'business park' in the Scenic Hills, on the "Varroville" land, originally granted to Dr Robert Townson. The Scenic Hills Action Group held a public meeting on 31st October at St Andrews. Jackie Green and Jenny Goodfellow outlined our Society's concerns at that meeting. On 13th November Campbelltown City Council rejected the development proposal.

We currently have a photographic exhibition on Varroville in the museum to raise public awareness.

Blair Athol: The Land and Environment Court dismissed an appeal for Blair Athol to be used as a function centre. The owners, Morgan Australia, will meet with Council to discuss their options before lodging a new development application.

Fisher's Ghost Restaurant: The condition of this important building, formerly known as Kendall's Millhouse, then Milby Hospital, continues to deteriorate due to neglect.

January 2008 Activities: There will be a Queen Street Slide Show and talk for members and guests on Saturday 19th January, commencing at 10am. This introduction "Campbell Town" contains heritage photographs and some very recent views of the historic buildings.

Some members requested last year that a January Meeting be included in the programme. This event is in lieu of a full meeting. Please contact Jenny if you will be attending.

October 07 Meeting

Dr Bolt, our speaker at the October meeting, talking about Thomas Moore of the District of Airs.



School Photograph Project.

We continue to receive information and donations to our Lithgow St. School Project - the latest is an 1892 photograph of pupils at the school which has been forwarded by Mudgee Historical Society. We will have to make a cut-off point of December 31st, and will then let you know what we have decided to do about making photographs available. The cut-off point for publication will be the year 1957 to cover us with copyright. It is also the beginning of the proliferation of primary schools in the area, North Campbelltown being closely followed by East Campbelltown and then Leumeah.

Photos were on exhibition on our stall at the School's Market Fair on 16th November.

Learn about our museum collection and library at a working bee. There is much to do to setting up new exhibitions, and sorting and storing our artefacts and photographs.

Glenalvon Gardens: Recent light rain is keeping plants at their best. Our rose enthusiasts ensure that the roses are always at their best. Some watering will be necessary during the hot January weather, again presenting an opportunity for volunteers to lend a hand.

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.

Donations and Sponsorships:

Website: Ezimetal, Leumeah
Grist Mills: Campbelltown Catholic Club
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