

THE KERNEL



Newsletter of Campbelltown and Airds
Historical Society Inc

November 2009

From The President:

Uppermost in my thoughts and prayers are our member and friend, Bev Harrison, and her family. The suddenness of the onset of her ill health has shocked all of us, and it is important to remember her dedication to so many causes in the community and church, and the way she held a huge audience enthralled at our recent IGT lecture even though she was ill. The Glenalvon gardens will always remind us of her hard physical work and joyful, no nonsense practical spirit. Our gardens will be a special place for those who knew and loved Bev and who worked with her here.

A Glenalvon Maintenance Meeting was held at the Art Centre on the 19th August. Progress is slowly being made towards curtaining the upstairs rooms, but until we can source and have installed the brackets and rings we can go no further. The brass handrail for the steps to the terrace has now been altered and installed. I was able to report that 892 visitors had been through Glenalvon between January 2009 and Friday the 21st August – no wonder we seem to have been busy!

The AGM was successful and everyone enjoyed Kathryn Thornton's talk on the Ivy Cottage piano – it was a good link between Campbelltown in the 1950's and 60's and local families. I would like to thank all the previous Executive Committee and those who stood for re-election this year – and our new Vice President, Marie, and Minutes Secretary, Learna. Well done team.

On the 25th August we hosted a group of 22 Legacy Widows for a tour of Glenalvon and Morning Tea. It was a very successful morning and was enjoyed by all the visitors and volunteers.

The IGT lecture on 29th August was very successful – with an audience of at least 103 people. The St Peters Ladies Guild did very well to cater for everyone, and thank you volunteers for your help on the day.

Our History Week event – Likely Suspects – Who Killed Fred Fisher. attracted a good audience mostly from the publicity in the Chronicle. Thank you Alex, Stella and Jenny for being on the panel, and to everyone else who helped.

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

Jeff McGill's recent article in the WWI series and his publicity of his book being available from Glenalvon has resulted in many sales and visitors to the Museum. Bob Etchells surprised me by buying 2 WWI books and a copy of each of the available Grist Mills – we gave him a bulk purchase discount.

Glenalvon's beautiful buildings and grounds were the setting for one wedding ceremony and wedding photos for two bridal parties, in September. Please refer us to your friends as a possible venue for special events.

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

Saturday, November 7th, 2009 Fishers' Ghost Street Fair. Museum open 10am – 4pm. Working display Campbelltown Quilters.

Saturday, November 14th Museum open 10am-1pm

Saturday, November 28th, 2009. General Meeting 1.30pm then members' contributions 'Where were you when man first walked on the Moon?'

Saturday, December 12th, 2009 Museum open 10am - 12 noon. At 1pm Members social and trivia time.

The Museum will be closed for the rest of December and January. All enquiries Jackie Green, 0402 008 970. Activities resume in February 2010.

Saturday, February 13th, 2010. Museum open 10am-1pm. Tours of the house and grounds. 'Governor Macquarie and the coinage of NSW. 10.45 am.'

Saturday, February 27th, 2010. General meeting 1.30pm then guest speaker Col Menger. 'Campbelltown District Ambulance'.

Saturday, March 13th, 2010 Museum open 10am-1pm. Working display Campbelltown Craft Society 10.45 am Launch Grist Mills.

Saturday March 27th , 2010 Meeting 1.30pm then Open Forum 'Campbelltown Show Memories'

Saturday, April 10th, 2010 Museum open 10am – 1pm
Show memorabilia continues.

Saturday April 24th, 2010 Meeting 1.30pm then
Arthur Jones 'William Redfern and Lachlan Macquarie-
the best of friends'.

Saturday, May 8th, 2010 Museum open 10am- 1pm

Saturday May 22nd, 2010 Meeting 1.30pm then Laila
Ellmoos – ‘ Building Civic Pride - The Macquarie Era’

Museum Update

The MOSAiC migration has been completed to our satisfaction, and the Curating team now has a few “tidying up” jobs to do. While I was on holidays Clarice entered new items into MOSAiC and we have both been attaching photos to entries transferred during the migration. There is an almost overwhelming amount of work still to be done. As new items are coming in all the time at the expense of cataloguing older items we may have to impose a freeze on accepting new items for some months. There will be some scope for flexibility.

Reg Dibley has donated his mother’s 1940’s wedding dress and accessories to the collection, as well as a fur collar– and we now have Tails Drycleaners in Camden as sponsors of the textile collection with no cost preservation dry cleaning of collection items. This was a very welcome surprise.

We have also received the Etchells hand made work bench which is now in the Ag Shed. We are also considering a dray from the same source, but it needs some repairs.

Other donations/offers we have received a wool press from Wayne Bonomini, some agricultural workers work wear from Colin Menger to go with the wool press, and some domestic items from Diana Brookes.

We have received a large number of donation items offered by Bev Harrison’s family – these items are on display in the Coach House and Stables for approval or rejection before accessioning. Various garden tools of Bev’s will be used by the garden team and I am sure that would be what she would want. There are also local maps and house plans, and a large volume of documents etc for sorting.

During September, Cathey Shepherd, Julie Wrigley and Janice Johnson from Camden Historical Society visited us at Glenalvon for a behind the scenes tour and especially to look at how we use MOSAiC and attach photos.

In the display cabinet we have a display of convict era relics ready for the Fishers Ghost Festival Open Days. Jackie Green, Curator, Mob 0402 008 970

St. Peter's Church

On Saturday Nov. 7th, St. Peter's Church will be open from 2.30pm for visitors and questions and answers. At 5pm there will be a Song Fest - all your favourite hymns and songs - come along and join in the sing-a-long.

Condolences

By family and friends are being received on the passing of members Bev Harrison, Merv Rixon and Barbara Dowey, as well as past Mayor Guy Thomas, and community worker John Scattergood. Obituaries will appear in our first Grist Mills for 2010.

Research

For research enquiries please contact Marie Holmes. marieholmes@iprimus.com.au

From our Bookshelf - Our new Grist Mills ‘Ambarvale’ was launched by Marie Holmes on October 23rd at Ambarvale Primary School and Wayne Williams and Colin McMahon contributed further insights on the area at our general meeting on October 24th. The book will be issued to members and is available from our bookstall at a cost of \$7.

Volunteers are still needed. June and Neville Vercoe have continued to work on the photo collection. Stella and Alex have been collating and assessing much paper-work, maps and plans given by Bev Harrison’s family. We currently need a research filing clerk to take over the task from Jenny. Give Jackie or Jenny a ring to find the most suitable time to come.

History Column. Marie Holmes continues to provide an interesting slant on local history through her regular column in The Chronicle.

Advance notice - Saturday, October 16th, 2010 – 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. Theme ‘ The Dairy Farms of Campbelltown’
Speaker Ted Sedgwick. Cost for the afternoon \$10

Our next coach trip will be a visit to the Canterbury area . On 20th March 2010. You are assured of an interesting time. The fee for this will be \$37 and bookings and payment should be made by the meeting on 27th February. For more information contact Learna on 46266437 or 0458679841.

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.

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email please send your email address to David Beddie at newsletter@cahs.com.au