

THE KERNEL



Newsletter of Campbelltown and Airids
Historical Society Inc

November 2010

From The President and Curator:

Ken and I represented the Society at the Iris launch in Windsor on 10th October - Hawkesbury council had commissioned a mosaic commemorating Elizabeth Macquarie and the 5 Macquarie towns which is a very nice tribute.

The Ivor G Thomas Memorial lecture on the Dairy Farms of Campbelltown was very successful with over 80 guests. Thank you Marie Holmes for standing in for me.

Ken and I were honoured to be among the large crowd at Stephen Beddie's funeral on Monday 25th October. I was proud to see so many of our members came to support David, Kim and Chris at that difficult time.

Descendants of local families have visited Glenalvon, including Keighran, Kidd, Lazzarini, – our research materials are getting to be well known. The Lazzarini family were referred to us by Gough Whitlam!

Bus groups from Wollongong, Dural, Chatswood, and other areas have visited Glenalvon since the last Kernel was sent out. We love showing the house and our collection items to new people and I would like to thank our volunteers most sincerely for their support, passion and dedication.

The gardens are magnificent and commented on by all our visitors. Thank you garden team for your hard work, love and care.

Society bus tours to Parramatta and the Penrith Valley were successful and enjoyed by all participants. Learna is planning next year's tours already – possibility of Mt Kembla in March, followed by Carrs Park area later in the year – watch out for the tour programme!

The collection work is progressing, and museum volunteers are attending training – myself to the Working Spaces 4 Conference in Galong which was most educational, John White to MOSAiC training, and John, Clarice Stretch and I to a seminar on photo collections at the Power House in Sydney. Technical issues with our computers have slowed us down but we are working to resolve the problems.

Campbelltown and Airids 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

The dining room is looking great, with a new table display. If you like the new display you may like to sponsor a piece of cutlery - only \$20.00 each. The generosity of all sponsors will be acknowledged. Please spend some time enjoying Glenalvon and the gardens.

Christmas is coming quickly and our party will be held on Saturday 11th December. We will have a raffle with many prizes and a trivia quiz also with prizes. I hope to see everyone there to join in the fun and fellowship.

Best wishes to all and their families for a happy, and healthy Christmas and New Year – come back refreshed and ready for 2011.

Jackie Green

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 27th, 2010 Meeting 1.30pm then Members choice 'Governor Macquarie and the settlers of Airids and Appin'.

Saturday, December 11th 2010 'Open Morning 10am - 12 noon. 1pm Members social and trivia time. Please bring a plate.

The Museum will be closed for the rest of December and January. All enquiries ph. 0402008970. Activities resume in February 2010.

Saturday, February 12th 2011, Open Day at Glenalvon. Tours of the house and grounds 10am - 1pm. Launch of the Society's Grist Mills 'A Piano, A People and a Place' by Kathryn Thornton.

Saturday, February 26th 2011 'Curating our Collection' Jackie Green

Saturday, March 26th, 2011 'Show Memories - Entertainment' Judith Trimboli

Saturday, April 23rd 2011 is Easter Saturday, so our meeting day is changed to

Saturday, April 30th 2011 - general meeting 1.30pm followed by guest speaker Ray Slee 'Appin Bicentennial'

Saturday, May 28th 2011 - General meeting 1.30pm followed by guest speaker Leonie Knapman.

Saturday, June 25th 2011 - General Meeting 1.30pm followed by guest speaker Denys Cato 'The History of Photography' supported by John White with a demonstration of one of the cameras in our collection.

Research

Collins family who lived on the Main Southern Road between 1910 and 1976 - Claude Melnotte Collins was born in 1879 at Birmingham. Emily Louise Collins nee Hodgkins was born in 1892 in London. Their children are Leslie Claude born 1914, Dorothy born 1916, Joan Delma born 1918 and Jean Olga (twins), Irene Phyllis, Catherine Vivian, Noel, Betty Iris and Marguerite Elsie.

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

From the Librarian -

As a result of a coffee shop conversation with Joyce Baker, she lent me a copy of the "A Very Present Help: Caring for Australians since 1813. The History of the Benevolent Society of NSW". Joyce had also requested that the Benevolent Society send a copy to our Society's Library and this was received recently. This book traces the long history of a strong force for good in our colony and state. It had its beginnings at a meeting chaired by Governor Macquarie in 1818 with Mary Reiby, Rev Samuel Marsden, Dr. Redfern and Sarah and William Howe. Previously it had been the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, but it was thought it should have a secular basis to broaden its work. In 1821 its Asylum for the Poor was opened on the site that is now Sydney railway station. The Society had to survive various Royal Commissions, and other political interference, in the 1800's but it soldiered on through many generous benefactors and the giving of ordinary folk. Another 'asylum' was built in Liverpool and this now forms part of Liverpool TAFE college. Note the distinctive tower as you go past in the train. This is a commendable, readable book, but you may need to skim over some details of who chaired what and when. It has many illustrations of everyday people fallen on tough times and how aid was dispensed to them. I found the chapters in life in the colony and then until about 1920 the most interesting. In the Fisher's Ghost Parade this year, their Society had a very good float to showcase all the branches of their work in Campbelltown. It is based in terrace houses on Queen Street opposite the Mall.

Wayne Williams

Volunteers are still needed. 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.

Our next coach trip

There will be several bus trips in 2011. We will advise re the next one as soon as possible.

Museum

We recently purchased four more good filing cabinets to house some of our research documents. It is now much easier to access the research files, which hold a wealth of information about Campbelltown's buildings and places of interest, and residents past and present.

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

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