

# ANGLESEA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

NEWSLETTER No. 52 OCT.2000

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Another successful year has slipped by this being revealed in reports to the AGM held on October 1st. Our Family History Group is now well established and with a dynamo like Pat Hughes at its head should continue to flourish. Pat has also been a welcome addition to our executive.

How fortunate we are to have President Val accepting office for 2000-2001 - the interest and effort she puts into this is quite remarkable.

We acknowledge the participation of three former committee members, Elsie Samuel, Max Lawless and Betty Lloyd over several years and with the latter, wishing her happiness as she moves to her new home in Melbourne.

As with many other organisations attracting new faces to our committee is difficult. Harry Davies, our CPR, is taking on the role of Vice President. He has done a great job re-organising our garage contents and generally bringing the surrounds up to a higher standard. Family History members also assisted in the garden cleanup.

Your executive for the coming year in addition to those already mentioned include Shirley Forsyth Secretary, Beryl Parsons Treasurer, Lindsay Braden Researcher and Vice Pres., Jean Wendt, Loris Pavia and Myrle Smithwick as committee members. We acknowledge the contribution of Jack O'Donnell as our auditor and Bill Smith as Public Officer. This position has been taken by Stan Stott with Bill's move to Geelong.

## " THE SOCIAL SCENE "

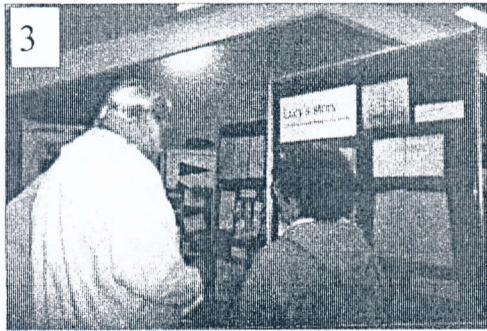
### SPEAKERS;

In August Maree Clancy, co-ordinator gave a broad insight into the activities of our neighbour, the Community House. Cath Longman took us on a magical trip thru' Eastern Europe with her vivid descriptions and beautiful books at our September meeting and Heather Weiss enchanted her audience with her fabulous collection of teddy bears and some of their history in October.

ANGAIR again offered the Society a space at the Annual Wildflower and Art Show - this was shared with the Family History group which led to an interesting sidelight! Following a seminar attended by your President, Secretary and F.H.G. Chair earlier in the year in Geelong, we were able to obtain from the Melbourne Archives Centre a display "Lucy's Story" which followed the life of a young immigrant girl to Melbourne in the 1850's with her family. The panels depicting the incidents that followed were put together alongside our own exhibits which included 2 microfiche. It was a bonus to be able to use the latter to check for more details on Lucy to the extent we were able to suggest to the Archival Division that one of the captions was indeed incorrect! in our view!!!! Such was the interest generated by this display that we may try to feature another next year.

Two groups of "walkers" calling themselves the Fabulous 50's were hosted at the Museum on separate occasions - they enjoyed refreshments and a quick look at our exhibits before returning to Melbourne on their coaches. Several expressed the hope they'd be back for a more leisurely visit in the future.

# Happenings



1. The Society hosted this happy bus group of walkers from "The Fab 50's" of The Wave Leisure Centre on Wednesday 13th September.
2. Myrle Smithwick and Pearl Pickett in charge of our display at Angair.
3. Lucy's Story created much interest at the Angair display.

### A LITTLE BIT OF TRIVIA FROM R.H.S.V. NEWSLETTER

You'll remember an article about the Medical Corps Drill Hall in A'Beckett Street Melbourne (now the home of the R.H.S.V) in a previous Newsletter. A contributor has given some memories of that brick building beginning in 1948 when the CMF was established! He recalls each year a Ball was held and visitors were greeted by Officers in the maroon jacket of the Corps. With units of young men, those responsible hit on the idea of serving iced coffee instead of alcohol. And into a milk can would go bottles of essence and bags of sugar. Unfortunately few drank it and in a gesture of goodwill it was offered to the neighbouring Gill Memorial Home where the Salvos provided for homeless men, often found in Flagstaff Gardens with a bottle of plonk. We wondered how they coped with the shock to their systems !!

## Don't forget our Annual Dinner!

This traditional dinner - it will be our 19th - will be held at the Anglesea Hotel Bistro on **Friday November 3rd, 6.30pm for 7pm.**

Berris and Geoffrey Marshall will be our guest speakers. They spent a number of years working in Dubai - and exotic location in the M.E. which conjures up images of ??? Ali Baba! 1001 nights! Not to be missed.

You will enjoy a three course meal with choices following a pre dinner drink and nibbles.

Cost inc GST. \$25 P.H. Please RSVP by October 27th to Beryl, 5263 1164, or Shirley 5263 1430. To assist our Treasurer money beforehand would be appreciated but if on the night, have the exact amount in a named envelope.

*Postal addresses are on newsletter heading.*

**Elizabeth (Lily/  
Lille) de Crillon  
Berthon  
24 March 1863 -  
28 September  
1946**

**M**y interest in Lily began whilst attending a CAE Art Appreciation course run by art historian, Andrew MacKenzie. Andrew's course was called "Historic Images of the Victorian Coast" and amongst the paintings of the Colonial period a slide was shown of "Entrance to Aireys Inlet" by Lily Berthon, 1898. Nothing more was known about the artist. I recognised the name "Berthon" from Aireys Inlet histories as a name belonging to a local family and from this spark of knowledge has come this "quest" to know more about Lily's history and who she was. *This is what I have learned so far.*

Lily's parents, Elizabeth Kelly of Tasmania 34 years and William Berthon 45 years, farmer, born in England, were married in St Georges Church of England in Hobart on 27 October 1852.

They followed William's brother Henry to Victoria and settled at a property called "Weatherboard No2" on the banks of the River Leigh near Inverleigh, west of Geelong where Elizabeth (Lily) de Crillon Berthon was probably born on the 24th of March in 1863

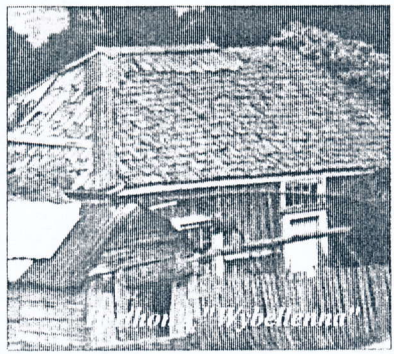
Their property adjoined that of Henry Berthon which was called "Lulotte" and still stands at 385 Common Road, Inverleigh It was built in 1855 and is now being lovingly restored by present owners, John and Luanne Thornton.

One of eight children, Lily's birth

certificate tells us she had four older siblings, two sisters Emily, 8 years (born 1855) Mary, 3 years (born 1861) and two brothers Edward, 6 years (born 1857) and William 5 years (born 1859). Three other brothers followed, Charles in 1865 and Herbert in 1868 and Louis in 1871. All the children had de Crillon as their middle name.

Lily's family moved permanently to "Wybellenna" on Painkalac Creek, Aireys Inlet around 1880. "Wybellenna" is an Aboriginal word meaning "Aborigines sit down here" signifying a resting place or refuge.

("Place Names of Australia" A.W. Reed 1973, A.H. & A.W. Reed P/L Sydney) In "Aireys Inlet from Anglesea to Cinema Point" - Ian F. McLaren it states that William lived at "Wybellenna" from 1876 to 1878). It had previously been the family's holiday home. In the same publication the property is stated to consist of 285 acres with a eight-roomed weatherboard



dwelling and lined, 67 feet by 21 or thereabouts, roof shingled, deal floors and built at a cost of 300 pounds.

The rental was 28 pounds 10 shillings p.a. A grant of the land was made on February 23rd 1878.

Incidentally, "Place Names of Victoria", Les Blake 1,977, Rigby Ltd. source states that "Painkalac is an Aboriginal word, "paen" meaning water and "Kolac" meaning sand. "Bambra", as in Bambra Road means mushroom, ibid

I know nothing at this stage of Lily's childhood although notes about her mother suggest they often had company at "Wybellenna". Lily's death certificate indicates that Lily never married.

Veronica Filmer, researcher at Geelong Art Gallery told me that Lily sang and may have been in repertory. She was known in Aireys Inlet as "Miss Berthon.



Lily at "The Wattles".

In 1915 Lily moved to "The Wattles" Lot 5-6, Section 25 Bambra Road (now 8-10). The house was destroyed like many in the 1983 Ash Wednesday bush fire but the old water tank and stand still remains in the garden.

Mrs Hilda Bubb, in "Aireys Inlet - a history 1987" recalled from personal records that "The Wattles" was advertised as a guest house in 1925. Where was Lily then? Could Lily have been staying with her brother, Louis de Crillon Berthon in Melbourne? *Was this when she painted the two scenes of the Yarra and Sandringham recorded in Christy's catalogue March 1977.*

Louis was teaching at Queen's College, St Kilda, Melbourne before 1893 but by 1894 Louis was a junior master at Haileybury College, Brighton.

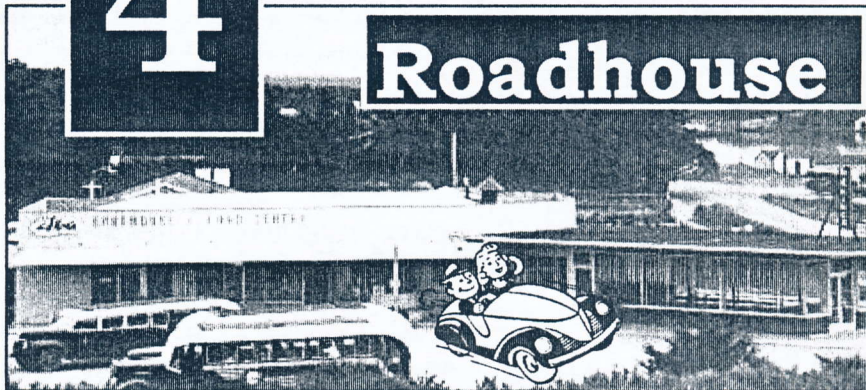
**Research by Kathy Feather  
whose holiday cottage  
"Kontiki" Bambra Road,  
Aireys Inlet,  
is between the two former  
Berthon properties "Lulotte"  
and "The Wattles".**

**TO BE CONTINUED IN OUR  
NEXT NEWSLETTER**

# The 4 Kings

**A great idea well before it's time!**

## Roadhouse



three storey accommodation next to the Roadhouse, but these did not eventuate.

Early photos show the Roadhouse car park packed with vehicles, and plenty of paying consumers inside. At the initial stage of the Roadhouse Anglesea's permanent population was extremely small. Only a handful of people remained after the holiday period concluded. The few tourists to call in those early days came from service buses when they halted for a tea break on their trip between Melbourne and Lorne. (see top photo).

One of Anglesea's best known landmarks is the 'Four Kings' corner.

The unusual name for this ultra modern (for 1947) Road-house and Food Centre came from the 4 proprietors Mr & Mrs. A.W. King and their two sons Brian and Eric.

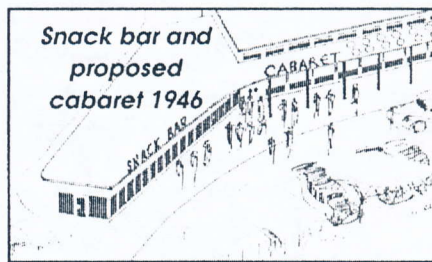
The novel building included a drive through meals outlet (where customers could order from their cars), plus a glass enclosed



*Patrons lined the shop counters in the early days of 1947*

Before the startling complex was built, the Country Roads Board altered the nearby highway from a dangerous right angled corner to a sweeping bend a further 50ft out from the frontage.

During 1946 building materials were extremely scarce, and although Alex. King was an ex-servicemen, the erection permit specifically precluded many of the normal types of fabrication matter, and alternate materials were used.



*Snack bar and proposed cabaret 1946*

After the Kings sold, the impact of the new Roadhouse gradually dwindled away to quieter times.

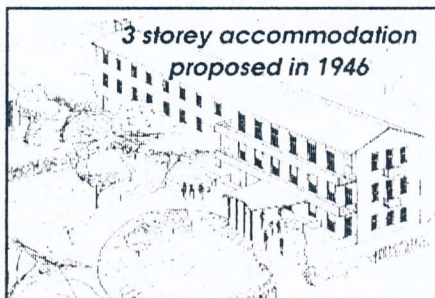
*Today, allowing for the fact that the town's permanent population is larger, and the greater portion of this live on the western side of the stream, plus an increase in tourists—maybe a rejuvenated future is ahead for this 54 year old development of the past* □  
LB.



*Busy 4 Kings snack bar 1947*

snack bar with the floor area around the bar raised six inches. This enabled patrons on the 23 single column seats, to be at eye level with those serving them. (see photo).

A recess under the snack bar counter allowed diners to store personal items, and avoid clutter. A specialty known as 'The Anglesea beauty' was served from the modern ice cream bar. The Architects initial plan envisaged both a Cabaret and



*3 storey accommodation proposed in 1946*