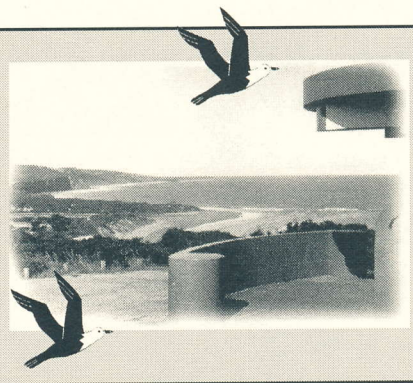


Coastal Current

seaside tidings from ...
The Anglesea & District
Historical Society Inc.



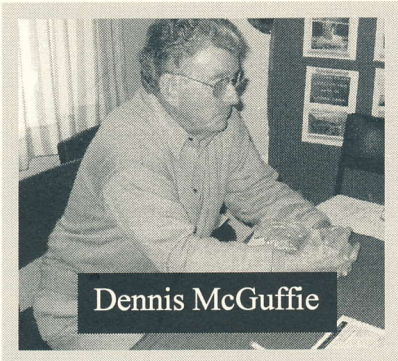
Spring Snippets

The Annual General Meeting held last Sunday saw the following members elected unopposed.

- President - Norma Morrison
- Vice President - Harry Davies
- Secretary - Bruce Bodman
- Treasurer - Thelma Western
- Researcher - Lindsay Braden

Committee Members –
Val Amery, Myrle Smithwick,
Jan Morris, Beryl Parsons.

Guest Speakers in the second half of the year have included Dennis McGuffie who spoke about the Westgate Bridge and the aftermath of the tragic collapse.



Dennis McGuffie

Memories of the Royal Visit of 1954 were the theme for our traditional member's day in July.

Betty Watson our August speaker introduced us to the early days of Women's Basketball in Australia and recounted some of the trials and tribulations that she and her husband, Ken, encountered along the way. Betty also entertained us with stories and photographs of the interstate and overseas trips with the various Australian teams.



Betty Watson

In September, 14 members visited the Queenscliffe Historical Centre and were most impressed with the quality and presentation of the display.

Newsletter No 67
August 2004

Anglesea & District
Historical Society Inc.
Box 98 Anglesea 3230
Victoria, Australia.
Incorporation No.
A0009246F

President :
Norma Morrison
(03) 5262 6239

Secretary :
Bruce Bodman
(03) 5263 1249

Treasurer :
Thelma Western
(03) 5263 2865

Meetings
The Historical Society meets on the first Sunday of each month unless otherwise notified

Museum
Our Museum at 5a McMillan Street Anglesea, is open during the during the Xmas and Easter holidays on Sundays 2-4pm or by appointment.

Web site -
<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~angen/>

e-mail -
nmorrison@froggy.com.au



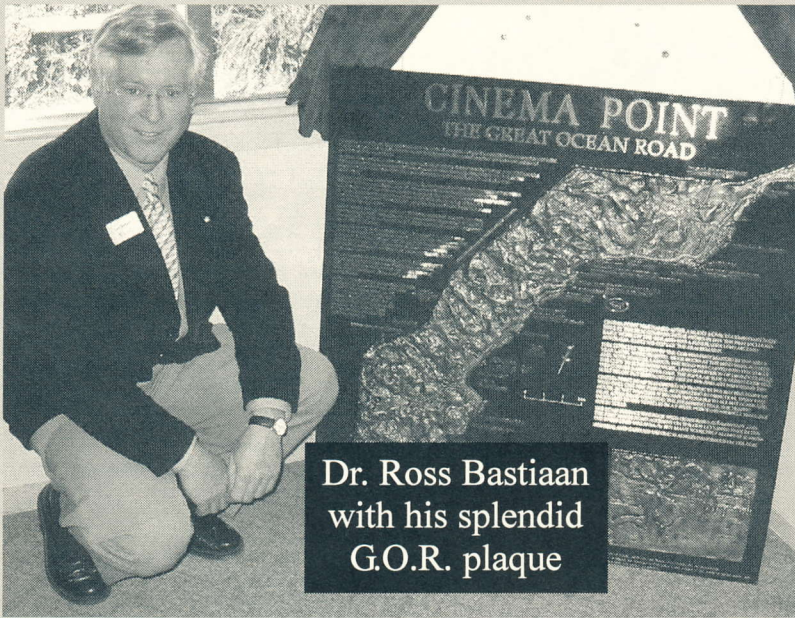
Spring Snippets continued

Annual membership fees are due and payable now. Notices have been included with this newsletter. Our Annual Luncheon is scheduled for Friday 29th October, 2004. Please return the booking slip as soon as possible, as final numbers are required by 26th October.

■ *Bruce Bodman*



Memories of the Royal Visit of 1954 were the theme for our traditional member's day in July.



Dr. Ross Bastiaan
with his splendid
G.O.R. plaque

You may remember that some time back Dr. Ross Bastiaan called to our Historical Museum for Great Ocean Road information. On Saturday 28th August, Val Amery and Lindsay Braden attended a ceremony at the Fairhaven SLSC for a preview of the first of 8 bronze plaques to be installed over the next three years along the scenic route. This series of linked sculptures will tell the construction story, and commemorate the veterans who built the highway. The size of each plaque will be 1m.sq. with the first one to be placed at Cinema Point. ■ *L.B.*

Did you know



When telephonic communication came to Anglesea, the local Hotel obtained the first number in the district Anglesea 1.

In Aireys Inlet the initial applicant for the phone was George Noble Aireys Inlet 1.

At Eastern View the prestigious number went to - Chas R. Herschell EasternView 1. ■ *L.B.*



Fire tower at Mt. Misery

Before the days State Government Departments were identified by fancy names, a division with the down to earth title of "Forests Commission of Victoria" administered an important fire lookout tower at the top end of Harvey Street Anglesea.

The tower was built in sections on the ground, then hauled into position with a basic truck and winch. (*No giant helicopters then!*)

Although this was constructed in 1947, by the late 1960's white ants were found to be making a meal of one of the support legs. (*not good!*)

As collapse was feared, the tower was eventually brought down with an explosive charge. *Nature is slowly reclaiming this once cleared significant fire protection area..*

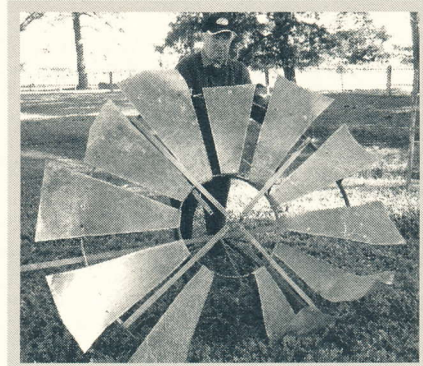
■ Lindsay Braden

Alston Windmill.

I love clearing sales, and recently relished the opportunity to attend one at a well known property to the

north of Hamilton.

Whilst having a great time poking about in a pile of discarded scrap iron, a name labelled on the back of an old windmill reminded me of the original "Sunnymead" holding to the east of Aireys Inlet. It was that of Alston.



Most farmers know of early Alston windmills. These soundly constructed pumping machines were once manufactured by Alston & Sons at their factory near Queens bridge Melbourne.

Their distinctive and efficient "Aqua" blade design of only 5ft diameter was a little different to that of a conventional windmill.

"Sunnymead" was once owned by E. J. Alston, who used the 106 acre property as a holiday getaway. He erected a residence and caretakers cottage there in 1893, and later employed George and Mary

Clarke to look after the establishment in his absence.

The Alston family sold to Charles Lane in 1909. After this the Clarkes moved on to successfully re-establish Hollingworth's Eastern View farm.

What happened to the Alston windmill at the clearing sale you may well ask? Well, that was purchased by a scrap metal dealer and sent with other pieces to be recycled in Melbourne.

For all we know it may well be part of the next car you buy! ■ Lindsay Braden

*Have you any early memories of Anglesea or Aireys to share with us?
We would love to hear your story!!!!*

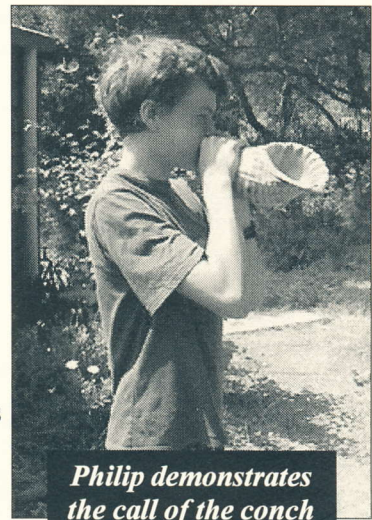
An unusually distinctive sound drifted up our hill during last summer holidays. Surely it was that of a conch shell. This uncommon resonance may well have only come from one place - "The Hut."

I immediately hot footed down to the Patons, and Philip again demonstrated the rare marine shell sound to me.

Some years ago the late Peggy Bunton (Paton) mentioned that the old conch shell at "The Hut" was the one that they used in the New Hebrides (now Vanuatu) to call the people to church.

At Anglesea it was sounded when it was time for the Paton children to come home for dinner. Peggy told me that in those early days it was possible to hear it at the river, the main beach, or as far away as the top of the opposite hill.

The Patons first came to Anglesea during the 1912 Xmas holidays. They built "The Hut" during 1916. Family descendants still reside at this residence ■ L.B.



Philip demonstrates the call of the conch shell.

James & Kate Minifie

Long time member Dick Minifie died during April of this year. His great grandparents were James and Beatrice Kate Minifie who purchased a 4 acre block in Anglesea during 1917..

MINIFIE. JAMES. Born 9/2/1869. Died 20/12/1921 aged 52. (Flour Miller at Kensington).

MINIFIE. BEATRICE. KATE. Born 3/1/1864. Died 11/8/1960 aged 96. Buried Brighton. Children -James Earle Born 1895 died 1967/72. Richard Pearman Born 1898 died 1969/71 .

Marjorie (Sutherland) Born 1901 died 1986.

Richard's Pearman's children- Richard, (Dick) Deborah Cox, Judith. Murrell

In 1917 they purchased from W.M. Parker, 4 acre lot 31 at the corner of Murray and Parker Sts. They later acquired 4 adjoining blocks from George Noble's "Noorah" Estate.

Minifie Avenue in later years was extended through their land to Murray St. Their aggregate expanse was later re-subdivided to complement this.

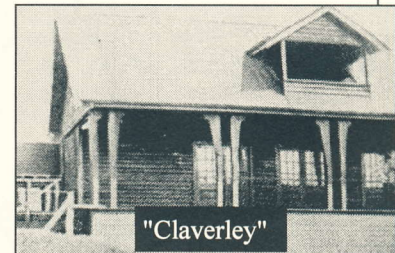
Daughter Marjorie attended "The Hermitage" Geelong. Her parents would pick her up from there and continue on down to Anglesea for week-end or holidays.

By 1918 their 2 storey attic style holiday house "Claverley" had been constructed by local builder W. Harrison and their son James, who was recovering from a WW1. fighter plane crash.

Both Joan Murch and Peggy Bunton mentioned of going to parties at the Minifies, and dancing on the large front verandah, with Mrs. Minifie playing the Piano. The Minifies had a tennis court on their block, and also a boathouse at the end of Parker Street. The boathouse was eventually dragged in 2 parts back to the home block, reassembled, and converted into a cabin for overflow guests. (per Dick Minifie).

Their holiday house was destroyed by the 1947 bushfire, and replaced. Minifie Ave. was only a narrow dirt track until 1959/60. Lewtas Real Estate auctioned the Minifie Estate on 23/4/1988.

■ L.B.



"Claverley"



James & Kate Minifie

*The deadline for our next Newsletter is Friday 19th November.
Members are encouraged to provide items of local interest - they all help !*