

Coastal Current

Quarterly Newsletter Of The

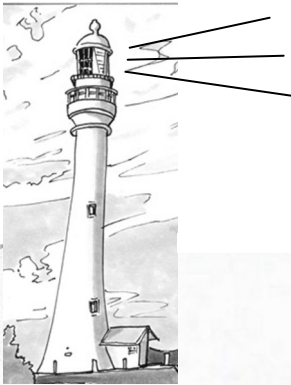
Anglesea & District Historical Society

Issue No. 102

Autumn 2014

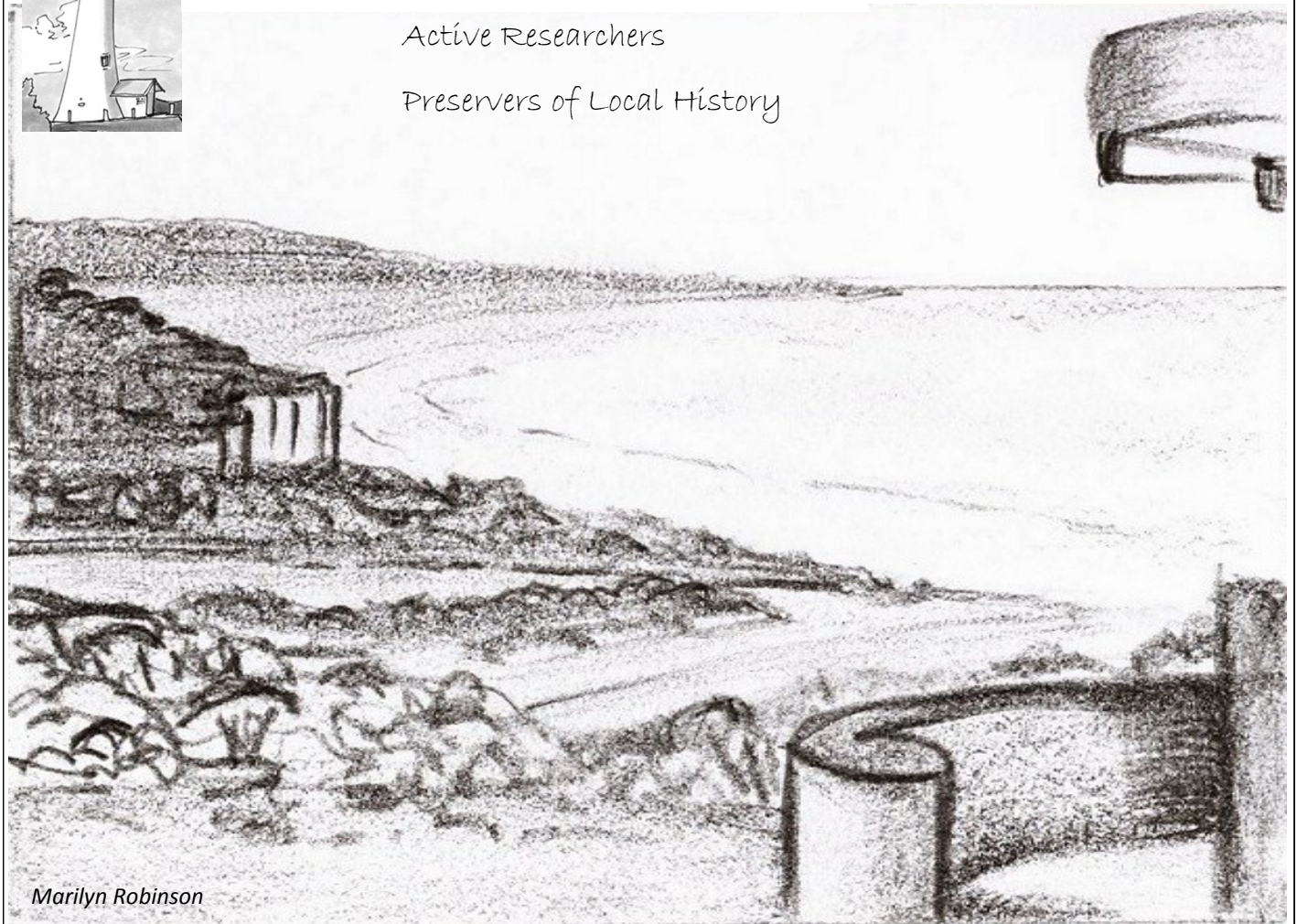
The Anglesea & District Historical

*Society is a not for profit organisation
staffed by volunteer members of the
community, whose aim is to research
and preserve history of the local area.*



Active Researchers

Preservers of Local History



Marilyn Robinson

PLEASE NOTE - The Newsletter will be sent only to financial members.
Membership fees apply from 1 September to 31 August

Meetings & Activities

Meetings are held at the Museum
5a McMillan Street, Anglesea
Entrance 4 of the McMillan Street
Community Precinct

The Historical Society meetings are on the first Sunday of the even months (February, April, June, August, October & December).

Meetings start at 2.00pm followed by a speaker and afternoon tea.

Historical Society Committee

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Coming up:

MARCH - Friday 14 March leaving Museum 10.100 am

Bus tour - Churches of Anglesea District Cost
prepaid \$10 members \$12.50 non members Bookings essential
BYO lunch, morning tea provided

APRIL - Sunday 6 April , Speaker - Dale McIntyre
History of Shearing in Victoria

MAY - Activity Wednesday 7 May

Outing - Ghost Towns of the Princes Highway
Car pool, meet at museum at 10.00am

Lunch can be purchased at Winchelsea or BYO

MUSEUM Our Museum at 5a McMillan Street is open by appointment - Ph. 5263 1249 or 5263 3085 Currently it is closed while it is being painted. It is planned to reopen at the beginning of March.

Photographs

Anglesea & District Historical Society has an extensive collection of photographs that may be ordered through Jan Morris ph. (03) 5263 3085

Email - davejanmorris@bigpond.com

	Prices	On high quality	
		photo paper	On 100 gsm fine finish paper
A4	8.26X11.69	\$15	\$8
A5	5.82X8.26	\$8	\$4
A6	4.13X5.82	\$4	\$2

A3 maybe available by special arrangement
11.69X16.53

A discount of 10% applies to financial members.

ROSE Postcards The
The Rose Stereograph Company of Glen Waverley was originally started by a Mr Rose. He produced the first postcards in stereographic format very early last century and some examples are preserved in the Latrobe Library in Melbourne. He produced his first conventional postcards of this coastline before 1915. We are fortunate to have many Rose postcards on file that record our district over the years.

Anglesea & District Historical Society Inc.

Box 98 Anglesea 3230 Victoria Australia.

President's Pen

2014 looks to be an exciting year for the Anglesea and District Historical Society. There will be big changes at the Museum. We have interesting speakers booked and some not to be missed trips organized. It is good to have our secretary Bruce Bodman back on board after surgery.

The big news for 2014 is the painting of the Museum, something we have been anticipating for many months. Although this causes us some inconvenience, it is well worth it. This gives us an opportunity to look at our displays and make some decisions as we put them back. Our space is limited so we want to maximize it for local history. This may mean finding new homes for some items that are not local to the Anglesea district. Thanks to everyone who has helped pack up the Museum ready for painting. There will be lots of work putting everything back, reorganizing displays and putting signs with all items. We will be having a series of working bees but there are many tasks that can be done by individuals. Volunteers will be valued. We have had good second hand carpet donated. The Shire will have it laid.

The shire is repairing the roof of the garage so that it is now waterproof and we can use it for storage. We have placed a plan copier in the garage. Jim Tutt obtained this for us from the resale shed. With the shed now cleared out of obsolete materials, we can now use it as a work space. We have received permission from the Surfcoast Shire to put a concrete pad in front of the Museum. On this pad we will display a wagon wheel, an old petrol bowser and an onion seeder. These are being restored before they are bolted to the pad.

We have applied for grants to assist us with the purchase of new blinds for the museum. We need blinds that will filter the light, allowing some light in but protecting our collection from sunlight. We hope to obtain some grants towards this and use some of our own reserves.

The March trip to churches of the area promises to be another great outing. We are visiting St Wilfrid's at Mt Duneed, St David's at Freshwater Creek, Bellbrae Uniting and the three churches at Anglesea. The cemetery at St David's will also be of interest. We have booked two 12 seater buses with the shire. They make for comfortable travel and we always have a lot of fun. Booking is essential as we are limited to 24 participants.

I am extremely grateful to Thelma Western who is currently our treasurer. She is doing a wonderful job but would like to be relieved of the position. If anyone would be prepared to take on the position of treasurer, we would like to hear from them. If you know of anyone who may be willing to do this, please let one of the committee know.

Jan Morris

President

NAMING OF POINT ADDIS

The Point Addis Marine National Park features spectacular scenery with wide sandy beaches, crumbling limestone and sandstone cliffs, rocky platforms and copious small rocky reefs. It is a popular destination for divers to explore and search for such creatures. Indigenous tradition indicates that this park is part of the Country of the Wathaurong people. The park is named after Edward Brown Addis (1790-1866)

Edward Addis was a naval man, entering the Royal Navy at just 13 years of age. In 1806 he was wrecked near Sicily when his commander and 396 of the crew were lost. Surviving the shipwreck and after attaining the rank of Commander in 1831, he emigrated to Australia. In 1839 he bought land in Malop Street. Appointed Magistrate later that year, he continued to sit on the bench until the 1850's. He was gazetted as a Commission for Crown Lands for the County of Grant in 1841 and also became Geelong's first Coroner. On close terms with Superintendent La Trobe, he took him to Boucher's lime kiln where the keys that became known as "La Trobes" were found. Among other positions held was a directorship of the Geelong branch of the Bank of Australasia. In 1844 he is said to have spoken in Parliamentary Session in Britain on the subject of the Barrabool tribe and when the Protectorate was abandoned in 1850 he was made responsible for local aborigines. He build "Laira Villa" on 25 acres of land purchased in 1839 on the north side of Aberdeen Street between Addis Street and Shannon Avenue. Eventually he and his wife returned to England where they lived

The Wreck of the Joseph H Scammell at Spring Creek 1891

Later in the year we are hearing the story of the wreck of the JOSEPH H SCAMMEL. Here is a little of the story to wet your appetite.

It was 16th May 1891 when the ship JOSEPH H SCAMMELL ran aground at Point Danger, Spring Creek (now Torquay). The captain was John Albert Chapman. He was accompanied on the voyage by his wife and child, Hattie and the stewardess Josephine Bezelaw. Bellinger, was the first mate. The 21 crew were American blacks; no names were listed. Felix Rosser, a fisherman at Spring Creek was the first to see the wreck at Point Danger. He lit a fire on the beach but was unable to take a boat out to the wreck until the next morning. The ship quickly broke up over the next few days and the coastline between Spring Creek and Bream Creek was lined with wreckage and people coming to see what had happened. Much cargo was looted before the authorities arrived. A fire set among the wreckage quickly spread along the beach and consumed some of the timber, kerosene, oil and other goods. An auction was held disposing of the goods that had not been destroyed or looted.



Joseph H Scammell on the reef at Point Danger

At the auction "A great number of people proceeded to Spring Creek (Torquay) on a Saturday afternoon, in May 1891, when the sale of the cargo washed ashore from the wreck of the ship JOSEPH H SCAMMELL was conducted by Messers Robinson, Burns and Sparrow.....The assembly numbered about 800 persons, and among those who gathered on the hillside near the Customs cordon, where the sale took place, were many genuine speculators." More than £40,000 worth of cargo was knocked down. Many items were knocked down at ridiculously low prices. The winner bidder was entitled to take what was stacked on the beach, any of the same items washed up along the beach and also to seize any items stolen from the wreckage .

Kerosene The kerosene tins were knocked down for £275. This entitled the buyer, Mr A Miller, to the 6661 tins stacked on the beach and any of the 17,625 of the original consignment he could find. Most had been stolen but he was entitled to hunt them down if he could.

Tobacco The tobacco was popular, especially with the looters. Mr WT Wallis was the winning bidder at the price of £390. However he also had to pay £2000 duty to customs. Tracking down the stolen tobacco was going to be almost impossible, so perhaps it wasn't such a bargain after all.

Timber "Now then for the 1495 cases of clear pine and 118 cases of walnut wood, called the auctioneer, and there was a general look along the shore for the valuable timber referred to." There was none to be seen. Was it floating in the sea, washed up on the distant shores or had it been looted? Despite there being none in sight the bidding went ahead, with a Mr Horner giving the final bid of £325. He then had to hunt it down.

Sundries Quantity of finished leather - £45 Mr Sydenham, 5 barrels of oil (or what was left of it) - £63, Printing paper heaped on the shore - £32.10.00 Mr C Sommers, Miscellaneous cargo after slow bidding went for £170 to Mr Stott.

At the Court of Marine Inquiry, it was stated that a lighthouse at Split Point, Aireys inlet was absolutely necessary. It was being built but was not lit until later in 1891.

William Pride bought a deck house in 1891 of the wrecked sailing ship the Joseph H Scammell and made it into a holiday house for his family at 24 Pride Street, Torquay.



24 Pride Street, incorporating a deckhouse

Ref. The Wreck of the Joseph H Scammell by KL Cecil & RV Carr

KONTIKI, 10A BAMBRA ROAD, AIREYS INLET

My story of how I came to live at “Kontiki” in Aireys Inlet is like that of many others.

When my children were small we stayed at a friend’s holiday house in Anglesea. We were soon entranced by the nearby hamlet of Aireys Inlet with its lighthouse, bark hut and lagoon. Many years later the opportunity arose to buy a beach house at Aireys Inlet - my dream come true! The brief from my husband was that it



The original Kontiki built 1891



Rebuilt Kontiki after the 1983 fires, then owned by Bill Meredith

shouldn’t be

“suburban looking” and “up a bush track” if possible.

Determined to find a place that fit the bill I began scouring the ads and plaguing the local estate agents. Many red herrings were cast in our way before I followed up a lead in Bambra Road. Arriving at the address I looked up the long, gravel driveway, treed on either side and could not see a house at all. After quite a hike the long, low, classic beach house came into view. It was set on a large, grassed block and the wide verandah looked over the Painkalac Valley - perfect! Fortunately my husband thought so too!

We purchased the property known then as Lot 3, 12-14 Bambra Road, Aireys Inlet in the County of Polwarth and

Parish of Angahook, from Bill Meredith of Surrey Hills in November 1994. It was a replacement house for Bill and his family as the original period home had burnt down like many others in the terrible 1983

bushfires. Bill rebuilt above the original site and planted mostly acacia trees on the footprint of the house. The only tree remaining from before the fires was a fig tree planted at the kitchen window of the original house. A cutting from that fig tree is now flourishing in our garden today. Bill told me the old house, by then known as “Kontiki”, was built in 1891 by Robert Anderson the stone mason who built the Aireys lighthouse. It was one of the first cottages to be built in Aireys Inlet. Bill said Anderson built it mainly from materials left over from the construction of the lighthouse keeper’s cottage except it had an iron roof instead of being slate. He said Mr Anderson used the plans for the lighthouse keeper’s cottage as they were the only ones available.



Kontiki after 2013 renovations by Ed and Kathryn

It appears that the cottage, originally called “Loutit Villa”, after the name of the bay, was let for holidays from early in its life. The Great Ocean Road was still in the future and early visitors arrived, usually by coach and horses, along Bambra Road as that was where the fledgling hamlet was growing. Hasty’s Boarding House was just a few blocks along where people also stayed and the horses that used to bring holiday makers to Aireys were stabled.

Some time later it was know as “Hope Cottage” but I don’t know who lived there then. Later again it was known as the “McLennan Cottage” when the house was purchased by Harriet Jessie Constance McLennan of Hotham Street, East Melbourne.

PONFEIGH, 6 Bambra Road, Aireys Inlet.

Like many places in Australia, names have been taken from other countries, especially Britain. *Pomfeigh* in Aireys Inlet is no exception, although we have to go back several generations to find where the owner's ancestors had come from. An inquiry from an English visitor to the area, who came from Ponfeigh, caused me to investigate just why the late Nancy Bellair, nee Tweedle, had named her home in Aireys Inlet *Ponfeigh*. Below is the family as it was traced back to *Ponfeigh*.



Ponfeigh as it stands in Bambra Road today

John TWEEDDALE born 26 JUL 1814 in Ponfeigh, christened 1 AUG 1814 in Carmichael Lanark, Scotland. His wife was Mary FINLAY born 1816 in New Monkland Lanark, Scotland. One of their sons was

Henry TWEEDDALE

Birth: 1844 in Glasgow, Lanark, Scotland

Emigration: 1 NOV 1849 "Travancore" to Pt. Henry, Geelong

Occupation: Drapery Business 2 JUL 1871

Event: 1889 President Geelong Drapers & Clothiers

Residence: 5 OCT 1904 "Ponfeigh" Clifton Lane, Leopold

Death: 25 SEP 1922 in Mt Duneed, Vic. Australia of Result of a broken leg

Burial: 27 SEP 1922 Eastern Cemetery. Geelong, Vic.

Henry and his family lived at a house on the North Side of Russell St. Chilwell. Commenced a Drapery Business on the 2nd of July 1871 at 86 Moorabool St. (Jesse Dawes old shop). On the 19th of September 1876 Henry purchased the stock of J.C. Miller and set up shop in Ryrie St. opposite the Saleyards. By 1889 he had become President of the Geelong Drapers & Clothiers Association. *Henry had married* Annie DAWES from St Arnaud on 25 March 1874 in St Andrews Manse, Geelong. The house in Russell St. was sold on the 8th of April 1882 and the family moved to 7 Clarke St. Newtown, left to him by his father. He also inherited property in Westcott St. Chilwell. However by 1904 he had retired and was living at Leopold with his daughter Caroline.. Henry continued to live with Caroline and died at her home at Mt Duneed in 1922.

Children - Henry and Annie had the following children: John Henry b.1875, Jessie Mary b:1876, Beatrice Anne b:1878, Caroline b:188, Stephen Charnock b:1882, May Finley b: 1886, Muriel Constance b: 1887.

John Henry, the eldest son married twice. He lived in Maryborough where he was in the drapery business following in his father's footsteps. *Marriage 1* to Mary Helena GILL b: 6 NOV 1878 in Geelong

Marriage 2 in 1903 in Geelong—Children were

Keith Henry b:1904 in Maryborough,

Heather Grace b: 1907 in Maryborough,

Nancie Helena b:1912 in Maryborough,

Joan Finlay TWEEDDALE, b 1917

Nancie Helena Tweeddale married in 1975 to James Leonard BELLAIR, there were no children. Nancie died on 14 August 2008. Place of residence was "Ponfeigh", 6 Bambra Rd. Aireys Inlet, Victoria. Nancie had built this home in Aireys Inlet and named it "Ponfeigh" after the place where her great. great grandfather John Tweeddale had immigrated with his family from in 1844. That was 170 years ago.