

**Nibbles:** In this issue of Nibbles one of our "blasts from the past" is an article about the fire tower at Mt Misery which was first included in the August 2004 edition of Coastal Current and later added to in the 2018 Winter edition. There's also an interesting article on Princess Mary Bay. But first of all the quiz ...

**Quiz:** Try your luck at these history questions. The answers are towards the end of this issue (no peeking).

- Q.1. When was the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge?
- Q.2. Who was the first Australian-born Governor-General?
- Q.3. Which Australian state or colony was the first to introduce female suffrage?
- Q.4. In what year was the wattle declared Australia's national flower?
- Q.5. In September 1943 which two women became the first to be elected to Federal Parliament?

**The Fire Tower at Mt Misery:** Mount Misery was the uninviting name once given to the area at the top of Harvey Street. The area was administrated by a government division with the title of Forests Commission of Victoria. This particular region was once part of a pine plantation area, planted after WW1. Two workers cottages were built on the site in the 1920s. They were listed in the November 1938 phone book as Mt. Misery Lookout, extension phone number of Anglesea River 16. After the 1947 fire, a wooden look-out tower was constructed. The observation platform was assembled on the ground, then hauled into position with a truck and winch, as there were no cranes for hire in those days. 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. Nearby residents feared a collapse so the tower was eventually brought down with an explosive charge. Following the failure of the Pine Plantations, the two workers cottages were relocated. Today the bush has reclaimed the area and it is difficult to imagine what was there 50 years ago. Only a loop track marks the place where the lookout and houses once stood. (Lindsay Braden/Jan Morris)



**Cartoon postcard:** Living in coastal towns we are familiar with postcards showing views of the beautiful beach, cliff and bush scenery. But these days we are likely to send greetings by uploading a "selfie" to Facebook or Instagram, rather than writing a postcard and finding a mail box. This postcard is an example of the novelty kind that used to be very popular. The postcard was published by A R (Reuben) Mousley, owner of the general store from 1918 to 1940. It is in the Valentine's series, and the cartoonist is Albert Carney.

The postcard has a 'pop up' tab on the front, with 11 photos of Anglesea folded underneath. The tab is designed as a bag carried by a cartoon boyish gentleman carrying a swagger stick and smoking a cigarette in a holder. He is wearing a trilby hat. (Susan Clarke)

**Anglesea Pine Plantations:** On Victoria's Forests & Bushfire Heritage Facebook page, Peter McHugh has recently added a most interesting post about Forestry Commission Pine Plantations. He highlights the three Pine Plantations sites at Anglesea. This article is well worth a read. Susan Clarke assisted Peter with his research and provided photos from our A&DHS collection. Anglesea Pine Plantations were abandoned in the 1940s following several fires. (Jan Morris)

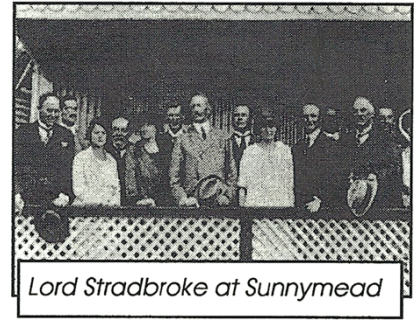


**Weeding:** With rain and sunshine everything has been growing at a great rate, including the weeds. The weeds are prolific in the History House garden. If anyone has some spare time perhaps, they could visit our garden and pull out some of the weeds. Thanks to the Community Garden we have been able to put new mulch on the front garden. While some weeds have been poisoned, the ones near plants need to be pulled out. Thanks to Deborah Penrose for replacing some plants we have lost and caring for the others. (Jan Morris)



**Did you Know?** When telephonic communications came to Anglesea the local hotel obtained the first number in the district – “Anglesea 1.” In Aireys Inlet, the initial applicant for the telephone was Mr George Noble who was allocated “Aireys Inlet 1.” At Eastern View the prestigious number “Eastern View 1” went to Chas R. Herschell. (Lindsay Braden)

**Where’s Princess Mary Bay?** It was reported that on Friday March 19<sup>th</sup> 1922, Lord Stradbroke and his official party while on their way to open the Great Ocean Road, called into the Sunnymead Homestead, the residence of Charles J. Lane, for lunch. Whilst there, his Excellency at Mr Lane’s request named two nearby coastal indentations, Princess Mary Bay and Stradbroke Bay respectively; it would appear, “one for you and one for me.” Of course it must be pointed out that Charles Lane owned most of the broad acre land fronting these bays at that time. Today, Princess Mary Bay is better known as the Point Roadknight beach area. Stradbroke Bay is at the rear of Lane’s old Sunnymead block, and serviced by today’s Boundary Road car park. However it would seem that since that day, these new designations only appeared in the 1920s Lane’s Sunnymead Estate booklet, and the 1946 Sunnymead Estate brochure – the idea just didn’t officially catch on. (Lindsay Braden – March 2004)



**The proposed History House upgrade:** Just keeping you in the loop. The committee continues to press hard for support in its attempt to gain funding for the upgrade of History House in line with “Health & Safety” and “Disadvantaged Access” guidelines, as well as to meet the need for a larger museum display area, a better work environment for our volunteer staff, and more suitable storage facilities for our growing collection of historical artifacts and memorabilia. With the additional federal funding available to state and local authorities under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, we believe that this is an ideal time to upgrade History House, the principal repository of the history of our area.

**Why have a museum?** In a definitional sense the purpose of a museum is to *“collect, preserve, interpret and display objects from the past of artistic, cultural or scientific significance for the on-going education of the public.”* However in a world increasingly drawing on the internet for its information and experiences, does the traditional museum have a place in modern society. Journalist Rebecca Carlson in her blog ([museumnext.com](http://museumnext.com)) believes that *“we now need museums more than ever.”* Museums provide an insight into the history of humankind, and can bring communities together by celebrating a collective heritage. But why have a collection of historical objects that have to be preserved and stored at considerable expense when you can digitise their images and make them easily available over the web? Well, beside the obvious need to store them even if you do digitise their images, there is something greatly more aesthetically appealing about looking at the actual object and perhaps even holding it in your hands. We have a copy of the Inverlochy log in our collection at History House. To have it in front of you and know that those very pages were the ones written on by the sailors who crewed that ship one hundred and twenty years ago is a special experience indeed. That’s not to say of course that the modern museum can’t be greatly enhanced by the use of modern technology, especially in respect to the opportunity for virtual interaction. It can, and at History House our objective is to do just that.

**Wood to Raffle:** We have been generously offered a trailer load of wood to raffle for next winter. Hopefully this will raise \$1,000 towards our building fund. Graeme Weber has offered to provide more wood to raffle if he can obtain wood locally. Do you know anyone who has a suitable tree or wood on their property or know of where Graeme can obtain suitable wood. It doesn’t matter if it is green as Graeme will dry it out before raffling it. If you have any leads please phone Graeme on 5263 2431.

**Answers to the Quiz:** Q.1 March 1932. Q.2 Sir Isaac Isaacs Q.3 South Australia Q.4 1912 Q.5 Dame Enid Lyons and Dorothy Tangney.

**The month of November:** Here’s a list of a few of the things that happened during the month of November in Australia in years gone by.

**1854** The Eureka Flag was flown for the first time during the Eureka Stockade rebellion in Ballarat.

**1880** Bushranger Ned Kelly was hanged for his crimes at Melbourne Gaol, and 10 days later the sentencing judge Sir Redmond Barry also died.

**1930** Phar Lap won the Melbourne Cup for the first time.

**1945** Australia became a founding member of the United Nations.

**1948** The first Holden motor car (the FX) rolled off the assembly line. It cost – £750

**Historical Jokes:** (I just type them, I don’t make them up – The Editor)

1. How did the Vikings send secret messages? They used “Norse Code.”
2. What happened after the wheel was invented? It caused a total revolution.
3. What was Camelot? The place where King Arthur’s knights parked their camels.