

ANGLESEA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL
SOCIETY Inc.

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ACTIVITIES — PAST & PRESENT

TALL SHIPS

The large gathering on the cliff tops of Eumeralla on December 30th voted "The Tall Ships" BBQ a great success socially, even though the actual viewing process was a little disappointing. Despite perfect weather conditions on land - sun hats, parasols, and dark glasses a must - a persistent sea mist shrouded the sea-scape and only occasionally there was an excited cry from one of the onlookers - "There's a sail! - or is it?"

JANUARY 28th

Our Bi-Centennial activities continued on Australia Day when the historical society, with the Lions' Club and the Anglesea Entertainers arranged a re-enactment of Captain Phillip's landing, with breakfast to follow on the foreshore, and then exhibitions in the Senior Citizens' Club Rooms by various groups for the many visitors to view. On this occasion, the Society was very happy to be able to exhibit the Hereford Bell, which fitted in well with the shipping theme used. Our thanks to the owner for this gesture. All activities were well attended and thanks are extended to all who assisted.

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GARAGE SALE

Again a success, with more than \$350 being added to the Society funds - Miss White's assistance in allowing us to use her shed and grounds was much appreciated.

HERITAGE WEEK

Our premises in McMillan Street were transformed with a tremendous response from members and friends to our request for special items of needlework - the range exhibited was vast indeed, from the 1868 wedding frock (the "Marriage Lines" intact and shown with the gown) to exquisite petit point tapestry pictures executed by a proud grandfather (and local resident) of his two grandchildren, christening gowns over 100 years old, and worked samplers were also much admired - morning tea was enjoyed out-of-doors on the patio. About 50 local schoolchildren entered the Tall Ships poster competition run in conjunction with Heritage Week; their efforts fluttered gaily in the breeze pegged on ropes outlining the driveway. The winners were presented with their prizes after a Colonial dress parade, and then the children and teachers were entertained to a BBQ lunch by Society members.

EXCURSIONS

A most enjoyable day's outing for about 50 members and friends when they journeyed to Geelong by bus and car to view National Trust properties "Barwon Grange" and "The Heights" - picnic lunch being taken in the gardens of the latter property. A trip to Cunningham Pier followed to view the "Leeuwin", Australia's entry in the Tall Ships' Race, before returning home.

In appreciation of work done by Society members in helping to man the Information Caravan, Barrabool Shire entertained the helpers at a morning tea at the "Sea Mist" Stud at Wensleydale - those attending were also interested to learn some interesting facts about the uses of this property before the present owners took over - in the past mulberry trees had even been planted with the idea of setting up a silk industry.

BONFIRE NIGHT

Again members are indebted to Alan Poigndester, one of our most dedicated members, who organised a bonfire and BBQ for "Beacons Round Australia Night" - despite inclement weather conditions, Alan was not deterred - and his efforts, with a small band of helpers, were rewarded with a good turn up of onlookers.

ACQUISITIONS

We have been very fortunate in having a fine display cabinet given us - also donations of beautiful baby wear of "yester year", a worked sampler over a century old, books for the library, old manuscripts, and other memorabilia - we are most grateful to donors for their continued support.

PUBLICATIONS

Our latest venture, in conjunction with the Aireys Inlet District Association, has been the publication of material gathered over a long period by Mr Ian McLaren, an historian of some note. The work covers Aireys Inlet data from Anglesea West to Cinema Point.

Our previous publications continue to sell well, with some orders being received from Sydney and Melbourne Library Services.

VICTORIAN MINISTRY FOR THE ARTS

A submission is presently being drawn up to present on behalf of the Society seeking a grant of \$500 to enable us to print more of our historical photographs for display purposes. When the proposed alterations to our premises have been made, extra wall space will allow for an enlarged exhibition.

STOP PRESS - THIS WORK HAS ACTUALLY COMMENCED.

SHIRE OF BARRABOOL HISTORY

Work on this project is under way and several members of our Society are actively engaged in its preparation. Any members or friends with information or photographs considered suitable for inclusion are asked to contact the Shire Secretary, Mr Merv Hair.

COMING EVENTS

- August 6th Bring along 6 of your most interesting slides and give a brief commentary as they are being shown
- September 3rd Pat Denham will speak on some of our local roads and their interesting origins and history.
- October 1st Richard Marsh will take us round Tasmania with an illustrated talk.
- November 4th FRIDAY NIGHT - OUR ANNUAL DINNER - Mr Jack Loney, well-known author, will be our guest speaker. Venue to be announced later.

MEMBERSHIP

ARE YOU ONE OF OUR VALUED MEMBERS WHO HAS OVERLOOKED THE CURRENT SUBSCRIPTION?

You will find a slip enclosed if you come into this category. We would be most grateful if you would forward the \$5.00 membership at your earliest convenience.



ANGLESEA RIVER BOATING PARTY

During the 1870's some enterprising Geelong anglers found that there were good hauls of bream to be got from a small tidal stream to the south of Jan Juc. They gave to the area the rather appropriate name *SWAMPY CREEK*. During the next decade, as word spread, more and more sportsmen visited the locality, usually camping overnight or for a week or more at a time. Some enterprising persons, foreseeing the need for places of accommodation, opened boarding houses along the eastern bank of the stream. However, even in those times, the coastal areas were not without the presence of the vandals as the following item from the columns of the *Geelong Advertiser* of 1873 attests:

We would caution all persons in the habit of going to Swampy Creek and depending upon getting shelter for the night in the house erected upon Mr Murray's land, that some mischevious person has burnt it to the ground, so that anyone going down to stay the night will need to provide himself with a tent or covered conveyance in which to sleep.

By 1895 there was also a magnificent timber three-storeyed licenced hotel with 27 rooms open for business. The families who holidayed here were often to be found in rowing boats using the upper reaches of the river for picnicking. Following a petition to the Shire of Barrabool in 1884, the name was changed to *ANGLESEA RIVER*.