

PRESIDENT
Edith LAWN 631681

SECRETARY
Shirley FORSYTH 631430

ACTIVITIES

Since our last Newsletter, Society members have been involved in a number of activities. The Annual Dinner attracted a big crowd and the Rev Eric Derbyshire of Queenscliff delighted his audience with reminiscing about his time in Australia over the past forty years. Mr Derbyshire willingly accepted our invitation when our scheduled speaker, author and historian Mr Jack Loney was hospitalised. However, everyone will be pleased to hear that Mr Loney has recovered and will be our guest speaker for the 1989 dinner on the first Friday in November - an early date for your diaries please! The Woodchop, Regatta and the Aireys Art & Craft Show enabled us to provide information about our photo displays and the work on the Society generally. We also provided the Tuesday roster at the Shire Information Caravan.

At our April meeting it was resolved that the Museum should be OPEN on a regular basis - the first Sunday of the month, from 2.30 to 4pm, the time chosen. We would like more volunteers for this very important role - if you have not been on duty before, an "experienced" offsider can be there to assist - this should provide more members with an insight into the "workings" of THEIR Society - so don't be shy! Mr Gavin Cook had two interested visitors from a Melbourne historical society when he opened up Sunday, April 2nd.

GARAGE SALE A SUCCESS

The changed venue - to 5 McMillan Street, worked well and we are most grateful for the help received before hand to sort items into priced lots - this saved much time on the day of the sale when eager beaver buyers were on the scene well before the appointed starting time of 9am, no doubt wanting to get the best of the bargains - some were on the doorstep before boxes were emptied! One pleasing feature was the clearance of a few items left over from the '88 fixture - in a couple of instances, before actual sale day!

Again we are most appreciative of assistance given by members before and on the day - if you could not be in it for '89, do try and participate in '90 - ask certain helpers and they'll tell you it's lots of fun. And of course - gratitude to donors of goods - without their support there'd be no sale! As a result of the raffle run in conjunction and donations on the day, the grand total will be almost \$350.

At the April meeting the executive was given the "nod" to purchase another show case; estimated cost about \$300 - so you can see the benefits of garage sales - you get rid of some unwanted article - another takes it away, happy with the purchase - and the Society has the where-with-all to make a worthwhile addition to the Museum furniture.

Winners of the raffle were drawn on Saturday 1st at the meeting

1. Glenn Dixon, Keith Cecil's grandson.
2. Mrs M Keates.

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KING ISLAND TRIP

Fourteen members are looking forward to the King Island visit on April 11th & 12th. Members of the Island Historical Society will act as hosts and have arranged an exciting and very full itinerary. It so happens that our visit co-incides with that of the governor of Tasmania, Sir Phillip Bennett to the Museum and members have also been invited to attend the Vice-Regal cocktail Party on the evening of the 11th - do come to the next monthly meeting in May and hear some of the highlights of this excursion from those participating.

HERITAGE WEEK

The Society was pleased to receive a \$500 grant from the RHSV in connection with the Heritage Trails programme. The Department of Conservation, Forests & Lands has undertaken the making of markers for us, to be placed along the Surf Coast Walk to show different points of historical interest and significance. The first of these markers - at the Regatta boatshed - will be ceremoniously unveiled on Sunday 16th April by our President, Mrs E Lawn and a representative from the Dept of C F & L at 11.30am. This day marks the beginning of Heritage Week promoted by the National Trust on an annual basis with this year's theme being Victoria's Holiday Resorts - so we can feel our involvement is most appropriate. Following the ceremony, a BBQ (BYO) will be held in the Museum grounds at 5 McMillan Street (Tea & Coffee provided) - do come and join in the fun.

MEETINGS

These have been very well attended this year - our first in February attracted such a crowd that we had to have two showings of the film "RED GOLD" which was made in Anglesea in the late 1920's - it did cause much mirth - quite as exciting as any early Western!

The March meeting - on a more sober note - but never-the-less most enjoyable - saw Chris Rowland from Alcoa speak about the reclamation programme after mining operations move to another section - and judging from the number of questions fired at Chris, his listeners showed a keen interest in the subject.

Well-known Anglesea identity "Doc" Bingley delighted his big audience at the April meeting when he reminisced over the last 74 years of visiting, then living in Anglesea. He covered so many facets of life in the town, from fishing to golfing, boating etc. As mentioned previously, the May 6th meeting will give members the opportunity to share in the highlights of the King Island trip.

PHOTO DISPLAY

Following a request from the Manager of the Community Health Centre, arrangements are being made for an alternating display of some of our historical photographs at the Centre.

IMPROVEMENTS

Over \$800 has been spent of special blinds to prevent fading of exhibits - all window in the main Museum rooms have been fitted.

The Shire continues to keep our grassed areas mown - an unscheduled working bee on the garden plots by a few members prior to Easter ensured an attractive appearance for visitors at that time.

ACQUISITIONS

A Museum needs to constantly add to its collection and in this regard we have been fortunate to have received recent donations of goods from Mr G Armstrong, Mrs C Roberts, Mrs L King, Mr N Must and Mrs P Cockrell. Mrs K Morgan also gave us an item for raffling. Our grateful thanks to these folk.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Books from the ongoing series "Along the Great Ocean Road" continue to gain a wide readership - recent orders have come from the Latrobe University, Elizabeth Campbell (Antiquarian Booksellers), and James Bennett (Sydney booksellers). Our latest publication is THE ANGLESEA PLANTATION selling at \$10 per copy.

COMING SOON

ANGLESEA HISTORY - Volume 1
LORNE - THE FOUNDING YEARS

Remember, there's a 50c discount on each book purchased by a member.

Included in this Newsletter is an extract from a letter penned in 1965 by Mr William Harvey giving his memories of earlier times in Anglesea - this should whet your appetite for the Anglesea History volume.

DON'T FORGET

- Sunday April 16th, 11.30am Unveiling of marker board at Regatta boatshed - BBQ to follow at 5 McMillan St.
- Friday 5th May, 10am Executive Committee meeting
- Saturday 6th May, 7.30pm Monthly meeting - King Island memories.
- Sunday May 7th, 2.30-4pm Museum open, Mrs Smithwick on duty.
- Saturday June 3rd, 7.30pm Monthly meeting. Farewell social night for Lucy and Jim King. Supper duty - Mesdames Barsby & Jones.
- Sunday June 4th, 2.30-4pm Museum open, Miss N McDonald on duty.

JULY - NO MEETING

FUTURE SUPPER ROSTER.

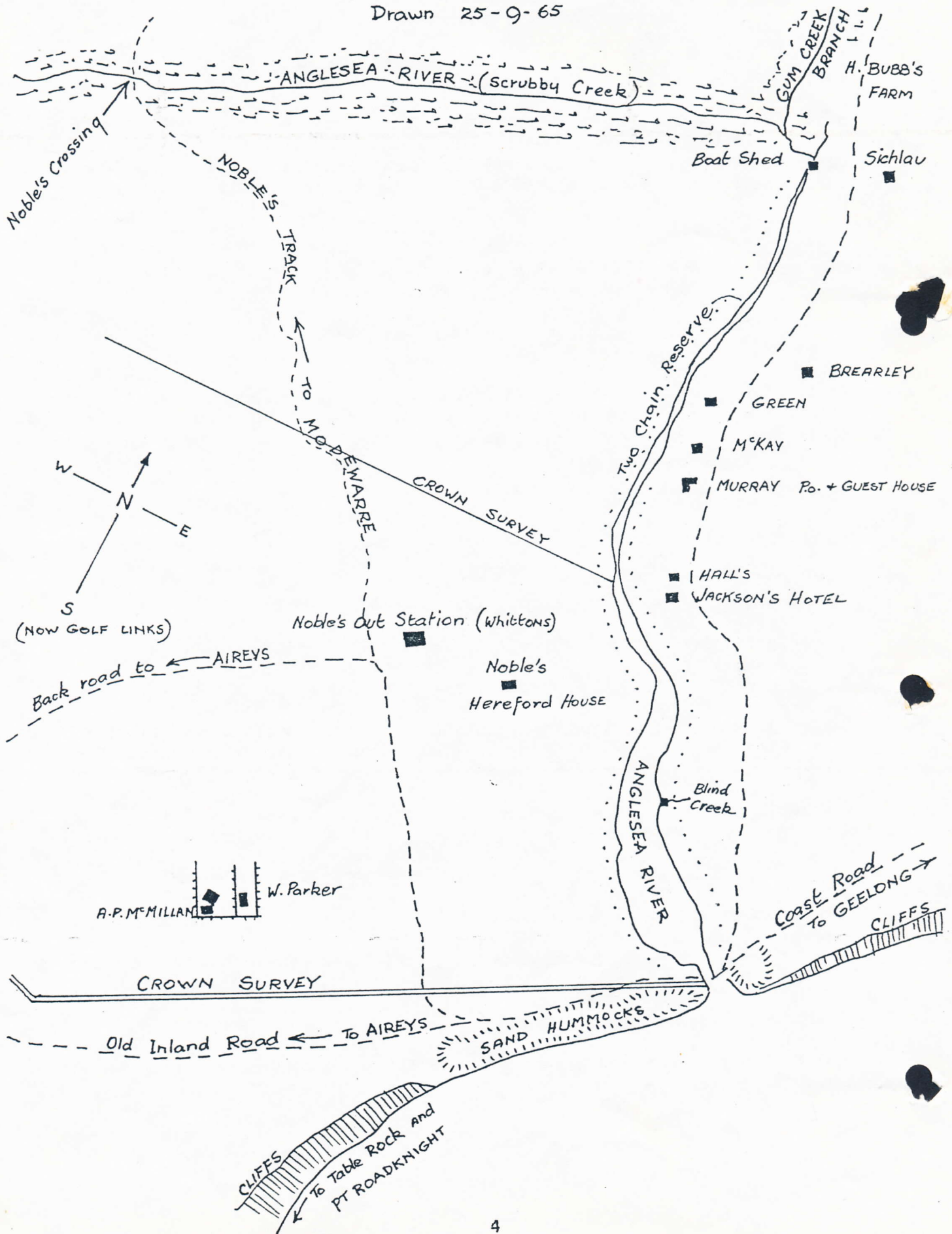
- AUGUST - Mesdames Fleay & Clarke
- SEPTEMBER - Mesdames IForsyth & Paton
- OCTOBER - Mesdames Butterworth & Must
- NOVEMBER - Mesdames Ingham & Roberts.
- DECEMBER - Mesdames Wendt & Marsh.

LOST PROPERTY - Left at the Museum, April 1st - spectacles case & torch. Ring 631430 to claim.

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W. H. HARVEY'S Map of Early Anglesea

Drawn 25-9-65



REMINISCENCES OF MR HARVEY

(PENNED SEPTEMBER 1965)

I was six years old when we first went to Anglesea in the summer of 1889-90 and was frequently there until my brother died in 1963. some recollections may interest you.

Cobb & Co ran the mail coach from Geelong for many years. The roads were not formed or metalled beyond Merrijig Creek about 11 miles from Geelong and in the wet time were almost impassable on the level stretches between Merrijig and Jan Juc (Bellbrae) and Jan Juc and "The Whales Back" which was the name given to the part where the road swings to the south and you get the first view of the Otway Ranges - about two and a half miles from from Anglesea. There were generally four horses to the coach. Gundry's, at the foot of the Jan Juc hill was still the changing point.

Before the bridge was built the only crossing was at the mouth of the river and there was always some glorious uncertainty about whether we would "make it" with the narrow tyres and sometimes quicksands. Conditions varied very much with the sand and it was the usual thing to whip up the horses to a canter and try to rush through.

The bridge was built about 1893. The iron bark piles and other timber were cut in the forest behind Aireys. It has been widened and re-decked but much of the timber is original.

Fires were a constant anxiety in Summer. Graziers leasing the forest country made a practice of burning off to get a fresh shoot when the autumn rains came and on a hot morning with a north wind it was common to see a string of fires start up along a range. They joined up and sometimes burned to the coast. At night especially it was rather a terrifying spectacle.

Before the rabbits came they say there was good grazing at through the bush but by 1889 they were there in thousands and stock could hardly get a living. The rabbits commenced to die out or disappear long before myxomatosis was used.

There were two shipwrecks off Anglesea that we knew of. The earlier, the "Hereford" on the reef nearest Point Addis which bears the name was before our time. I remember the second one well which was a three-masted sailing ship named the "Inverlochy". It was said that in misty weather bearings were lost and the Aireys light was mistaken for Point Lonsdale. The night was comparatively calm and all sails were set when she struck the next reef west of the Hereford. All on board took to the boats and landed about daylight east of Torquay, but by then a gale had sprung up from the east with driving rain which continued for two days.

You can imagine the thrill for a boy of eleven looking out from the cottage that morning and seeing a ship in full sail hard and fast on the reef. A big sea was soon running, the sails were ripping and waves were breaking over her. She was an iron ship and it was a year or more before she finally broke up and disappeared.

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There was much less scrub then than later and from the cottage we had an uninterrupted view of the river and sea. Fishing was the main sport, especially off the rocks and beaches. Fishing and shooting were always rather better at Aireys.

A fisherman named Jonas Hollingworth and his two sons who had a selection at Grassy Creek between Aireys and Lorne, built a bark hut in the tea-tree scrub about the middle of roadknight Bay. They used to bring their boat round and stay there and net the Bay. Jonas used to tell us about the early days in those parts. There was a whiskey still running on Scrubby Creek (a mile or so above where the brown coal mine is now). It was very cleverly sited in the scrub at a fork in the creek and escaped the police and excise men for years. My father and I searched and eventually found the place. Fires had been through but there were plenty of rusty cask hoops and fire bars about. Another still operated on a branch of Aireys River, now called Distillery Creek.

WILLIAM W HARVEY.



JONAS HOLLINGWORTH AT HIS POINT ROADKNIGHT BARK HUT