

Coastal Current

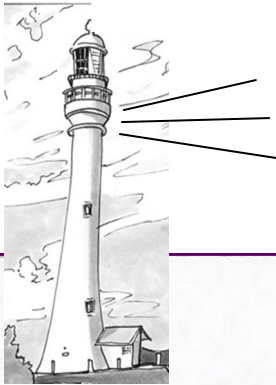
Quarterly Newsletter Of The

Anglesea & District Historical Society

Issue No. 125

Summer 2019/20

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

Keepers of the Museum



Marilyn Robinson

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Are you financial? Historical Society is \$20 for the first family member per year and \$15 for other family members (this includes insurance). People over 90 are free (no insurance). Family History (optional extra) is \$15 per family. Please notify if extra \$15 is Family History or extra Historical member. FEES DUE 1 SEPTEMBER_Pay direct: Bendigo Bank—BSB 633 000, Account 1430 28421—reference, your name, **OR** post to PO Box 98, Anglesea, 3230

Meetings & Activities

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

The Historical Society meetings are usually 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.

DECEMBER

Meeting Sunday 1 December 2.00pm
Christmas celebration meeting
Bringing a plate to share



JANUARY No Meeting

FEBRUARY

Meeting 2.00pm Sunday 2 February
Speaker: John Birt
Topic: Early Golf in Anglesea

MARCH OUTING

Thursday 12 March
Trip to Mooramong, Skipton
Leave 9.00am
Return 4.00pm
Cost : \$25 (to be prepaid), plus lunch



APRIL

MEETING 2.00pm Sunday 5 April
Speaker: Fred Cahir
Topic: People of Wadawaurong, Victoria



My Country all gone. The White men have stolen it: The Invasion of Wadawurrung Country 1800-1870.

Historical Society Committee

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Call for items: telling the story of golfing in the district

For the beginning of next year we are planning a display of photographs and memorabilia telling the story of golfing in Anglesea and district. If you have any items that you are willing to provide on loan for this display, please let me know by the December meeting.

Thanks
Susan, Curator (0438 070 560)



MUSEUM OPEN TIMES

Open & Staffed the second Sunday of the month
2.00 - 4.00 pm or by appointment - Ph.0448 526 311
Unstaffed but open for browsing
Mondays & Thursdays 1.30 pm - 3.30pm
Tuesdays & Saturdays 10.30am – 1.00pm
Open every Sunday during School Holidays
2.00-4.00pm

Anglesea & District Historical Society Inc.

Box 98 Anglesea 3230 Victoria Australia.

In October Jim Tutt and IU met with Nicky Angus from the Shire and Tony Hobba, the architect. Tony is going to do the concept drawings for the garage rebuild. This will then go to the Shire for money to be allocated to take the plans to the next stage of costing. Although there has not been a commitment by the Shire they are looking at it as a possible project. The plan is to demolish the current garage, rebuild it using the current footprint and add a second storey that will double the size of the meeting room. We plan to put a storage compactus in the new store and have cupboards that extend under the current meeting room. This will extend our storage space considerably.

It was unfortunate that our fund raising sausage sizzle had to be cancelled because of the rain. However, we have been most fortunate to have an extra shift at the resale shed. Consequently, in the last disbursement of money from the resale shed we received over \$1,000. The resale shed has become an excellent source of income for us. The outing to Deans Marsh was enjoyed by 28 people in September. Two people from Deans Marsh Hall Committee hosted us and explained the curtain depicting the town from World War Two. They also told us about the first hall curtain that was made after World War One. Other historical memorabilia on the hall walls was also of interest to us. We visited the former home of the singer Marjorie Lawrence before going to Waterlands Theatre. We watched the story of Marjorie Lawrence being brought up in a big family, living in a small country town, to becoming a world renowned opera singer.



Enjoying lunch at Circa 1902

Our trip to Queenscliff was most informative, and was enjoyed by 24 people. Unfortunately the rain prevented us from having the full tour of the Fort, but we found the Fort Museum most interesting. We all enjoyed lunch at Circa 1902 before spending time in the revamped Queenscliff Museum. A very full day was appreciated by



The tour guide addressing our group at the Fort

everyone.



The cataloguing group has been busy reorganising the museum. They have moved the Anglecrest desk from the entrance to the museum room. It is now set up as a working desk of the past, with a typewriter and ink wells. This desk was donated by Brian and Betty Butterworth. They had once owned Anglecrest and ran it as a boarding house.

During Angair weekend we had the museum open on both the Saturday and Sunday. A display of the building of the Great Ocean Road proved popular. We had well over 100 people sign

the visitors book and many people came in without signing. It is well worth being open for this weekend. Visitors also saw the scouting display in the main cabinet. Thanks to the members who supervised the museum over this weekend.

Seniors Day was a great success. We had an interesting day looking at old cooking utensils, recipes and aprons. It brought back many memories of our mothers' cooking. We were pleased to have some folk from our neighbours Sirovilla. We repeated our play about Anglesea in 1891 and enjoyed a chat over morning tea. Two of our Family History Committee were the lucky winners of the free raffle.

The Family History Group are again running a Christmas Raffle. This is their main fundraiser for the year, so please support them. They welcome donations for the Christmas hampers and please buy some tickets.

In 2020 we plan to research indigenous use of the Anglesea district. We have invited Fred Cahir to come and speak to us in April. Fred has authored a book *My Country All Gone, The White Men Have Stolen It. The Invasion of Wadawarrung Country 1800-1870*. Marianne Messer is going to head up our research about use of this area.

A book of interest that has been recently released is Gary Linnell's "Buckley's Chance." Linnell has thoroughly researched all documentation regarding Buckley. We have purchased a copy for our library.

Our March outing will be a little further afield than usual. We are going to Mooramong, near Skipton. This is a National Trust House and I believe it is well worth the extra travel to get to it.

We look forward to 2020. Don't forget to join in our Christmas meeting.

MEMORIAL PLAQUE AT POINT ROADKNIGHT

Jan Morris

We have had a request from Ann Rutter of the Netherby Association, seeking our support to have a plaque placed at Point Roadknight to honour Lieutenant Parry who landed a whaling boat along our coast in 1866. After discussion with the committee I have replied that we will support the proposal as long as it does not pinpoint Point Roadknight as the exact spot they landed. There has been much controversy about where they landed. Both Keith Cecil and Lindsay Braden doubted that it was Point Roadknight, but author Don Charlwood thinks it was.



The *Netherby* was wrecked on King Island in 1866. Six men walked over extremely rough terrain to the Cape Wickham Lighthouse. As there was no way the Lighthouse keeper and his assistants could care for 450 people, he gave second Lieutenant Parry a small whaling boat that he, Parry and three other men rowed and sailed to the main land. They beached the boat somewhere along our coast. Luckily they found an old man caring for some sheep. He directed them to a survey party from Loutitt Bay (Lorne). Mr Allan, leading the survey party, loaned Parry a horse and guide and they went to Queenscliff, where they alerted the authorities to the dire position the survivors of the *Netherby* were in. The other members of the boat crew were taken to the home of Mr Roadknight.

Many people have tried over the years to pinpoint the exact spot that they landed. Don Charlwood came to the conclusion that Point Roadknight was the spot but it was really only conjecture, he had no proof. As I said, others dispute this because Thomas Roadknight's house was west of Aireys Inlet and that is where they were taken.

We have agreed to assist the association in having a memorial plaque placed at Point Roadknight. The wording on the plaque will say "along this coast," or "in this vicinity," making it clear that Point Roadknight may not be the exact spot that Parry and his crew beached their whaling boat. We will keep you informed of further developments.

A new acquisition for our collection Iceberg ice cream freezer

Susan Clarke

As summer approaches, thoughts turn to hot weather foods including ice cream. How appropriate then that we have just received a donation of an ice cream maker for the museum collection.

This 1920s piece of kitchenalia was marketed as a great innovation in its day. An advertisement headed "The wonderful Iceberg ice cream (vacuum) freezer" declared "You simply fill it – It does the rest". The innovation was that unlike traditional ice cream making equipment that had a handle that had to be turned regularly, the Iceberg did away with this requirement.

As the advert stated: "all you have to do is pack the freezing compartment with ice and freezing salt, and then fill the central compartment with the creaming mixture ... the tiresome task of continually turning or shaking is entirely done away with". The photos show the central compartment at the top and access to the freezing compartment at the bottom.

Marjorie Hansen, who donated this item, remembers her mother filling the ice cream maker in the morning, and the ice cream was ready for the evening meal. The advert makes the bolder claim that "in half an hour you have delicious, refreshing and appetising ice cream"!

The Iceberg rapid freezer was made in three sizes to suit all requirements: one quart (a little more than a litre), two quart, and four quart, and the price ranged from 21 to 46 shillings (\$2.10 - \$4.60). Our item has clearly been well used, but the fact that most of the label on the side has survived in tact is a great bonus. The Iceberg is on display with the other items of kitchenalia in the museum.



*Iceberg ice cream freezer donated by Marjorie Hansen
[item 1897/2038/2039]*

Photographs Marilyn Wendt

AIREYS INLET ANDERSON ROADKNIGHT RECREATION RESERVE

Jan Morris



The sign outside the hall at Aireys Inlet reads *Anderson Roadknight Recreation Reserve*. Just who were these people and why is the reserve named after them? Sarah Jane Anderson married Oswald Ivan (known as Ivan) Roadknight in 1919. They lived in Aireys Inlet and came from local families that were instrumental in the early development of the area. Both Sarah and Ivan were community minded and greatly involved in activities at Aireys Inlet. They had no children to remember them but they do have a recreation reserve. They also **had** a hall known as the

Anderson Roadknight hall. This was unfortunately burnt down in the 1983 Ash Wednesday Fires.

After Ivan Roadknight passed away in 1958, his wife Sarah formed a committee to build a much needed, public hall at Aireys Inlet. She donated the land for the hall and tennis courts, as well as being involved in fund raising. When the hall was eventually completed in 1966, Sarah who was 83 by then, officially opened the door.

Sarah was the granddaughter of Wesley Anderson, referred to in the Geelong Advertiser on many occasions as an American Negro. Wesley was famous for letting his family and bullock team over the cliffs near Big Hill and then driving along the beach to Louttit Bay (Lorne). He later was the first settler at Bambra. There were 10 children in the family, number six being John Wesley (Jack), the father of Sarah. Jack moved to Aireys Inlet where he built a hotel and later expanded to include a post office, butcher's shop and a general store. His son Albert took over the hotel. Sarah Jane mother was Mary Loughron. Jack farmed at Bambra before moving his family to Aireys Inlet. He built Mountain House guest house. His wife and two daughters, Mary and Sarah ran the guest house for many years. Jack lived in the bush much of the time.



Sarah Jane Roadknight
(nee Anderson)



Ivan Roadknight was the great grandson of William Roadknight, one of the earliest settlers in the Port Phillip Bay area (now Victoria). He came to Tasmania in 1820. He came across to Port Phillip Bay with sheep in 1836. He selected the Gerangamete' station near Colac. He and his son Thomas continued to increase their holdings taking up several more stations. One of the stations Thomas leased was west of Painkalac Creek. When his father died in 1862 Thomas' took over his home 'The Crescent' in Geelong. Alfred Hill Roadknight, the son of Thomas, became a stock and station agent in Geelong. Alfred was Ivan Roadknights' father. Ivan farmed property near Aireys Inlet. This was where he met and married Sarah Jane Anderson.

The Anderson / Roadknight Hall had been of great benefit to the Aireys Inlet community until it was burnt down in the Ash Wednesday fires. The hall was rebuilt but did not retain the Anderson/ Roadknight name. Instead the recreation area



that included the tennis courts, the community hall and the school's Mangowak Sanctuary was named the Anderson / Roadknight Recreation Reserve.

Holiday Ramble Aireys Inlet 1880

Written by George Henry Adcock who started a nursery in Highton in 1848

Plentifully scattered all over this district is the bracken fern- *Pteris aquilimun* which indeed is widely dispersed throughout the colony. In favourable situations it attains a height of one metre and considerably impedes our progress to the creek beyond. The genetic name is *TTEPUS* – a wing, and is so called from the appearance of the frond. The roots when cut across, display a fancied resemblance to the outlines of an eagle, hence the specific name aquiline.



On the banks of all our creeks and fern tree gullies is to be found in great profusion the common, *L. Capensis* or *L. Throcera*. The name *Lomaria* was given to this genus on account of the marginal positions of the indusia and is derived from Loma – an edge. Here too is found the tender green *Adiantum* or Maiden Hair Ferns. Its name has been given from ASCARTOS – dry, because though it is plunged in water it remains dry.



Sheltered somewhat by the Bracken Fern is *Doodia aspera*, sure to attract the collectors notice by the delicate pink colours of its young fronds. This genus was dedicated to Samuel Doodya a London Apothecary in commemoration of his studies as the first British Cryptogamist.



Proceeding farther on route to Distillery Creek we push our way further through the forest across the logs and through the almost impenetrable tea-tree and thickets of *Pteris aquiline*. We are amply rewarded for our trouble when we reach the creek and gaze on its beauties.

Doodia aspera



Hanging in gay festoons from the trees it has climbed, is the beautiful and graceful *Gleichenia Circinnata*, the climbing or coral fern, while on either side of this remarkably clear stream the *Lembrella* or *star fern* makes itself seen by the side of the fallen gum trees which form such rustic natural bridges. The name *Gleichenia* was given to these ferns in honour of the Baron P.F. Gleichen, a German botanist who studied cryptogamic plants during last century (1700s). So much like a palm in its growth is this last named variety that in his Botanic Teaching, Baron F. von Mueller, Government Botanist says, "*Gleichenia flabellta* might be compared to a miniature palm in habit."

On the steep overhanging banks we find the gigantic *Todes Africana* or *Osmundas Barbara* whose stems have been known to weigh a ton. It was named after Julius Tode of Mechlenburg. *Osmunda* is said to be derived from *Osinunder* one of the names of Thor a Celtic divinity.



Overshadowed and often almost hidden is the delicately divided frond of *Davallia flaccida* or *Dicksonia davallioides* named in commemoration of the Swiss botanist Edmund Duvall.

Dicksonia antarctica



Spreading out its graceful fronds above the small ferns is the valley tree fern *Dicksonia antarctica*. This genus was dedicated to James Dickson, British Cryptogamist. These fern trees have been known to attain great heights, and a number of them viewed in their native valley is an imposing sight. This fern bears transportation exceedingly well.

Further up the hillside *Alsophila australis* (sometimes called the Hill tree fern) grow and rivals the *Dicksonia antarctica* in height. A frond from a young *Alsophila australis* found here measured 11 feet. We leave the creek and its beauties as we leave for home in the setting sun.

Alsophila australis

This historical paper was sent by Narelle Francis (nee Mitchell) to our member Judith Beach who lives at Moggs Creek. Thank you Judith for passing it on nearly 140 years after the trip. Editor