

Coastal Current

Quarterly Newsletter Of The

Anglesea & District Historical Society

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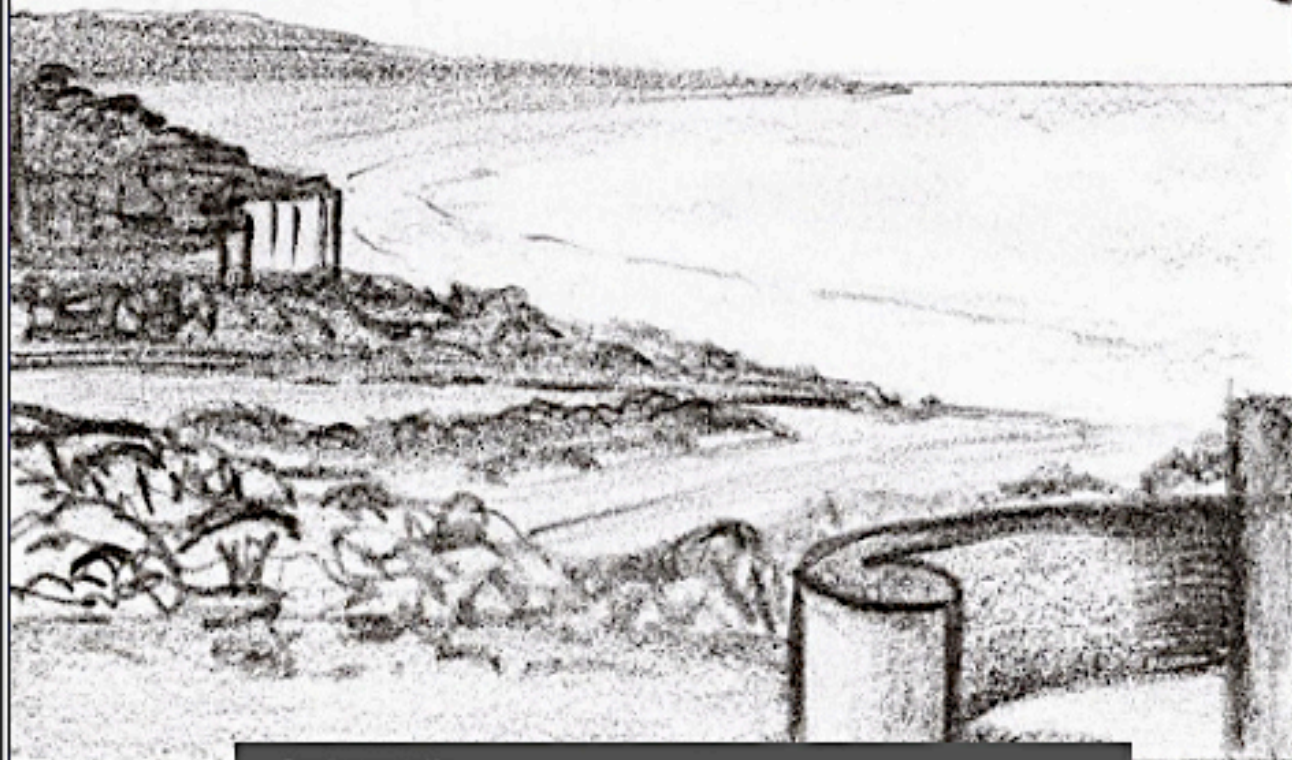
The Anglesea & District Historical Society is a not for profit organisation staffed by volunteer members of the community, whose aim is to research and preserve history of the local area.



Active Researchers

Preservers of Local History

Keepers of the Museum



Marilyn Robinson

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Anglesea & District
Community Bank Branch


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ARE YOU A FINANCIAL MEMBER? Historical Society is \$20 for the first family member and \$15 for other family members (this includes insurance). People over 90 free (no insurance). Family History optional extra is \$15 per family. Please notify if extra \$15 is Family History or extra family member fee. FEES DUE SEPTEMBER. Pay direct: Bendigo Bank- BSB 633 000, Account 1430 28421 – reference your name, **OR** post to PO Box 98, Anglesea 3230.

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As a result of government and council COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions, access to History House, our visiting speaker program, and all society outings have been cancelled until further notice. You will be notified when we are allowed to operate again as usual.

Photographs can be ordered by email or phone. All jpeg and TIF files are sold at \$5 per copy, with the understanding that these will be used for the purpose for which they are purchased and will not be on sold in any way.

Researching from home

State Library of Victoria. <https://www.slv.vic.gov.au/whats-on>

The National Archives of Australia. <https://naa.gov.au/explore-collection>

National Library of Australia Digital Community:

<https://ehive.com/collections/6420/royal-historical-society-of-victoria-rhsv>

Royal historical Society of Victoria.

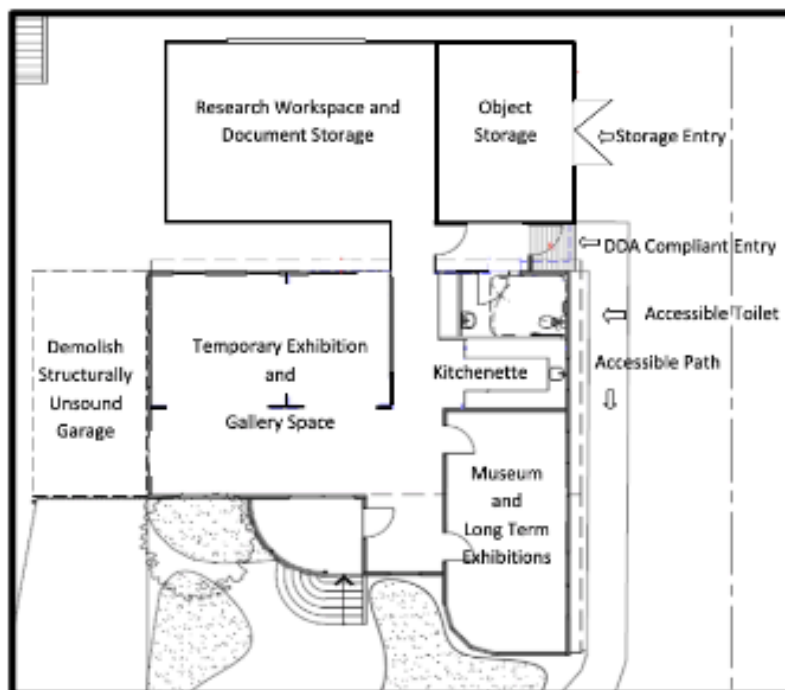
<https://historyvictoria.org/resources/lecture-podcasts/>

Trove. <https://trove.nla.gov.au>

HISTORY HOUSE BUILDING EXTENSION

Just how we extend History House and preserve the Heritage flavour of the building has been a difficult problem. After receiving a report from a structural engineer, it was decided to demolish the old garage and include a storeroom in the new building to go on the back. This is what we are now aiming to do, but of course it has increased our costs. We are currently seeking government funding but will need to raise at least \$40,000 ourselves locally. With current Covid 19 restrictions we are unable to do any fundraising at the moment. However, we do have ideas for when restrictions are lifted.

The new building will include a compact, better research facilities for both the Historical Society and for Family History research. We are grateful to the Surf Coast Family History Group for their donation of \$1,000 to start us off. All donations will be gratefully accepted. Donations can be made by direct debit to Bendigo Community Bank – BSB 633 000, Account Number 1430 28421- reference your name and donation. As subs are due on 1 September, you may consider putting a donation with your sub. I realise you have received very little for your subs this year but I promise we have plans to make that up with extra speakers and extra outings once we are able to operate fully again.



Our plan as drawn by Peter Bromley

WILLIAM BUCKLEY OUTING

Jan Morris

We were all sick of the "Stay at Home" rule. The ADHS found a way to have a delightful outing and not break any of the rules. We ran our program past the police at Torquay and received the all clear. So, on 23 July 18 of us set off to visit the favourite spots of William Buckley.

Buckley Falls at Highton was our first stop. A beautiful spot where we admired the falls and the Devil's Pool below while Karl Jacklin gave us the background about Buckley, his education, his apprenticeship as a bricklayer, his career in the army and his trial for stealing cloth. Karl's research uncovered many facts about Buckley that we were unaware of.

The next stop was Indented Heads where Buckley met up with John Batman, preventing Batman's party from being attacked by a group of Aborigines. Buckley then took Batman to the Yarra River where Batman accepted Buckley's advice and chose the Yarra site as a place for a village. Buckley being a bricklayer, further assisted Batman by building a brick chimney for Batman's house in Melbourne.

On a short distance to St Leonards, we stopped by the Buckley memorial only to discover that the contemplation circle where we were planning to have lunch was being renovated. It was

only a one-day job and that day had to be the day we planned to visit.

We found another spot nearby and enjoyed lunch before driving on to Point Lonsdale to view the famous cave where Buckley sheltered many times over his years of wandering.

The William Buckley pedestrian bridge at Barwon Heads made a nice walk for the group to stretch their legs. After the walk, we went to our

final stop at Breamlea where Buckley had a sod hut in which he lived away from his indigenous family on several occasions. It was at Breamlea that we believe Buckley raised a blind boy, before the boy was sadly killed by his tribe whose traditions often didn't allow disabled children to live.

Thanks to Karl we ended our day with a much clearer understanding of William Buckley and the 32 years he spent as part of the Wadawurrung people.



Karl explains at Indented Heads

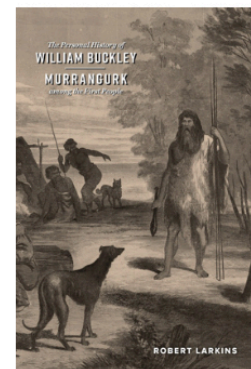
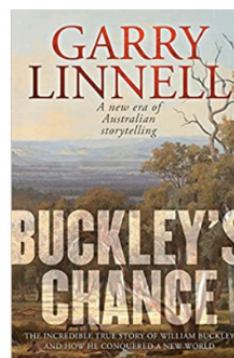
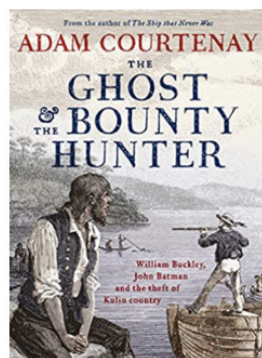
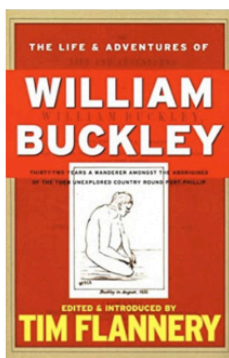


On the Point Lonsdale Pier



Betty & Harry at the Buckley Bridge Barwon Heads

Books about William Buckley held in the History House Library:



STOP the Ocean Outfall

Anglesea Sewerage Outlet Battle 1989 to 1999

Marianne Messer
August 2020

Eric and I first came to Anglesea as divers in the late 1970's. We were attracted by the clear and beautiful waters off Ingoldsby Reef, where we saw a mesmerising range of pelagic (wandering) and sedentary fish. Scattered over the sand near the reef was evidence of a wreck we convinced ourselves WE had discovered. We collected pieces of crockery and glass bottles which we later gave to the Anglesea Historical Society, where they form part of the SS Inverloch display today.

In 1985 we had the great good fortune to move to Anglesea and continued to dive our favourite dive spot. One magical day we saw our first leafy sea-dragon floating like a piece of seaweed in the currents over the reef. Over the years we were to see a total of 12 of these magical creatures. Imagine our horror to discover a sewerage outfall on the cliffs above and adjacent to Ingoldsby Reef. At that time ocean outfalls were the preferred response to sewerage disposal up and down the coast. Black Rock had one, Lorne had one. So did Anglesea. But times were changing. Passionate locals were joining environmentalists in a push to stop putting our waste into our precious Pt Roadknight Bay. In 1989 STOP the ocean outfall, a coalition of interested parties, met at the Community House to explore how they might encourage the local Water Board, Geelong Water Works and Sewerage Trust, to explore healthy ways of treating and disposing of local waste. Anglesea's population was growing. Young families were making this beautiful environment their home. At one passionate public meeting I shared some photos of what sea-life was out there, just off the beach. Professional locals added their support to the move. Scientists, educationalist and politicians asked the question: "Couldn't we do something better than put sewerage into the ocean?" The GWST said they would investigate and engaged consultants who prepared a comprehensive report on why land based sewerage treatment was not a viable option.

As the only journalist in STOP, I offered to interview the chairman of the GWST. I travelled to Geelong and sat in the office of a person, who for his sake, shall remain nameless. He called me "Girle" and told me he had no intention of implementing a land based treatment alternative plant. He had just returned from Liverpool where he said the water authority were pumping outfall into the Mersey River. "If it's good enough for them it's good enough for Anglesea." He observed. I took copious notes and returned to Anglesea. The resulting story in NewsAngle was brutal but accurate, and resulted in an accusing personal letter threatening a law suit. I had my notes. I knew journalistic law, but I felt very intimidated. My editor, Lynne Hume, sent back a response: "Thank you for your letter, your concerns are duly noted" and we never heard another word.

In the meantime, Airey's Inlet set up a publicly funded land based sewerage treatment plant. But, despite all the evidence and opposition, the GWST decided to tertiary treat Anglesea's sewerage and continue to pump it out over the cliffs and into our vulnerable bay. This was not a good solution. The extra nutrients in the water were altering the marine environment, and impacting on the reef ecology. In an Easterly, the water in the bay circulated for days. It was not the outcome "STOP" hoped for. In one of the most drought and bushfire prone zones in the world, putting precious water into the ocean seemed ridiculous.

Fortunately, the Anglesea Golf Club agreed. They successfully applied for a grant to put in pipelines from the clifftop treatment plant, to the golf course. The Football club soon joined the pipeline. Together they negotiated to buy the tertiary treated water from the GWST. Today these two facilities are playable all year round.

It takes time, but community action and patience, can win the most unlikely of battles. In 2015, GWST, now Barwon Water, upgraded the ocean outfall, so no doubt excess effluent is still pumped over our cliffs and into our sea. Out there are some leafy sea-dragons relying on us. The war might not yet be over!



Anglesea golf course is kept green year-round, by the use of Anglesea treated waste water.

VOLUNTARY AIR OBSERVERS CORPS (VAOC) ITEMS

by Susan Clarke



August has seen the 75th anniversary of VP Day, celebrating the end of WW2. So it is timely to highlight the items in our museum collection that come from that period when 57 VAOC volunteers worked at Loveridge Lookout in Anglesea.

Log books

We are very fortunate to have the logbooks that were kept on a daily basis. They are a hand-written record of what was sighted at sea as well as in the air. There are five logbooks which list the names of the Chief Observer, regular observers and emergencies:

1. June 1942 - blue cover / red spine
2. March 1943 - green cover / red spine
3. 1943 - roster book from 29/4/43-13/8/44 - plain cardboard with black spine
4. August 1944 - plain cardboard with black spine
5. February 1945 - plain cardboard with black spine

Morse code key (left)

The morse code key that was used is a block of masonite with a cardboard sheet "The Morse Code" attached.

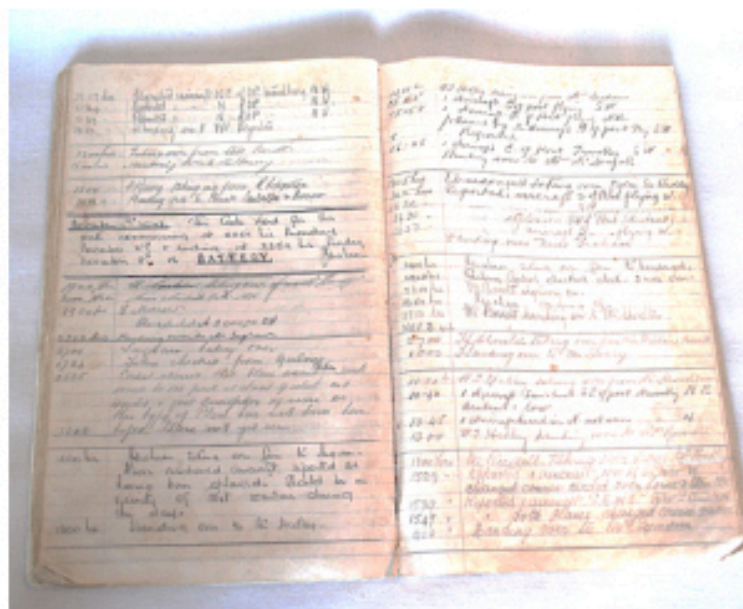


VAOC badge (above right)

Enamelled VAOC Observer badge. Single pin on back. Colours: red circle in centre overlaid with stylised eagle in gold; white surrounding ring and blue outer ring with gold lettering. The badge is number 27582. There were three types of badge: Commandant, Chief Observer and Observer.

Crash of a B-25D Mitchell into the sea near Anglesea, 1 December 1944

On 1 December 1944 at 11.10 am, RAAF B-25D Mitchell (A47-24) crashed into the sea out from Anglesea at a location about 20 miles south of Port Philip Heads. This ex-NE1 18 Squadron machine had just been refurbished for service with the RAAF. It was being tested at the Torquay bombing range out to sea from Pt. Addis. Joyce Graham, Chief Observer of the Anglesea VAOC saw the bomber practising out to sea on the firing range. It caught fire, lost height and dropped into the ocean. Geelong Control was notified, and search operations were directed to a large oil patch. Two crew members were lucky to escape - three did not survive.



These items are on permanent display in the museum at History House, and details are also available online at: <https://victoriancollections.net.au/organisations/anglesea-district-historical-society#collection-records>

Where did I come from?

Karl Jacklin

During my early years at home, especially before we purchased our first television set, my mum and dad would tell my brother and I stories about their own lives and the lives of their parents and grandparents, and fascinating stories they were too. My mum's parents were English immigrants who came to Australia with their four daughters in the early 1920s. They'd lived in Stepney a district in the east end of London, and being within the sound of the Bow Bells, were classified as "cockneys." A place now better known as a result of the popular TV series "Call the Midwife." Another daughter and two sons were added to the family when they settled in Melbourne. My mum's dad was an engineer and worked for the company that created the Marshall traffic lights. They had a clock face with a hand that circled the clock indicating whether you were to stop or proceed at an intersection. My mum told me that her mum had told her that way back on her mother's side of the family there was a Russian princess in their lineage. As a kid I never really gave much heed to it, and saw my heritage more from the perspective of my dad's ancestry. His family had also been English immigrants back in the 1850s and had settled in Tasmania. There was a convict named William Jacklin who was transported on the Third Fleet, but he settled in Queensland and I can find no relationship to our family. Dad's father, "Tassie" Jacklin to his mates, was a gun shearer and held many shearing records using the old hand clippers. My dad was a typical Aussie of his day; born during the first world war, struggled to find a job during the Great Depression of the 1930s, got married to a local girl (three best mates married three sisters), enlisted during WWII, and with mum, set up a small business (a pastrycook shop) in Brunswick in the mid-1940s. It was what "Aussies" did. They battled hard times and they made it! As a kid I had a vague notion that on my father's mother's side of the family there was a Swedish connection, but I didn't know much about them, and it wasn't until much, much later in my life that I discovered that my great grandfather (see left) had been a Swedish merchant seaman who jumped ship in Melbourne and went to live in the Victorian town of Euroa during the late 1800s.



My dad died in his mid-fifties and my mum continued to run the family business. When she finally hung up her apron after 44 years as a pastrycook and settled down to enjoy her remaining 25 years of retirement, she occasionally mentioned her ancestry and a few of the more noteworthy events of her own and dad's life, but she'd really passed being interested in such things. Life had been tough and she's got through and she didn't wish to relive it. She was now more involved in the lives of her grandchildren. How I wish I'd been more attentive when I was younger and taken notes of the many discussions we'd had.

Then, a few years back, my cousin sent me some information about the ancestry of our maternal grandmother's family. No, my cousin hadn't come across records of that fabled Russian princess I mentioned earlier, but she had found that our great-great grandfather was a Polish man named Franciszek Mickiewicz, born in 1796 in Nowogrodek. He was one of six siblings. After a serious illness at age fifteen he became a hunchback, but that didn't stop him from enlisting and taking a leadership role in the resistance army in the battle for liberation during the Napoleonic wars of the early 1800s. As a result of their service he and his younger brother Adam received Poland's then highest military honour for bravery. I mention Adam Mickiewicz, my great-great grand uncle, because he is widely regarded as Poland's greatest poet and has even had a crater on the planet Mercury named after him.



Mickiewicz Family

These are now my personal claims to ancestral fame, yet a year ago I didn't even know about them. As a boy I thought of myself as an Aussie, discovered later that I was an Anglo-Aussie, and now know that I'm really quite an ethnic mix. I've come to realise that being an Aussie is defined by what ideals you hold, and how you live up to them. None the less, I've had fun and experienced a few surprises whilst exploring my ancestry, an activity you might enjoy too. However if you don't know how to go about it, then when things return to normal, you can get advice from the Surf Coast Family History Group located at History House in Anglesea.

LEST WE FORGET – 75 YEARS ON

Peace! It is all over. That was the call 75 years ago when the second World ended.

The people of Anglesea did their bit for the war effort. Volunteers staffed the Loveridge Lookout observation point, alerting authorities of any planes or boats. Townspeople supported the war effort by knitting and sending parcels to the troops.

Ten ex-students from the Anglesea Primary School volunteered for war service. Thankfully they all returned. Their service included the army, navy and air force. The town was proud of their service men and women. A memorial showing a photo of each service person with their name, rank and service number was placed at the school. Each of these people will have their name also on the new war memorial to be erected soon in Cameron Park.

LEST WE FORGET!

ANGLESEA EX-STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

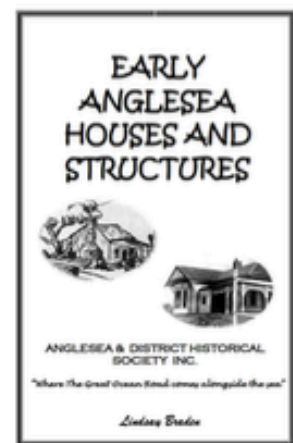
BECKINGHAM Olive May, Aircraft woman, Service No. 96470 RAAF, with Air Arm S Gas School Nhill
BECKINGHAM Owen J., Leading Aircraftman, Service No 127315 RAAF, with 60 Operational Base Unit
DAVIDSON Cyril Jack, NRDW, service No W3180 RAN with HMAS Burdekin
DAVIDSON Eric Alexander, Private, Service No.VX136804 Army with 2/8 Australian Infantry Battalion
HALE William Millar, Corporal, Service No 125719 RAAF with 5 Radio Installation and Maintenance Unit
HEDLEY Fenton Leslie, Flight Sergeant, Service No. 51412 RAAF with 6 Airfield Construction Squadron
MILLIKEN Edith Lillian, Private, Service No. VF514254 Army with Australian Women's Army Service
MOUSLEY Thelma May, Private, Service No. VF397281 Army with A W A S 2 SIGS TNG BTN
RUSSELL John Peter, Private, Service No. VX79502 Army with 2/3 Anti-Tank Regiment
RUSSELL William Frederick, Trooper, Service No. VX77984 Army with 2/6 Armoured Regiment



RE-WRITING OF HOUSES AND STRUCTURES BOOK

Early Anglesea Houses and Structures, shown on the right, is a much used and several times reprinted book. Written by Lindsay Braden it was first published in 1999. Lindsay highlighted some 50 buildings that had either been in Anglesea or were still standing. With our regular bushfires over the years many important buildings were lost. Some were rebuilt, others were not. Over the last 20 years, many more have been demolished and replaced. Some have been refurbished | and still remain.

Using Lindsay's book as a basis we are updating and adding to Lindsay's book. We have not only his permission but his enthusiastic support in doing so. A small group have started work on updating Lindsay's entries and adding another 20 buildings to his list. If anyone would like to assist in the research for this book please contact Jan Morris on 0448526311 and you will be given some structures to investigate.



GREAT ANNOUNCEMENT

LOVERIDGE LOOKOUT IS NOW ON THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER

The following announcement was received from Leane Shaun, Minister for Veterans. This announcement coincides with the 75th Anniversary of the ending of the Second World War.

Shaun Leane

Minister for Local Government
Minister for Suburban Development
Minister for Veterans



7th Aug 2020

WWII Anglesea Lookout Post Makes Heritage Register

Anglesea's Loveridge Lookout has been added to the Victorian Heritage Register, as part of commemorations to mark the 75th anniversary of the end of World War Two.

Built in 1938 for local woman Bertha Loveridge, the Loveridge Lookout was commandeered in 1942 to be used as an aircraft monitoring post.

It's one of the last two known remaining Volunteer Air Observers Corps (VAOC) posts in Victoria, with many other WWII observation posts having been demolished. The VAOC was the civilian arm of the Royal Australian Air Force.

The site is now protected under the Heritage Act 2017, along with VAOC logbooks and rosters held by the Anglesea and District Historical Society.

These tell the story of the 56 local residents who kept the Loveridge Lookout open 24 hours a day between 1942 and 1945, recording aircraft movements and relaying the information by phone to Geelong.

By the end of WWII, there were 24,000 civilian VAOC volunteers across Australia – most of whom were women.

The heritage listing comes as Victorians prepare to commemorate 75 years since the end of WWII on Saturday, 15 August through a series of online and virtual experiences.

To explore the 75th anniversary commemorative program, visit vic.gov.au/world-war-2-75th-anniversary.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Veterans Shaun Leane

"The story of Anglesea's Loveridge Lookout is an example of how a small community came together during World War Two to assist in the war effort and it is right that it should be protected."

"As we commemorate 75 years on from the end of WWII it is important that we remember the sacrifice and dedication of all those who served."

Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney

"While there were many volunteer lookout posts used during WWII, this is one of the few that are still standing – this makes Loveridge Lookout's addition to the Heritage Register such a special one."