

ANGLESEA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

NEWSLETTER No. 44 - OCT - 98

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—ANNUAL DINNER - FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6TH 1998 —

One of the most important social events of our year is almost upon us! Again we are happy to inform you that our annual dinner will be held as usual on the first Friday evening in November and the Bistro Room at the Anglesea Hotel will be the venue. With the guidance of management your executive has chosen an excellent three course menu (with choices) which will be served following sherry/juice and savouries. Coffee with dinner mints will conclude the meal.

We are delighted that Brian Smith well known local pilot has agreed to speak to us - some time ago he travelled in a small plane (the 2 seater landed on beaches!) across the Nullarbor to Perth, thence to Broome & Derby with another popular identity, Allan Willingham. Should Brian's profession 'intrude' on our night (he can sometimes be called on to fly at short notice) we have been so fortunate to have as a stand-by the said Allan Willingham - so come what may, you are assured of an excellent night of entertainment.

A slip is enclosed for you to make out and return to either the secretary or treasurer by Monday, Nov. 2nd at the latest. Should you have to book by phone, please ensure that you have the correct money enclosed in an envelope with your name shown to hand to Betty on arrival at the hotel.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - October 4th 1998

We have but one newcomer to our committee this year - Beryl Parsons accepted nomination and we are looking forward to her input of some fresh ideas. Unfortunately we do not have a vice-president just now but this position could be filled during the year. Some of our members actively help out on numerous occasions without the "committee status" - and for this we are grateful - e.g. our most reliable tea-girls Mavis and Dorothy.

The Sunday afternoon meetings have proved popular and this has also meant that a special roster does not have to be drawn up for when the Museum is open. There always seems to be a willing guide for any visitor wanting assistance. Mr. J. O'Donnell continues as auditor and Mr. Bill Smith is our new Public Officer. Committee folk were elected in a most professional way by Ray Bush who actually made a feature of proceedings! Let's hope we live up to the standard he set!

There will not be a meeting on Nov. 1st (as dinner occurs on the following Friday night) but the Museum will be open it being the first Sunday of the month.

There is still a demand for our publications both 'Along the Great Ocean Road' series, from Keith Cecil and Lindsay Braden's interesting little cameo booklets on a variety of local subjects, the latest being 'Remembering Old Lorne Guest Houses and Hotels'. After the very rapid selling of our first batch of coffee mugs we have ordered more - they make an excellent gift and for something smaller, the little packs of notelets featuring 'old' Anglesea. We will have some on display at the annual dinner.

PRESIDENT VAL'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL MEETING Sunday October 4th

Those of you unable to attend the annual meeting will I'm sure be interested to read the comprehensive report given by our popular president.

" Trying to precis the Society's year of activities is no easy task. One could write volumes on the quality of our monthly speakers. Bishop Bayton addressed us at our annual dinner and was kind enough to make a return visit in July. He was preceded by the Revd. Winter. A good balance was achieved with husband and wife teams Margaret and Lindsay Tricker (embroidery and metal detecting) and Bill and Norma Smith (experiences at Woorabinda aboriginal settlement) Robin Stewart spoke of the trials of writing and publishing his novel. Ron Hilditch gave us an insight into ceramics stemming from his involvement in the Midlands potteries of the UK. Other pleasing features of the speaker segment were the contributions made by members Mavis O'Donnell, Melva & Stan Stott and Jim Harrison, grandson of James Harrison of Geelong. An interesting excursion this year was during Heritage week when we visited five places of worship in the Geelong area. I feel there is opportunity for a similar outing in the future.

We continue to be involved in the wider community participating in various committees, viz. Coastal Action Plan, Heritage and Great Ocean Rd discovery centre.

Additions to our collection include photos, books, newspaper articles, scrap book, old 78 records and player and china. Of a more domestic nature we have a vacuum cleaner, fan radiator and computer program and register for cataloguing. A new booklet on Lorne's Guest Houses has been added to the Braden collection. This is regularly updated by Lindsay and comes in a most attractive format.

Whilst on publishing front I pay tribute to the compilation of our quarterly newsletter by Shirley and Lindsay. Elsie and Lindsay fill our Newsangle spot and The Echo via Elsie reminds us of our monthly meetings.

A visit from the Anglesea Primary School Junior grades as part of a learning unit titled "Change" was most rewarding. I would like this to be part of a regular program.

An initiative this year was the printing of notelets on good quality paper featuring scenes from our collection. We installed plaques in recognition of donors of chairs (Norman Must Est.) and Office Bearer Board Mrs. Cameron Murch. We have received support from the Shire grant enabling us to have the Gordon Dixson books restored. The Shire is responsible for maintenance - keeping the grass mown etc. Lindsay and Jim Amery have also done some odd-jobbing repairing the Pearse monument fence etc.

With an ageing membership it is becoming increasingly difficult to fill rosters, nevertheless thank you to those members who served regularly and well. In conclusion my job would be impossible if not for the loyal support from the office bearers and committee - thank you one and all..

CHRISTMAS MEETING December 6th at 2p.m.

Our last meeting for '98 will be an informal one when a number of well travelled members will tell us about some of the unplanned incidents during their time away.

ROSTERS - Please think about offering to help out on the Museum roster during January - there will be five Sundays to cover.

PROPOSED EXCURSION - not far afield this time! under Lindsay's guidance, assisted by Max, we will visit the historical sites in and around Aireys Inlet - little walking involved so no excuses!!!! Details as to date and transport will be given at the annual dinner.

When did the land slip ??

Where is it ?

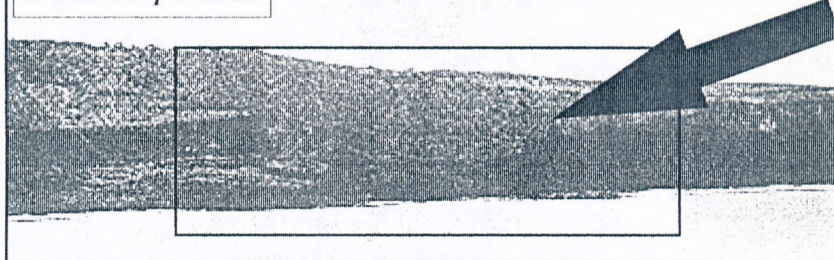
The slip stretches from behind 'Anglecrest' down to Roadknight bay.

The red cutting in the Great Ocean Road, just west of Anglesea's Loveridge lookout, is part of the landslip.

Very few people would have been aware of this change of landscape, until Charles Lane cut his new roadway through as the gateway to the 'Sunnymead' Estate in the early 20's.



The Landslip in 1922



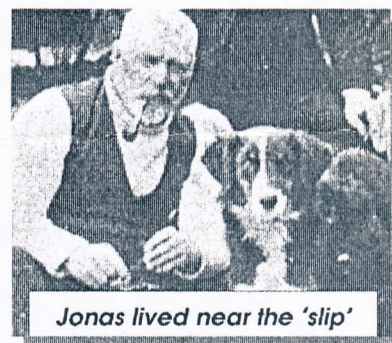
It would seem some 96 years ago, a large tract of land to the south-west of today's 'Anglecrest' slipped towards Roadknight bay, after a period of extremely wet weather. At the time of this happening the expanse was part of a 273 acre site owned by George Noble

In 1921 this generous allotment was purchased by Charles Lane, who constructed a road through the area, to form a spectacular entrance to the new 'Sunnymead' Estate subdivision. He named it 'The Gateway' to the Great Ocean Road. Until then, nothing had been documented about this sliding occurrence.

Peggy Bunton mentions in her book 'The Hut' that the Wilkins, (who built their holiday house in 1897) spoke of a night when everyone was awakened by a terrific rumbling noise like thunder, and discovering the next day a great area of land to the south of them had subsided into the sea.

Ray Clarke recalled in a video interview that a 'slip' occurred just south-west of Eastern-View. It happened after an extremely wet period in 1902. He was also of the opinion that the Anglesea landslip happened at the same time.

A Jonas Hollingworth family anecdote recalls Jonas rowing out to the wreck of the 'Inverlochy,' and recovering a case of whisky. He buried it near some cliffs on the Roadknight beach. It was unexpectedly covered by a landslip which came across that particular part of the sand. He never found his



Jonas lived near the 'slip'

'treasure' again! - As you know the 'Inverlochy' came to grief in 1902.

So, there are three stories which all tie in to a related time. The facts are reliable, what do think ? □
Lindsay Braden.




The new road through the slip in 1922

* Trivia *

This advertisement appeared in the Advertiser during *December 1926*

WHERE WAS THE PROPERTY ?

Answer is at bottom of page 
Additional clues...

- *In 1926 the outlook was different from now... think about it..... tall trees now.*
- *The location is better described as elevated than high.*

ANGLESEA

£750 - Modern furnished Bungalow, in a high healthy location, close to beach. Splendid view over ocean and river. Modern Bungalow of 4 good rooms, comfortably furnished, plaster sheet walls. 1 acre of land. Garage. Bathing box on beach. Boat and boathouse on river. Owner has left Geelong district. Property now let till 21st February.

Alexander who?

The name of Alex McDonald is not well known in Anglesea. Yet he was a man who once seemed destined to be one of this

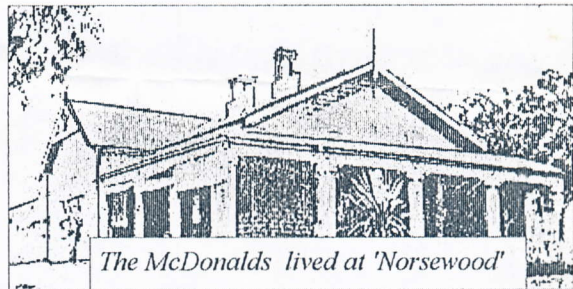
districts largest land owners. His occupation was listed as a wool classer/ scourer/ grazier. He originally resided in the Old Colac Road, now known as High Street on the Belmont hill, and was once a Councillor in the South Barwon Shire, and later at Barrabool.

After marrying Mary Lois Drusillia, the couple came to live at their recently acquired farm property 'Norsewood' in Camp Road Anglesea. This of course was once owned by the Sichlaus. Alcoa now leases the block - today's BMX track occupies part of the Homestead's old front garden.

In 1913 he purchased broad acre lots 8,10, 11, 11a and 12 from George Noble. This land stretched from Pt. Roadknight back to today's Golf Course, and across to Hutt Gully.

Advertisements show that these blocks had been on

the market since well before the turn of the century. Please keep in mind that at in 1913 Anglesea was still being serviced by horse drawn vehicles, and the Great Ocean Road was another 9 years away. These blocks relied on the Harvey St track for a frontage. Alexander McDonald died during 1918 aged 61. In



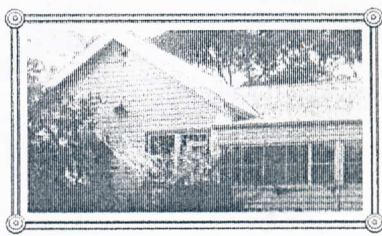
The McDonalds lived at 'Norsewood'

1920 his wife sold all this coastal land to Charles Lane, who almost immediately developed the 'Sunnymead Estate' and later constructed the forerunner of the Great Ocean Road.

One wonders if in 1913 Alexander McDonald purchased all this hungry coastal land for just grazing purposes, or did he have the foresight of greater things to come in a few years time? His untimely death leaves the question unanswered.

Trivia Answer :

This cottage was due east from our Historical Museum in McMillan Street. The one acre block was later acquired by the Council. The W.B. structure originally named 'Coo-ee' was built in 1919 by Robt. S. Hunt, sold to the Russells in 1926, and they to the Filkins in 1946. In 1919 there was a clear view from this site to the river mouth and ocean - not so today !



ANGLESEA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

I/we will be attending the dinner at the Anglesea Hotel Bistro on Friday November 6th 1998 at 6.30p.m. for 7p.m. at the cost of \$22:50 per person.

Please find attached cheque forcovering..... persons at \$22:50 each.

PLEASE PRINT Names/clearly

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ANGLESEA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

MEMBERSHIP of \$7:50 per member for 1998/99 season.

Please find attached payment forcovering.... membership/s.

Please print name/s clearly