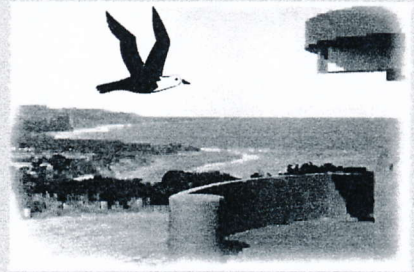


# Coastal Current

seaside tidings from ...  
The Anglesea & District  
Historical Society Inc.



Newsletter No 62  
May 2003

Anglesea & District Historical  
Society Inc.  
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Victoria. Australia.  
Incorporation No.  
A0009246F

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Meetings  
The Historical Society meets on  
the first Sunday of each month  
unless otherwise notified

Museum  
Our Museum at 5a McMillan  
Street Anglesea, is open on the  
second Sunday of each month  
2-4 pm.  
or by appointment

Web site -  
[http://home.vicnet.net.au/  
~angen/](http://home.vicnet.net.au/~angen/)

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## Autumn snippets



Peter & Rosalie



Geof Soames & Jean Wendt

After the excitement of the Inverlochy centenary in

December, the Society has returned to its normal pattern of monthly meetings with speakers and regular open times.

In February, Rosalie Coutts and Peter Bromley took us on a tour of the "Old Dart". Their journey to various ancient sites and historical buildings was a very intensive program and had been arranged down to the last detail by Rosalie via the internet! Peter's description of the London Eye was riveting.

Come March, members Jean Wendt and Geoff. Soames gave us an insight into sailing Cape Horn. Geoff detailed

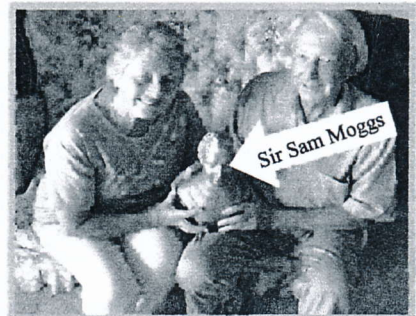
the rigours of sailing ships in these perilous waters.

Jean has a long time pen-friendship with Swedish Captain Karl Erik Fraenkel, former Chairman, Guild of Master Mariners, Gothenburg. As an ordinary seaman he was a crew member on the "Hougomont" in 1929 and rounded Cape Horn on several occasions.

Coincidentally a caller to "Macca on Sunday"- Audrey of Adelaide, treasurer to the "Cape Horners Association" reported she was attending the last annual congress of their Association in St. Marlowe on 12<sup>th</sup> May. The advanced age of surviving "Cape Horner" members make it impractical to continue.

Former Anglesea week-end residents Margaret and Ken Oliver called in from the Sunshine Coast and re-acquainted with the bust of Sir Sam Moggs, which mysteriously appeared at the front steps of our Museum.

They were at Moggs when the myth was at it's height and were delighted to see Sir Sam Again.



Margaret & Ken Oliver





Bronwyn Sdraulig

In April , Bronwyn Sdraulig provided us with a most interesting talk on the development of physical theatre. Bronwyn spoke on the historical aspects of this performance art, which in Roman times included acrobats, dancers, mime and actors through to present day Cirque du Soleil with their stunning routines.

Circus 3230, our local group, follow these established principles and modify and reinvent traditional circus skills to fit the storyline. Their enactment of the Inverloch story embodied all the skills of physical theatre, thus continuing a traditional that is over 5000 years old.

This month, May, we had a full house to hear David Hume speak of his close alliance with the "Endeavour" replica. His interest in Captain Cook predates the current voyages – he was the leader of an expedition in the 1960's that located and salvaged the anchor of the original Endeavour. It now has pride of place in the Cook-town Museum. The reception the replica Endeavour received in its ports of call in the Hawaiian Islands and Whitby to name a couple, was overwhelming. A tape of David's address is available to members who wish to borrow it.



Endeavour

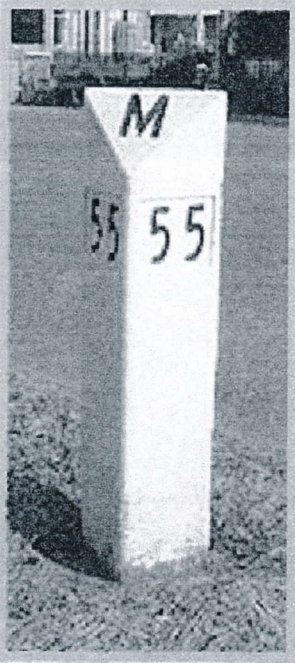


David Hume

A visit to the Museum by Camperdown Secondary College Year 11 students and two teachers as part of their V.C.E. out door Education studies was a rewarding experience - the students showed interest and enthusiasm ■ Val Amery

### FRESHWATER CREEK MILE POST RETURNED

The missing 55 mile post is back at Freshwater Creek. It is reported that after facing growing community hostility, a Senior Surfcoast Officer returned the missing post from his backyard collection. Anglesea residents are still keeping a wary eye on the local Loveridge look-out in case someone else follows the trend and souvenirs it for a backyard gazebo ■ L.B.



### A VISIT TO ST ALBANS STUD

During April we had an enjoyable group visit to St Albans Stud, which was opened to the public for the first time through the National Trust's open Heritage program. This unusual property was where Phar Lap was hidden for three days in 1930 after being shot at ■ L.B.



# Olden Times Near Point Castries by Dennis Kishere

**A**s you drive south from Painkalac Creek and go up and around Berthon's Hill, you are greeted by the sweeping coastline from Fairhaven to way past Lorne. Then, after passing Fairhaven the coastline and hills of Eastern View come into view.

**A beautiful area with an interesting but only partly known history.**

The name Eastern View only dates from the 1890s when farmer Jonas Hollingworth built his house of the same name on the east-facing hillside. This was later the Clarke family farm. In 1921 the Great Ocean Road Trust subdivided part of the nearby area as the Eastern View Estate. However this area was already known to the colonists at least since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century as the area "near Point Castries".

Point Castries is the headland jutting into the sea southwards from the hill where the farm sits. After the building of the Great Ocean Road the hill was named Devil's Corner (or Devil's Elbow to the locals) and Point Castries just referred to the rocky headland below. Now maps only use Devil's Corner for the hill and Cinema Point for the south-west tip of the headland.

It is tempting to think that Point Castries was named after the Minister of Marine at the time of Baudin's expedition. Or was it named after the *Marquis de Castries* commanded by the explorer Marion Dufresne? So far I have found no evidence to suggest the headland was named after either. Maybe further delving will reveal an explanation and clues as to what other Europeans came by or landed here.

The earliest reference to Point Castries I have found so far is on the outline sketch on George Smythe's 1846 coastal survey. Apart from indicating rocks along the shore, the sketch states that there is iron ore on the east side of the point (an area now covered by rockslides from the later roadworks). The only other named feature on Smythe's sketch is Grass Creek (now Grassy Creek). Interestingly, the land on the hills to the north of the area is described as "open country". This was confirmed by farmer Ray Clarke who remarked that the area around his farm used to be open enough to gallop a horse through. He guessed that the thicker bush in later years could have been caused by bushfires. Ray Clarke also used to say that there were crayfish in the waters off Devil's Elbow but that after the road was built (with loads of rocks being pushed over the side) they disappeared.

Smythe had also noted a coal outcrop on the beach. From 1846 onwards there were many reports in *The Argus* and the *Geelong Advertiser* about coal prospecting "near Louttit Bay" but they were often not specific about the exact locality. However a report in *The Argus* in 1849 mentions that Mr F. Hitchins brought pieces of coal back to Geelong which he had "knocked off a crop four and a half miles from Louttit Bay". Probably they were referring to the coal reef on the beach at Eastern View near Spout Creek. In more recent times local residents have



*This 1942 aerial photograph of part of Eastern View is the earliest one I know of. From left to right can be seen Point Castries, the farm, Spout Creek, the coal reef under the waves, the golf links and Coal Mine Creek. (source: National Archives of Australia).*

chopped off pieces from the coal reef and used them as fuel in their open fires. It burns quite readily after being air-dried. Today this coal reef which continues in seams through to Anglesea and Torquay is known as part of the Eastern View Coal Measure.

Later in the 19<sup>th</sup> century came reports of coal at Stony Creek (later Coal Mine Creek). Surveyor Skene's survey sketch of 1853 notes T. Fleming as having a license to search for coal there. Coalfields Inspector John MacKenzie reported in 1873 that he descended a 45 foot shaft at Stony Creek but he described the material as "inferior lignite" and he doubted that better quality coal would be found. In an 1873 report Ferdinand Krause of the Office of Mines stated that Messrs Berthon and Co. had sunk several pits and a bore at Stony Creek (the BERTHONS had a cattle run at Painkalac Creek). Another report stated that a Mr Hunt was searching for coal there and that the coal seam was at the creek bed. The miners must have used either one of the bridle tracks starting at Airey's Inlet or boats to take the coal to Geelong as no track existed near the beach then.

An 1874 Geological Sketch Map of the Cape Otway District indicates "shafts" on the east bank of Stony Creek which match the large present day area of landslip on the east bank about 200 metres up from the mouth. A 1962 report confirmed that the workings had collapsed. In March this year I revisited this area of the creek. The creek was dry and I could see the coal in the creek bed. Two tilted seams of carboniferous material stood out clearly against the white clay on the high east bank. The two banks of the creek have visibly different soils and maps confirm that the creek roughly dissects two geological areas.

*From hereon Eastern View's history is better known thanks to several good publications.*

**I welcome your comments and thoughts on what I've written here.** ■ Dennis Kishere



# Peggy Bunton's "The Hut"



(Part 3) Highlights from the late Peggy Bunton's (nee Paton) excellent book "The Hut" featuring the Paton family in early Anglesea....

When the great day for departure for Anglesea arrived one of our friends, a farmer named Mr. Winkler, would bring his dray and the packing started. What went into that dray was nobody's business!

Bags and trunks, cases of fruit, vegetables, jams, cakes sausages, ham and other produce of the orchard and kitchen. Then finally the baby's pram and a chair for mum.

It was a nice leisurely drive in those days. We would stop for lunch at Freshwater Creek and have a picnic while the horses rested, and then plod onto Anglesea.

Great competition to see who would be first to observe the sea.



The Geelong Road then came along the river (now Camp Rd.) and our first stop was at Evans' farm (where Alcoa is now) to or-

der milk which they delivered everyday, also eggs, butter and cream if wanted. Then across the bridge and up the steep hill to Parker's, then off came our shoes and socks and "when can we go to the beach?" and weeks of freedom ahead.

We thought we owned all of Anglesea then and were able to run wild as long as we wore shoes in the bush (awful nuisance) and took a snake bite kit. A least three of us had to go on long walks - one to stay with the one who might be injured and one to run for help.

There is an old conch shell at "The Hut." It was blown when it was time to come home for dinner. In those days we could hear it right up the river and as far away as the top of the opposite hill.

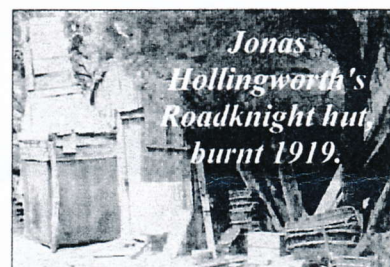
Anglesea at that time had no proper roads, just dirt tracks, and no street names. Parker Street was just Parker's and Noble Street just Noble's etc.

There was no Harvey Street, just a winding buggy track up the hill, which joined Parker's before the top as it does now.

When we first went to Anglesea

there was only about 15 houses including Evan's farm and the Hotel.

On the other side at Pt. Roadknight was a log cabin where an old fisherman Jonas Hollingworth lived alone. We called it



"Robinson Crusoe's Hut" and sometimes got lovely fresh fish from him. It was just about where the boat ramp is today.

We reached the log cabin by a pretty winding track through the thick ti-tree which was called "lovers walk."

*And we must not forget the character of Anglesea, old Mr. Harrison, who also lived alone in a shack (below the Harveys)*

*He was the builder who built most of the early houses in Anglesea. ▶*

To be continued .....

