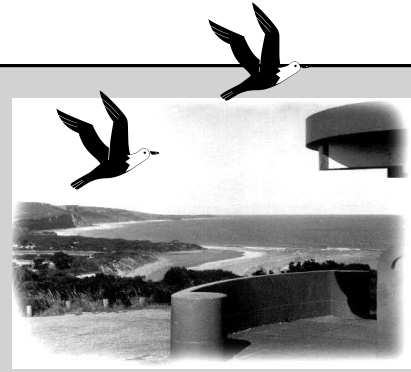


Coastal Current

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



Summer Snippets

It is hard to believe that 2005 is rapidly drawing to a close, and Christmas is once again upon us.

Further to our recent mention of renewed interest in the 4Kings, Mal Tralaggan called in to see if his mother appeared in an opening day snapshot of the old Roadhouse in our photo collection. Mal is pointing to a picture he thinks includes his mother working there as counter staff.



Mal Tralaggan

At our October meeting Janet Brisbane spoke to us about her interesting time as a resident at Nelson Township and her efforts in collating and displaying the town's history.



Janet Brisbane

It is with great regret that we record the passing of long time and enthusiastic member Rhoda Bush. Our sincere condolences to Ray.

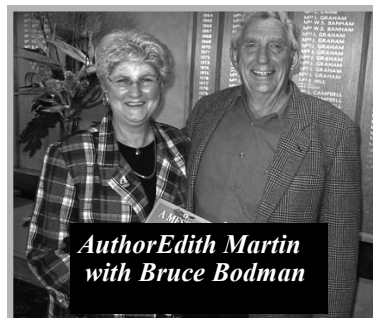
Edith Martin, author of "A Message from the Clouds" was Guest Speaker at our Annual Luncheon. Edith gave a fascinating talk on her grand-father R. G. Carey, who is acknowledged as one of Australia's great aviation pioneers. He was initially involved in the motor industry prior to aviation and was also well known for his distribution of "Pals" a boys paper published by the Herald & Weekly Times. Carey also pioneered aerial photography with W. Hanson in Victoria and delivered the first aerial mail in South Australia. A copy of "A Message from the Clouds" is now in the Society's library.

In conclusion, the Committee wish all members a Happy Christmas and a safe and healthy 2006.

■ Bruce Bodman



Else and Myrle at our Angair stand.



Author Edith Martin with Bruce Bodman

Newsletter No 72
December 2005

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

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Bruce Bodman
(03) 5263 1249

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

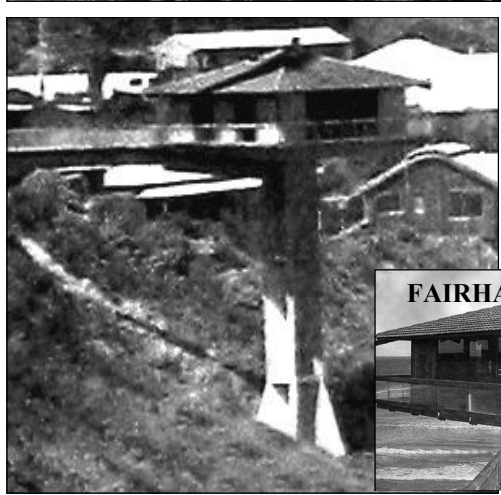
Museum
Our Museum at 5a McMillan
Street Anglesea, will be open
during the Xmas and Easter
holidays on Sundays 2-4pm or
by appointment.

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

e-mail -
nmorrison@froggy.com.au



Fairhaven Pole-House on the market



IT SEEMS IT WAS ONLY YESTERDAY when we were startled by the erection of Fairhaven's extraordinary pole house fronting 60 Banool Road! This surely must have tested the capabilities of the Barrabool Shire Engineer of that time!

The aforementioned construction, with it's floor level some 40m above sea level, is supported by a single shaft and is connected to the main house by an elevated walkway. The footings are said to be some 9m into the ground, This pedestal section looks across the Great

Ocean Road to the sea, and comprises open living, with kitchen, dining and sitting areas. **The local icon is for sale by public tender ■**



NEW ENERGY EXPLORATION

What's new—you may well ask? Well, the local newspapers announced a new ENERGY EXPLORATION RIG at Paraparap. We recorded a couple of photos for future reference, and before this newsletter came to print the venture had stopped - Sadly we have seen these closures before.

Back in 1922 the SUNNYMEAD ESTATE sales booklet contained a surprising statement that oil drilling was proceeding in Anglesea by The South Australian Oil Wells Company on George Noble's broad acre land in what we now know as Sparrow Avenue. Despite enthusiastic reports and glowing expectations, *no oil was forthcoming.* The capped drill pipe still remains in the rear garden of a Sparrow Avenue House. **During 1962** Planet Oil bored down some 7000 feet on Crown Land at the end of Anglesea's Purnell Street. Unfortunately no success came after a two month operation. **In 1969** Pursuit Oil were unsuccessful in finding oil at Paraparap. Before we could wish this latest **2005 exploration** "good luck," the drill was reported to have struck rock, causing the bit to twist off at a depth of 2139 metres, and the new attempt became tomorrow's history ■ L.B.

ANGLESEA 1922



The Pub With Not Enough Beer ...

Recently while searching for information on the Otway Ranges at the National Archives I came across evidence of unrequited thirst on the coast during World War II.

During the war there was domestic rationing of many goods including the precious amber fluid. This rationing came in the form of the Control of Liquor Order which was promulgated in March 1942.

The Order limited brewers and wholesalers to producing and selling beer or spirits not in excess of two thirds of what they had supplied in the correspond-

ing month in 1941 unless they had the permission of the Minister of Trade and Customs. There were also restrictions on advertising (which

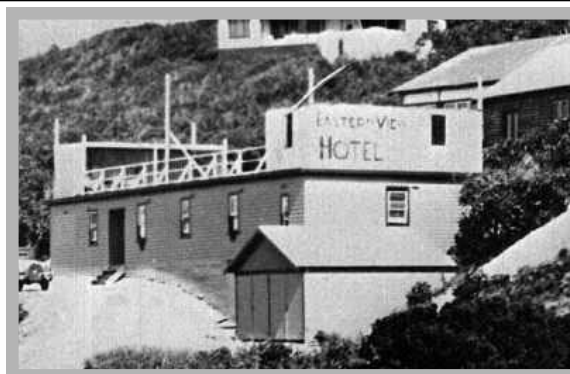
included merely displaying the products).

This obviously led to shortages and concerns were expressed in Parliament that soldiers would resort to drinking "plonk" and other cheap wines injurious to their health.

The Eastern View Hotel was restricted to a quota of 16 dozen bottles of beer per month.

This was enough for the guests who stayed over but not enough for the travellers who dropped in for a drink.

In 1943 the licensee Mrs Hyland asked for an increased quota for the holiday season.



However her request was refused not least because this would have created a precedent for the licensees of other hotels to seek increased quotas.

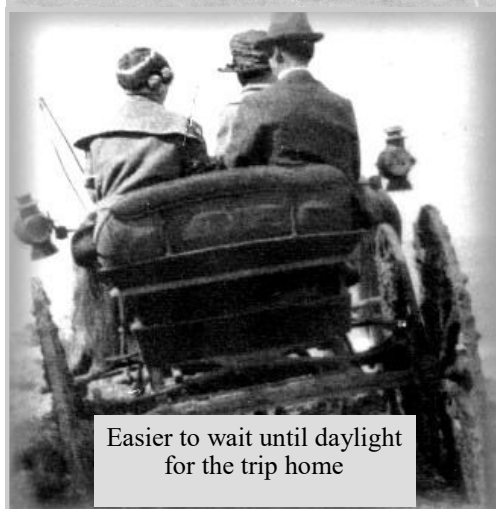
The needs of increased trading were not reason enough, it seemed. D.Kishere



The old school room was once the venue for Aireys dances



The Captain provided the music.



Easier to wait until daylight for the trip home

Getting home to Eastern View!

The Clarke family memoirs mention that dances were held regularly when Aireys was a small Coastal Hamlet. George Clarke from Eastern View farm enjoyed being master of ceremonies. These popular functions often went until daylight. At this early hour it was easier for the distant settlers to harness their horses for the return journey, ■ LB

MOVING A TORQUAY BATHING BOX

Various members of the T&DHS came to check out the action. The reporter from the Torquay Times arrived to

take more photos. I was confident that the much sought after publicity for the Society would be a success, even at this early stage there was an air of excitement.

Neighbours. Traders and passers by stopped for a look and after an explanation of our activity offered words of encouragement and appreciation. The biggest surprise and joy for the day came when we spotted the faded image of a number on the end walls #178. I was so thrilled as I knew that by being able to identify the box, records at the foreshore office would be able to provide me with lots of missing information on her History.

The next stage was somewhat trickier as the boys gradually propped the box higher and higher. It swayed a bit, and at one stage slipped off the back blocks but eventually it was up high enough for us to head off for the trailer. This meant a trip to Geelong for me and a well-earned lunch break for the diggers. I returned with a large Tri-axle trailer without sides, a challenge for me to tow, but perfect for the job at hand.

During the lunch break Keith spoke to the staff at the Foreshore and they arrived to oversee the move, another good idea, as after watching us trying to jack the box up high enough to back the trailer underneath, They went back to their workshop and returned with a tractor with a scoop bucket. This made the job much easier as after we backed the trailer under the front part and set the box on a steel roller ... they lifted the back with the tractor and held the weight while the boys edged the box along the trailer. I was at the wheel attempting to convince myself that I could reverse the trailer, to inch by inch, under the box. Once loaded the next challenge was to manoeuvre the rig through the gates and out of the yard. My reversing skills were sorely tested and it took a couple of tries, and a few little

scrapes to the gates, but eventually the car and trailer were out and onto Anderson Street. The delays getting it out meant we were entering the



afternoon school and kinder pick up traffic... and no police escort was to be seen. There was no time to waste chasing them up as the light was fading and we still faced the task of getting the box down again so with the tractor leading and Keith following our little procession set off along Munday street, checking carefully that we were well under the power lines and free of any other obstacles. Bathing Box number 178 seemed quite chuffed at all the fuss and looked quite magnificent sitting up enjoying all the attention and cheers



that greeted her as she passed. After a short trip around town and another display of my reversing skills we had reached our final destination for the day the work shed of the Torquay foreshore department The "new" temporary home for Bathing Box #178. Getting her off was a lot easier than getting her on the trailer as there were a few more hands to help out. I left the men doing the unloading and

went inside to do some research on the history.

Having the number was wonderful as even in the short time I had I was able to discover that that Bathing Box No 178 began its life on the front beach almost 80 years ago when it was registered to Miss Young of 129 Aberdeen street Geelong. Records also showed that the Aldridges' bought the box in 1945 and moved it up to Anderson Street in 1948. I imagined her nestled in the sand dunes surrounded by Marram grass, Melaleuca and tea tree while children played in the wreck of the Joseph Scammell nearby.

The staff at the foreshore was almost as excited, as I was to fit the pieces of the story together, and are very excited at the prospect of the restoration. There was much talk about colours, roofing, stumps and timber. As I left at the end of the long and tiring day I felt not only well pleased with the days work but also very comfortable that "our" Bathing Box was in good hands and together we would ensure this valuable and charming piece of Torquay's past was safe in her new temporary location. This is a Job begun but not finished. We will need to continue our work

locating and attempting to preserve any other boxes and attempt to raise funds to restore this one.

Many would ask "why bother?" A replica could be built, better roof, better timber, but in a town that is so rapidly losing much of its history it is important that we preserve this wonderful symbol of past days

**Chris Barr
Secretary T&DHS**