

Coastal Current

Quarterly Newsletter Of The

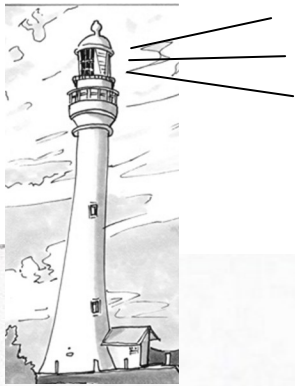
Anglesea & District Historical Society

Issue No. 97

Summer 2012/13

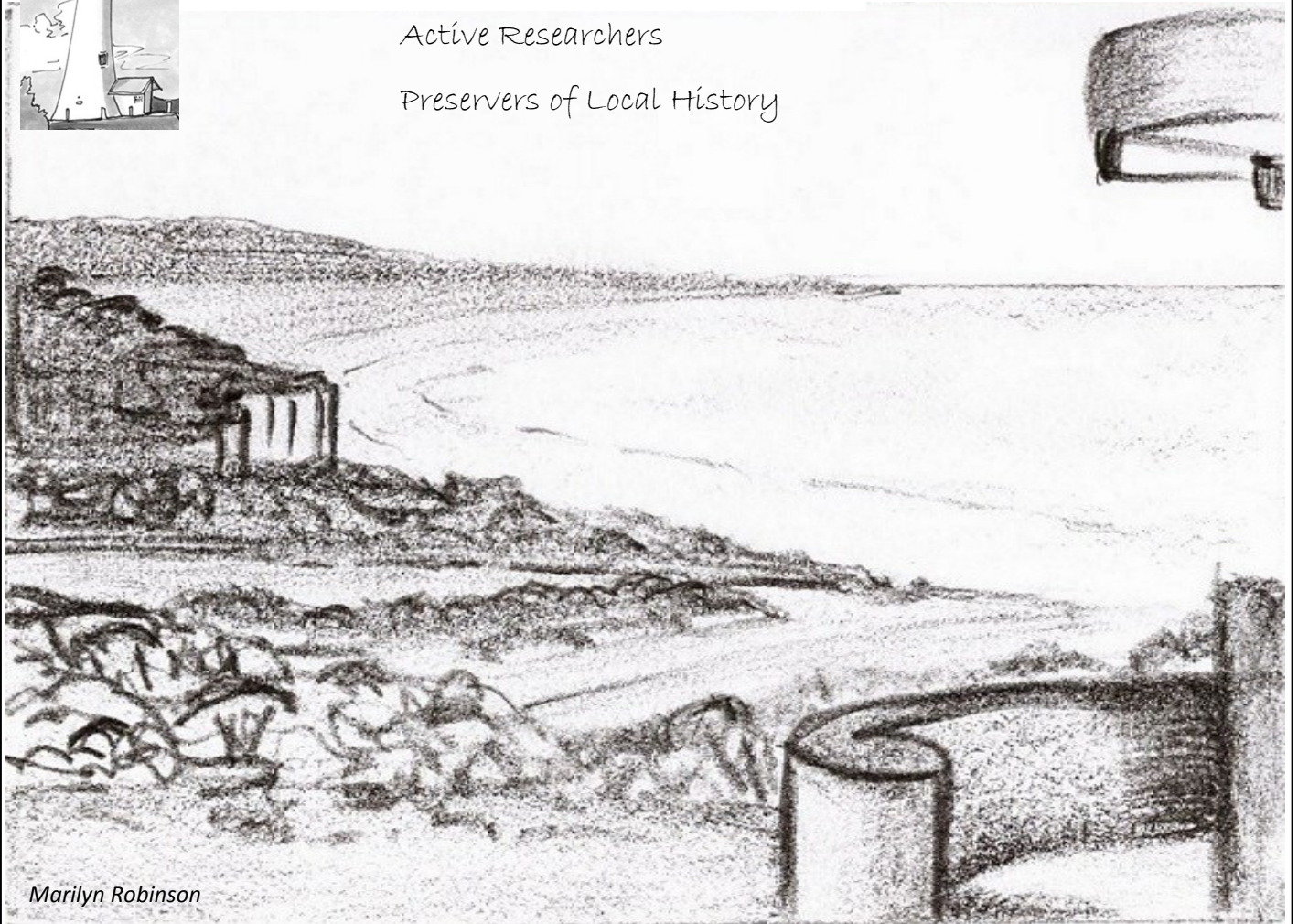
The Anglesea & District Historical

*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



Marilyn Robinson

PLEASE NOTE - Coastal Current will be sent only to financial members.
Membership fees apply from 1 September to 31 August

A red sticker indicates your fees are due - \$15 Historical Society, \$15 Family History

Meetings & Activities

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

The Historical Society meeting are on the first Sunday of the even months (February, April, June, August, October & December). Meetings start at 2.00pm followed by a speaker.

Other activities are organised for the alternate months.

Visitors are welcome to attend.

Historical Society Committee

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Coming up:

DECEMBER - Sunday 2nd 2.00pm -
Christmas ADHS Style with Edna Everidge
and others and Christmas afternoon tea

JANUARY—No meeting

FEBRUARY - Sunday Meeting - *Stories of Jack Burgess former Head Teacher at Anglesea School*

MARCH - Unveiling of Coogoorah Park Names
12.30pm Anglesea Heritage Day Sunday 10 March

Museum

Our Museum at 5a McMillan Street Anglesea,
is open by appointment - Phone 5263 1249

Photographs

Anglesea & District Historical Society has an extensive collection of photographs that may be ordered through Jan Morris ph. (03) 5263 3085
Email - davejanmorris@bigpond.com

Prices	On high quality photo paper	On 100 gsm fine finish paper
A4	\$15	\$8
8.26X11.69		
A5	\$8	\$4
5.82X8.26		
A6	\$4	\$2
4.13X5.82		
A3 maybe available by special arrangement		
11.69X16.53		

A discount of 10% applies to financial members.
Photo quality varies from excellent to poor depending on the quality of the original photo.

Photos can be viewed at the museum - phone Bruce Bodman on (03)5263 1249

A piece of Anglesea history is held at the Science Museum. James Loveridge's restored 1923 Graf & Stift motor car was donated to the Science Museum by his wife Bertha in 1938. The motor car cost £5,000 in 1923, equivalent to \$500,000 today. James and Bbertha Loveridge were no doubt the richest residents of Anglesea. They were however also extremely generous people.

Anglesea & District Historical Society Inc.

Box 98 Anglesea 3230 Victoria Australia.

Secretary Snippets

B.B.

As 2012 draws to a close we look back at what we achieved during the year, but more importantly we look forward to plans for 2013. We finally planted a tree to the memory of Private Alfred John Evans. Although cold and windy, we had a good turn up and enjoyed having the Evans family celebrate with us. We will conclude the year with a Christmas party on Sunday 2 December at 2.00pm. We will be honoured by the presence of Dame Edna Everage who will bring an historic Christmas message before we enjoy a Christmas afternoon tea.

For 2013 we will continue to have our Sunday meetings on the even months, February, April, June, August, October and December. We have outings and special activities planned for the odd months of March, May, July, September and November. We do not have a meeting in January.

After much waiting due to Shire regulations, we have finally obtained approval for an air conditioner. A fan in the wall between the kitchen and meeting room will push the cool air through to where we have the computers. This addition to our building will make meeting and working time much more comfortable.

In October a new committee was elected, with Jan Morris as President. Our sincere thanks go to Harry Davies who held that position for three years despite his sometimes doubtful health. Thank you also to Trish Bodman our treasurer for two years. Although no longer treasurer Trish has agreed to continue to be book keeper. We also welcome Chris Guerow and Jim Tutt to the new committee. We have plans for rejuvenating the museum. The Surf Coast Shire have put the internal painting of the museum on the estimates for the next financial year. We look forward to the painting giving the museum a fresh look. This with some new display cabinets and other changes will provide the opportunity to make changes. We are looking for suggestions.

The Shire have made display space available for the local history groups, at their new offices in Torquay. We have provided photos for the development of a background collage and are selecting small items to be displayed in the cabinet. Call in and have a look at what we and the other historical societies have created.

We are always looking for speakers, activities and outings of historical interest. If you have any ideas please speak to one of the committee.

Best wishes as we continue to make history, research history and record history.

Bruce Bodman

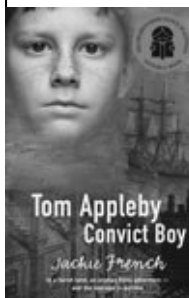
THE OLD SUGAR BAG



We had one on the floor, by the kitchen door,
And another one out in the hall,
And one we used to drying our feet
Hung on a nail on the bathroom wall
No ordinary rag was an old Sugar Bag
To be used once, and then thrown away.
On a swagman's back, on an outback track
It still had a part to play
It was used to repair anything anywhere
It made an apron for Mum
And Dad had one on his old plough seat
To protect his seat from the sun.
There was always a chance of a hole in your pants
And if you hadn't the right colour rag
Tho' it didn't match - you made do with a patch
Cut from an old Sugar Bag
With supplies getting low, to the township we go,
And not in a Fairlane or Jag
Our transport of course - was a homely old horse,
And the old carry-all Sugar Bag.
May I suggest to those folk who know best,
An emblem for our Australian Flag,
It would look good, if they could include
A piece of an old sugar bag.

Do you remember when old sugar bags were used around the house and farm? This is a far cry from our throw away society of today.
Editor

BOOK REVIEW



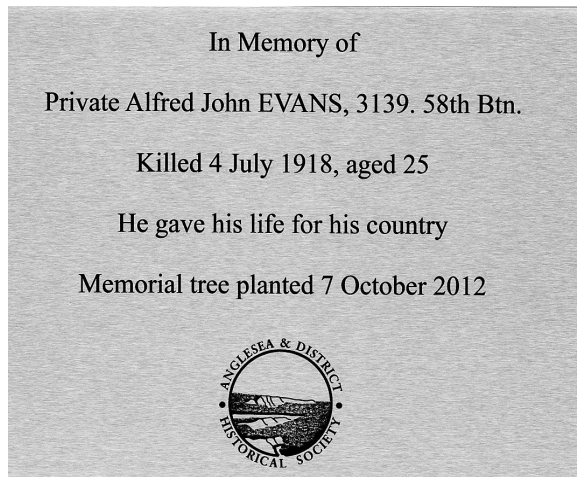
Tom Appleby Convict Boy

is set more than 200 years ago. It includes the First Fleet and early years of the colony of New South Wales as seen through the eyes of a chimney sweep.
A compelling read, I

THE TREE IS BACK

After several years of discussion and wondering what to do, we have at last replaced the memorial tree to honour a young Anglesea resident who gave his life for his country. **Private Alfred John Evans** died in battle on 4th July 1918 at Ville-sur-Ancre, Villers-Bretonneux, France.

On Sunday 7 October 2012, 10 year old Jessica Evans, representing the Evans family, planted a new memorial tree in the Anglesea Community Precinct. Michael Evans unveiled the memorial plaque.



Jessica Evans plants the memorial tree, assisted by Dr Bill McKellar

Fifty people in the memorial service. David Morris presented Lindsay Braden's research on the original Avenue of Honour that once grew along Murch Cres and Noble Street. Bruce Bodman told of the Evans family early settlement in Anglesea.



Michael Evans unveils the memorial plaque



Members of the Evans family at the tree planting

Lyle McConachy spoke about the battles in France during WW1 that Private Evans fought in. Jan Morris spoke on remembering the sacrifice. Dr Bill McKellar from ANGAIR provided the Anglesea Grey Gum, a native eucalypt of this area that grows to 18 metres. Bill also ensured it was planted in good conditions. The outdoor staff of the Surf Coast Shire prepared the site and have agreed to care for the tree over the summer to ensure it thrives.

LEST WE FORGET

ANGLESEA HERITAGE DAY SUNDAY 10 MARCH 2012

A celebration to unveil the new name plaques on the Coogoorah Park bridges. It will include a display of early Anglesea as a holiday and fishing village. Displays about the early Anglesea families, a bbq lunch, the story of the development of Coogoorah Park and more. Keep the date free. If you have visitors for the long weekend, bring them along. This is a celebration for everyone.

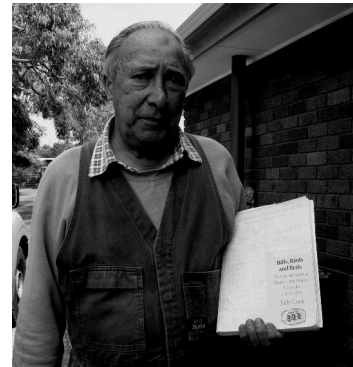
BILLS HORSE TROUGHS

"*Donated by Annis and George Bills Australia*" is the inscription on hundreds of horse troughs installed around the world but mainly in Australia. The troughs were installed in the 1930's using money from a trust left by George Bills. George and his wife Annis had no children but had a love for animals, thus their gift to ensure horses had water available when they were brought into town.

I was researching these troughs when I visited an Anglesea resident, Rex Bills on another matter. Suddenly I realised the connection and found that Rex, a retired school principal, was a descendant of George's brother. The Bills family has a rich heritage, with a book being written about their migration to Australia. It includes the story of George (known as Joe) and the horse trough legacy.

George and Annis Bills were responsible for many bequests and philanthropic acts during the course of their lives which benefited both man and beast. Both born in England, they met and married in Brisbane in the 1880s then spent time in Echuca and Sydney before retiring to Hawthorn in Melbourne. Annis died in 1910 whilst on a trip to England and then upon the death of George in 1927 a trust fund was set up whose purpose was to:

"..construct and erect and pay for horse troughs wherever they may be of the opinion that such horse troughs are desirable for the relief of horses and other dumb animals either in Australasia, in the British Islands or in any other part of the world subject to the consent of the proper authorities being obtained."



Rex with the family book



Trough outside the Geelong Showgrounds

Under this scheme, some 700 odd troughs were installed around the country during the 1930s and up to 50 in other countries. Amazingly enough, quite a number of these lovely old troughs have survived and are still in their original locations. One sits on Fitzroy Street, Geelong in the short section between Sydney Parade and Ryrie Street. It is one of three in Geelong, the others being located at the Geelong Show Grounds in Breakwater, and on the Scarsdale road.

Each trough was supplied with a backing plate which carried the inscription "Donated by Annis and George Bills Australia". Unfortunately the trough in Fitzroy Street is missing its backing plate. The concrete is beginning to show signs of erosion. Two other towns located on the river are fortunate enough to have Bills Troughs. One is at Birregurra, in Beal Street. The other is in Winchelsea, located appropriately enough, outside the Barwon Hotel. Many of the troughs had a small trough on the end, low down for dogs to obtain a drink.



The Fitzroy street trough

Rex Bills has agreed to be speaker at our April meeting in 2013, and give us more information about the Bills family, including the horse trough legacy. We look forward to hearing him. In the meantime, keep your eye out for Bills troughs. Sunday 7 April 2013



Birregurra, Beal St, just to the north of the main street



On the Scarsdale-Pitfield Road, about 1.5 km south of Scarsdale



Winchelsea trough outside the Barwon Hotel

OUR MUSEUM TROUSSEAU

A hundred years ago it was the custom for girls to start accumulating what was known as a trousseau. Usually kept in a wooden chest, it was often referred to as a *Hope Chest*, as it consisted of linen and clothing collected in anticipation of marriage. The clothing was mainly under clothing and night dresses, usually beautifully hand made and decorated with lace. This was



Hilda and Albert's wedding

often well before a prospective groom had appeared on the scene. We are fortunate at the Anglesea and District Historical Society to have one such trousseau on display. This trousseau belonged to Hilda Emily Bourne who was born on 1 July 1890. Hilda had three brothers, but was the only girl in the family. In 1915 she married Albert Edward Birch, an uncle of Thelma Western, who donated it to our society. Emily and Albert did not have any children. Why these beautiful items from her trousseau were never wore is not known, but Thelma inherited them following her uncle's death. Hilda died in 1971 and Albert died in 1973.

Hilda and Albert lived at 2 Toorak Road, Camberwell. They are described as rather private people who mainly kept to themselves. They were however very involved in the Malvern and District Horticultural Society and were largely responsible for the display put on in the Malvern Town Hall. In 1950 Albert organised for the Vice Regal patrons Sir Dallas and Lady Brookes to open the show.

Thelma describes Hilda as a gentle lady with a sweet personality. She was rather timid, but always dressed smartly. Thelma also inherited her fur jacket. Hilda and Albert always came to Thelma's parents home for Christmas Day.



Petticoat

The other interest of Albert and Hilda was St John's Ambulance Brigade. Albert served in the brigade most of his life. Hilda helped behind the scenes, as they did everything in life together. The trousseau is currently on display in the museum after Chris Guerow prepared it for display and the Men's Shed fashioned the display stand.



Cape and bloomers



The trousseau garments on display



Nightdress



Hilda in later life