

Coastal Current

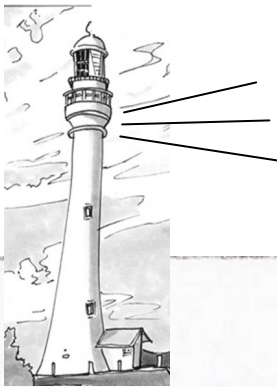
Quarterly Newsletter Of The

Anglesea & District Historical Society

Issue No. 108

Spring 2015

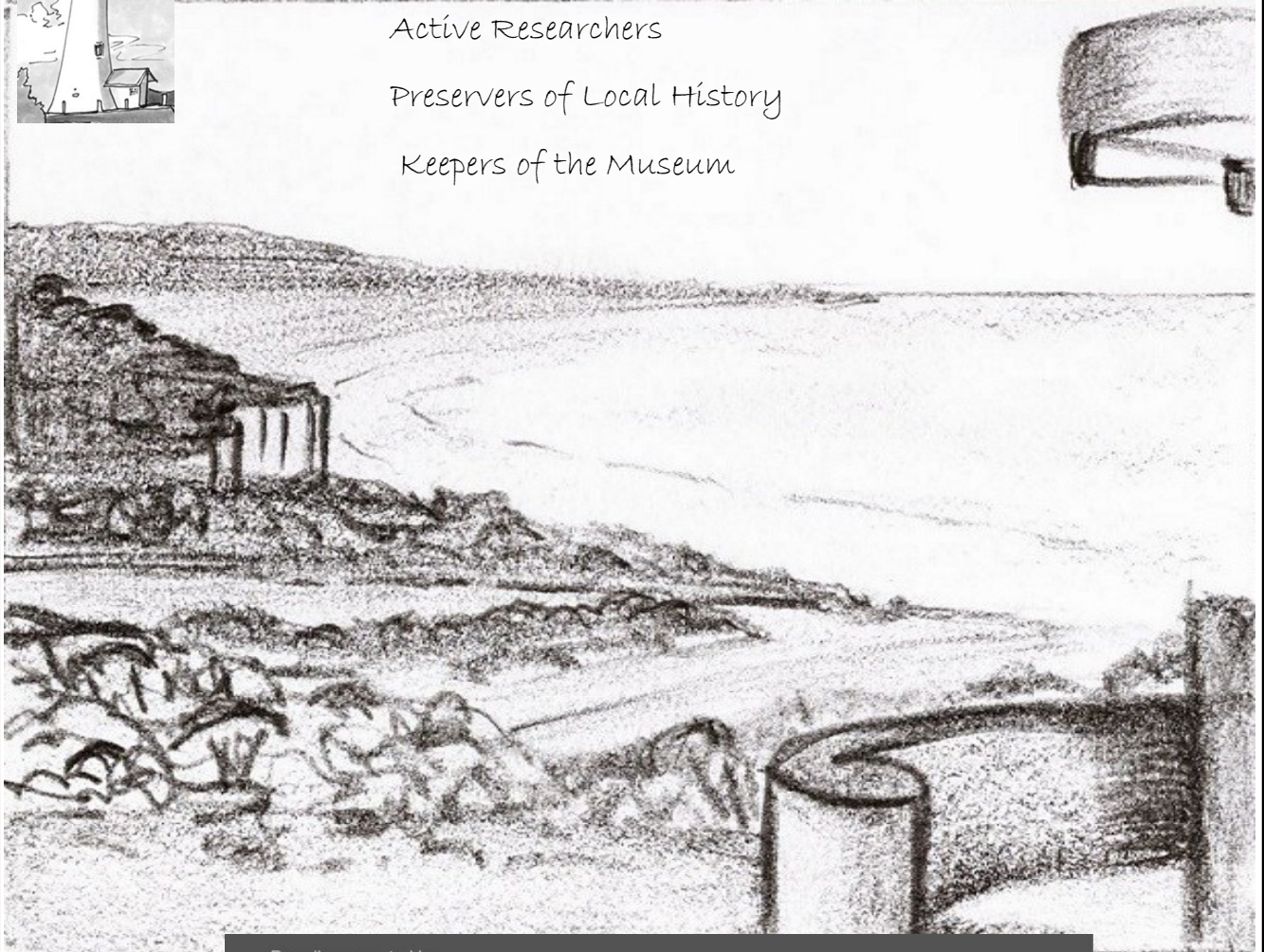
The Anglesea & District Historical Society is a not for profit organisation staffed by volunteer members of the community, whose aim is to research and preserve history of the local area.



Active Researchers

Preservers of Local History

Keepers of the Museum



Marilyn Robinson

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FEES DUE September 1 is a new financial year when you need to pay your annual membership fees. Historical Society is now \$20 per person per year. Family History is still \$15 per family.
PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE FINANCIAL

Meetings & Activities

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

The Historical Society meetings are usually on the first Sunday of the even months (February, April, June, August, October & December).

Meetings start at 2.00pm followed by a speaker and afternoon tea.

Historical Society Committee

President: Jan Morris Phone 5263 3085

Email - davejanmorris@bigpond.com

Secretary: Bruce Bodman Phone 5263 1249

Email - bodman@netspace.com.au

Treasurer: Chris Guerow Phone 5264 7602

Email - chrisguerow@gmail.com

Vice Pres.: Lyle McConachy Phone 5267 2585

Email - lylemcc2009@hotmail.com

Museum Curator: Susan Clarke 0438 070 560

Email - susanclarke3230@hotmail.com

Committee Members:

Dulcie Anderson Phone 5289 6258

Email - douglasdulcie@gmail.com

Karl Jacklin - Phone 0412 619 219

Email - karlj@netspace.net.au

Melva Stott Phone 5263 2801

Email - ttotsavlem@gmail.com

Jim Tutt Phone 5263 1227

Email - tuttj@yahoo.com.au

MUSEUM OPEN TIMES

Second Sunday of the month 2.00 - 4.00 pm or by appointment - Ph. 5263 1249 or 5263 3085.

Open for browsing when groups in attendance.

Mondays 1.30-3.30pm

Tuesdays & Saturdays 10.30 - 12.30pm

COMING UP:

SEPTEMBER 16 - OUTING

Visit Anglesea CFA and hear the history of Anglesea Fire Stations. Meet 10.00am at Anglesea Fire Station
 Morning tea provided

SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER 2.00pm — AGM

Speaker: George Carmen, Geologist
 Topic: *Daintree's Search For A Forest*

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER— Cemetery Visit

Visit to Eastern Cemetery Geelong for a drama filled tour 11.00am - to 1.00pm
 Bookings essential with Jan Morris 5263 3085 limited numbers. BYO lunch or purchase in Geelong.

SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER—Christmas Break-up

2.00pm *Readings From Dickens*
 Bring Christmas afternoon tea to share

HISTORY WEEK 18-25 OCTOBER

His-

toric Tours of Anglesea—public welcome

Sunday 19 Oct. & Tuesday 21 Oct.

10.00am 12.00 noon 2.00pm Mini

bus with guide leaves History House —bookings preferred. Guided tour of History House and a cuppa included.

Cost: \$10 adults \$5 children

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	On 100 gsm
	photo paper	fine finish paper

A4	8.26X11.69	\$15	\$8
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A5	5.82X8.26	\$8	\$4
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A6	4.13X5.82	\$4	\$2
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A3 may be available by special arrangement 11.69X16.53

A discount of 10% applies to financial members.

Anglesea & District Historical Society Inc.

Box 98 Anglesea 3230 Victoria Australia.

The winter quarter has been very successful despite the cold. The History of Hymns provided not just a hearty sing song but also a great trip down memory lane for many people. The Mid-winter Feast, when we combined with the Family History Group, was a enjoyable morning with Mick Robinson keeping us enthralled with his stories of Geelong's past. We then all enjoyed a soup and finger food lunch.

Our August meeting was a lot of fun when we heard about the history of tea drinking, enjoyed a stylish high tea and tried some different flavoured teas. The food was much more than our usual afternoon tea.

During the last quarter we have continued to improve our facilities. We were looking for a four drawer filing cabinet to house Keith Cecil's newspaper collection, when Les Barnes casually mentioned he was getting rid of one. We now have the newspaper cutting collection in our newly acquired filing cabinet. It fitted perfectly into the laundry, moving the Cecil collection to a much more convenient location. Jim Tutt is always on the lookout for ways to improve our facilities. He has installed a light and a heater in the garage work room and put new cord on the flag pole. We put the flag up on meeting days once again.

It was a surprise one day to find our restored petrol pump had acquired a hose and nozzle. Our secretary Bruce Bodman had recently shown a group from the Men's Shed, around History House. One of the members of the Men's Shed, Roger Snow, used to service petrol pumps. Within a few days he had found and installed a hose and nozzle, but alas still no petrol!

Unfortunately we have had to increase fees to \$20 per year, as from 1 September. Our expenses have increased with the increased insurance fees and postage has also increased. Our fees have remained at the same level for eight years, so it is time to ensure we keep up with expenses. Please make sure you pay your fees promptly. It is easy to forget to keep your membership current.

Now we have History House ready for regular visitors, we need signs to put up at the end of the road and on Great Ocean Road. As we have spent all of our excess funds, we are now saving up for the signs that will cost a little over \$300. These are essential to ensure people know when we are open.

Malcolm McDougall has done a great job of restoring the Ice Chest. The wood on the back and top was infested with borer and had to be replaced. Malcolm cleaned the catches and hinges and re-varnished the entire chest with original type of varnish made from resin he collected locally.

The acquisition of a brass commemorative bell engraved *Inverlochy, wrecked 1902* is an exciting addition to our collection. We have the bell on a long term loan from Roger Henderson of Mt Eliza. Our curator Susan Clarke is researching how this bell came to the Fethers family. Keep tuned for more information.

October 18-25 is History Week. We plan to showcase Anglesea's history during this week. History House will be open on Sunday 18th and Tuesday 20th. See advertisement at the bottom of this page for details.

Tours of Historic Anglesea

Have you ever wondered where the first house was, or where the sly grog was distilled? What about the proposed cemetery, the geese farm, and the post office? Which houses are heritage listed?

Sunday 18 October 2015 & Tuesday 20 October 2015
at 10.00am, 12 noon & 2.00pm



Historical mini bus tours of Anglesea.

Only ten people per trip, with guide. Tours leave *History House* (entrance 4 of 5 McMillan St.)

Cost: \$10 adults \$5 children

Includes bus trip, guided tour of the museum and morning or afternoon tea.

CSIRO ANGLESEA HOLIDAY CLUB

Jan Morris

Member Rosalie Coutts gave us notes and photos from her late father, regarding the CSIRO holiday flats in Forster Street Anglesea. John Coutts was one of the insightful people who planned and built the flats. Post WW2, self-help was the way to get things done and the *CSIRO Holiday Club* was no exception. A document entitled *Seaside Holiday Club*, put up the proposal to CSIRO staff members in 1947. It detailed the idea of Bruce Foster.

A meeting was held at the CSIRO Division of Aeronautics on Wednesday, 15 January, to discuss an idea which has been proposed recently. This is the building of a holiday home somewhere by the seaside.....

The general idea expounded was that a block of land be sought and that sufficient money be subscribed by those willing to commit themselves to the scheme for the purchase of materials. Construction would be carried out by members themselves.....

The tentative suggestion was to build three cabins, each capable of sleeping four people, and equipped with a stove, sink and shower. Land would cost between £50 and £150. Materials would cost £360..... If there were 50 subscribers, capital costs would be \$10 each.



1950 Families enjoying the result of their labours

Ken Sculls book *Anglesea Holiday Club, The Complete Story*, tells us that there were in fact 55 members who were interested. They began a search for suitable land. They inspected land along the Mornington Peninsula, being shown block after block of sand dunes. Others searched along the Great Ocean Road to Wye River, eventually settling on Anglesea. Mr Hedley had offered them seven acres of the Sunnymead Estate at £500 but they chose another smaller block for £50.

The construction sub-committee first met on 14 October 1947. The scope of this sub-committee was to "design, purchase material, and direct the construction of the Club's premises at Anglesea". A shed made from a large packing case was to be put on site. Members were asked to watch out for any available useful materials, as postwar restrictions were still in force. Marty Hamilton offered the use of a Ford one-ton utility. Dr Pillow of Geelong Cement Company helped to purchase cement which was very hard to obtain. Mr Bassett of Western District Timber Co. promised that sufficient timber for a house of 13 squares. There was always someone who knew someone when materials were needed.

The first weekend of work was taken up with numerous jobs - making an area for gravel and sand, making the 'shed' out of the crate and setting it up, rough marking out of the units and clearing the ground. A work party organizer was appointed by the committee. He was responsible for detailed organization, obtaining fuel, attending to finance, consulting technically, and arranging for appropriate tools to be taken to the site. Two important projects had to be organized, namely the mixing of concrete and the replacement of the hessian outhouse with the septic tank.



Volunteers at work 1949

Each Friday when there was a work party going to the building site, there was a car allocated to get the 'tucker' on the way. The 'shopping' took very little time as they had very few fads and fancies. "Plenty and hot" was the order of the day. Saturdays were hard work and they finished well after 5 o'clock. There was a rush for the beach and the surf if the weather was good, followed by a good meal, possibly barbecued steak or chops.

The first Annual General Meeting of the club was held on the 23rd September 1948. The report of progress was remarkable, considering the few skilled men available. As this General Meeting

was also a 'kitchen tea,' yielding many items that served the Club for years - washing tubs, vacuum cleaner, brooms, stretchers, buckets, etc. The ute transported much needed building materials to the site. Once the three flats were constructed a dozen mattresses at £7/10/0. each and 3 electric stovettes at £11/0/0 were bought. Stainless-steel sinks were brought from Melbourne, and hot water tanks were made from the petrol tanks of an old fighter plane. Use of the flats was allotted according to the number of work days contributed or cash paid.

Over 60 years later the *Holiday Club* still operates. In 2015 one block of land has been sold and the three flats are being refurbished. Four new flats are being built. The *Anglesea Holiday Club* has been extended to include the Defense Science and Technology Organization as well as the CSIRO. After visiting the site and learning about the improvements I am sure many more years of happy holidays at Anglesea will continue.

Ref: Sculls Ken *Anglesea Holiday Club, The Complete Story*, private pub.

Minutes of Anglesea Holiday Club 1947–1950

What Happened to the Pine Plantation Buildings?

Jan Morris

Most people thought the Pine Plantation development at Anglesea, after the First World War was a disaster. The pines did not grow as anticipated. Although many men were employed to prepare the ground, plant the seedlings and care for them, the experiment was not successful. The ground was not fertile enough and the rainfall was too low. A lot of time and money was wasted and fire eventually took most of the poor specimens of trees that struggled to survive.



One of the houses built for the Forestry Pine Plantation workers.

However for Anglesea the town, the Pine Plantation was a success. The plantation was the first big employer in Anglesea, that had previously been mostly a holiday destination. Needing to attract workers to Anglesea, the Forestry Commission had to supply houses and once there were families in the town, a school was needed. The hotel developed from a wine saloon and churches were built. Once the plantation workers were here with their families, the infrastructure of the town began to develop. To provide accommodation, the Forestry Commission built seven houses and

purchased another. They also built a hostel in what is now Camp Road. Three plantations were planned, one near our present school, one at Mt Inglesby and one on Forest Road. They built two houses at Mt Inglesby, at the top of present Harvey Street. A managers house and four houses for workers were built in the valley coming down from Coalmine Road to Camp Road. They purchased one house on the corner of what is now Camp Road and Wray St.

After the Pine Plantation had been abandoned the houses were no longer required by the Forest Commission. They were sold to Alcoa when Alcoa took over the lease for the power station. Some of the houses were eventually moved to new locations. The two houses from Mt Inglesby were



sold, the new owners taking them by truck and relocating them at Beaufort. The Hostel became the Recreation Camp. In 1927 Davidsons lived in the house on the corner of Camp Road and Wray Street. In 1967 Alcoa sold it for removal and it was moved to Bellbrae, near the tennis courts. The current owners have substantially renovated it.



LEFT:
From the corner of Camp Rd, & Wray St. to Bellbrae



RIGHT:
33 Paton Street, Anglesea

Of the houses that were in the valley, the manager's house was moved from the plantation precinct to No 33 Paton Street Anglesea. Jack Bickers and his family lived in this house for many years when Jack worked for the Forestry Commission. Number one workers house was moved to 65 Camp Road, where it remains today. Number two house is the one Bill Bubb and his wife Robyn lived in from 1966 when Bill worked for the Country Roads Board. It was then moved to 59 Aireys Street, Aireys Inlet. Number three and Number four houses were moved to Wilkins Street, and are now number 12 and number 14 Wilkins Street.



LEFT:
65 Camp Road, Anglesea



RIGHT:
59 Aireys Street, Aireys Inlet



LEFT:
12 Wilkins St.



RIGHT:
14 Wilkins St.

Buildings rarely remain the same. All of the houses have been renovated and changed over the years and it is difficult to even recognize some of them now as ex forestry houses, but history tells us they were originally in Anglesea because of the pine plantations.

Celebrating 150 years at Bellbrae - The Uniting Church of Australia *by Martin Hooper*

One might well ask that when the The Uniting Church of Australia only came into being on 22 June 1977 how can it be celebrating 150 years. Equally you might reflect on the fact that the Bellbrae Township was only gazetted on 19 September 1922. Neither of these dates was 150 years ago.

The answer lies in history, the history of the town and the church. In the first instance Bellbrae was called Jan Juc prior to the name change and as such white settlement in Jan Juc goes back to the 1840s. When the Shire of Barrabool was formed in 1865, the Parish of Jan Juc was part of the Coastal Riding.

In the second instance The Uniting Church came into being as a result of three denominations joining together - Congregational Union in Australia, the Methodist Church of Australasia, and the Presbyterian Church of Australia. One of these, the Congregational Church, opened the first church building in Bellbrae in 1865, some 150 years ago.

Jan Juc Congregational Church

On Sabbath last (7 May 1865) the New Congregational Church at Jan Juc was opened, the services being in the morning, in the afternoon, by the Rev. Mr Cuttle; each service being very fully attended. (Geelong Advertiser 10 May 1865)

The Wesleyan Methodist Church was active in Geelong from the late 1830s. The history of the South Geelong Uniting Church, formerly Methodist was published in 1990 with a beginning date 1839. Regular Wesleyan services were advertised in the Geelong Advertiser from 1841. In Irving Benson's book, A Century of Victorian Methodism, published in 1935, the author wrote about 'Class Meetings'. These were 'an open fellowship of believers in prayer, meditation and praise' supported by nearby churches.

Jan Juc Methodist Church

A Wesleyan Class Meeting was held in Jan Juc in 1866 but it has not yet been established if this was the first. There was a Wesleyan Chapel in Freshwater Creek by 1867. In March 1868, permission was given by the Geelong Methodist Circuit for the building of a church in Jan Juc. On 5 May 1868, 'Rev James Bickford paid a visit to Jan Juc where a new Wesleyan congregation is in the course of formation' (Geelong Advertiser 8 May 1868).

In that same year, two blocks were gazetted by the Colonial Government for a Wesleyan Church, at the current UCA site, the corner of Anglesea and School Road. The building was completed in 1869 and services were then conducted twice weekly.

The Congregational Church closed in 1895 while the Methodist Church opened its door to many from various denominations and flourished on into the 20th century. A new building, the current one was built in 1957 under the leadership of builder, Eric Lyons. His son, Kevin, an apprentice to his father at the time, helped in the building and was responsible for building the communion table. Kevin is planning a visit to Bellbrae one coming Sunday, with his friend, Don Ayre.

Special Service & Lunch will be held on Sunday 1st November 2015, venue, Bellbrae Primary School

CATALOGUING GROUP

Susan Clarke

On 22 June, the Cataloguing Group marked a year of working on the contents of the ADHS collection, and reached the goal of 150 items catalogued. The photo shows the group in the process of cataloguing several items, including the desk top writing stand donated by Mrs P Must which is located in the entry at History House. The writing stand bears the patent registration date of 19 November 1869, and its design includes a recessed pen trough, a useful perpetual calendar, and a pull-out writing slope with pigeonholes above, in a lockable drawer at the base. This is only one of the many items that the group has enjoyed researching.

Members are welcome to join us on a Monday afternoon at 1.30 pm.



Members of the Cataloguing Group hard at work at History House in June: Lyn McGrath, Bruce Bodman, and Jan Morris