

# Coastal Current

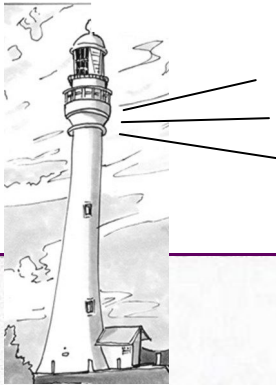
Quarterly Newsletter Of The

## Anglesea & District Historical Society

Issue No. 117

Summer 2017/18

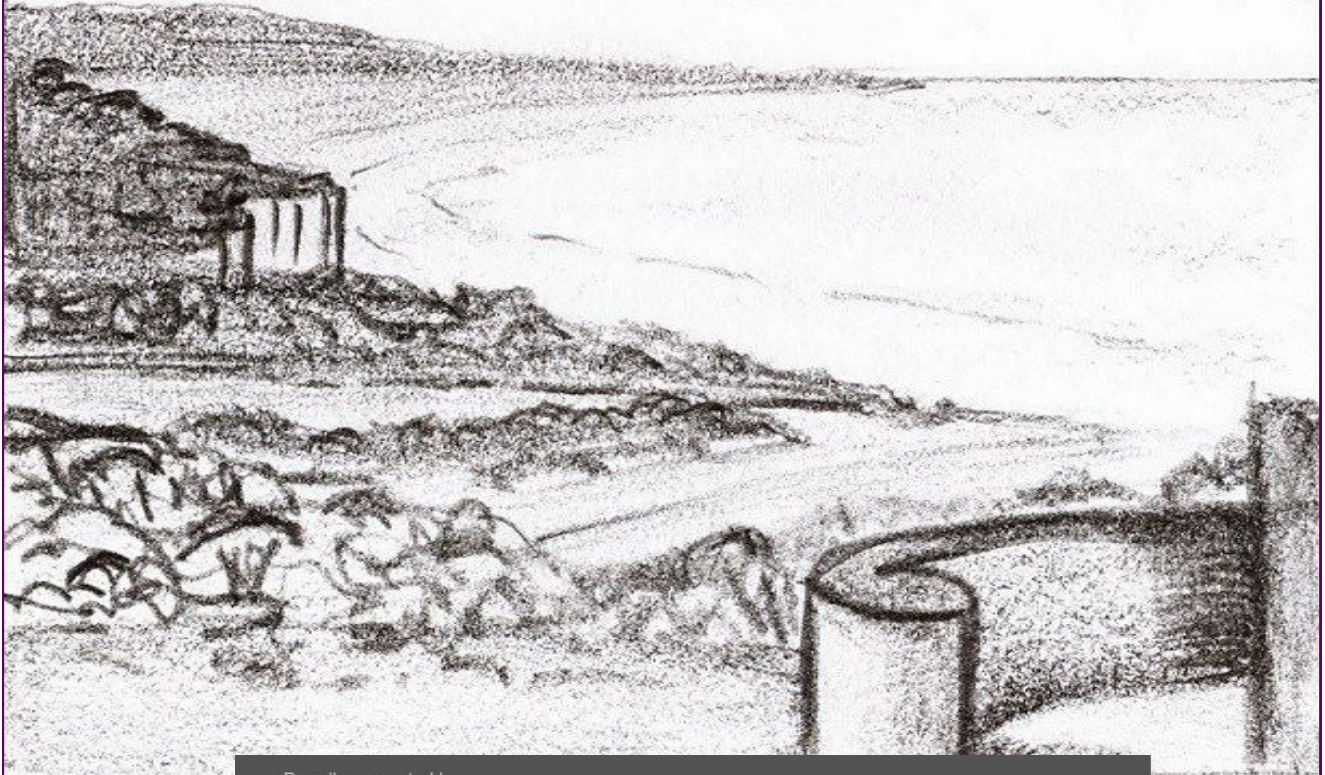
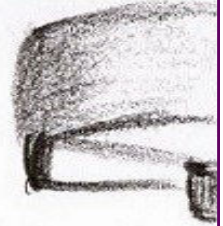
*The Anglesea & District Historical Society is a not for profit organisation staffed by volunteer members of the community, whose aim is to research and preserve history of the local area.*



Active Researchers

Preservers of Local History

Keepers of the Museum



Marilyn Robinson

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Anglesea & District  
Community Bank® Branch



**ARE YOU A FINANCIAL MEMBER?** . Historical Society is \$20 for the first family member per year and \$15 for other family members (this includes insurance). People over 90 free (no insurance). Family History (optional extra) is \$15 per family. Please notify if extra \$15 is Family History or extra Historical fee. FEES DUE 1 SEPTEMBER\_Pay direct: Bendigo Bank—BSB 633 000, Account 1430 28421—reference your name, **OR** post to PO Box 98, Anglesea

A blue dot on your envelope indicates that you are not currently a financial member.

### 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

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**Sec. & Vice Pres.:** Karl Jacklin Phone 0412 619 219

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#### Committee Members:

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### MUSEUM OPEN TIMES

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

Open for browsing when groups in attendance.

Mondays 1.30 pm - 3.30pm

Tuesdays 10.30am – 1.30pm

Saturdays 10.30 am - 1.30pm

The museum is also open at other times when working groups are present.

### DECEMBER CHRISTMAS MEETING

2.00pm Sunday 3rd December

Christmas through the years

Followed by a special Christmas Afternoon Tea

### FEBRUARY MEETING

2.00pm Sunday 4 February

Speaker: Marianne Messer

TOPIC: Indigenous Evidence Around Anglesea.

### MARCH OUTING Thursday 8 March

Combined visit to Beeac Windmill Park, talk with local historian

Followed by

\* Lunch at the

Farmers Arms

Hotel

\* Transport leaves

History House

10.00am

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\* Cost: \$15 includes transport and

\* Lunch extra

### Members & Visitors welcome to all activities.

Transport can be provided to all meetings and activities by phoning 5263 3085.

*It is the policy of this society that no activities will be held on days of code red or extreme fire danger.*

### Photographs

Anglesea & District Historical Society has an extensive collection of photographs. Orders to Jan Morris: Phone: 5263 3085 Email -[davejanmorris@bigpond.com](mailto: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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Digital images for personal use only \$5 each

A discount of 10% applies to financial members.

**Anglesea & District Historical Society Inc.**

**Box 98 Anglesea 3230 Victoria Australia.**



Another year has almost gone and we reflect on what has been achieved at ADHS. At our AGM we thanked Marilyn Wendt for her work as secretary. She did not seek re-election and Karl Jacklin accepted this position and has taken over as another well organised secretary. Also at the AGM June Ford was elected and all other committee members were re-elected.

The bathing box has been one of our main focuses during the year. Keith Hornibrook and Kevin Pollard have taken over the restoration of the box. They have done an excellent job of replacing weatherboards and lining the bathing box dado style. A small working group has been working on plans for the interior so we can have a marine and maritime display. We are looking at the possible restoration of a small rowing boat, once owned by Joyce Graham. It was one of several small boats with a canvas skin that was used on the Anglesea River.

Ruth Morrison donated the old organ from the old Presbyterian Church. We have been busy researching this organ and have found that it was originally donated by Bertha Loveridge in 1938. See article on page 6.



*One of the original exchanges at the Cable Station*

*Photo: Bob Smith*

We enjoyed an outing to Apollo Bay, where we were hosted by the Apollo Bay Historical Society at the former Cable Station. They have an extensive museum there so everyone spent time in the section that interested them most. We also watched a film on the laying of the cable to Tasmania. This interesting time was made complete by partaking of an delicious lunch at the Apollo Bay Hotel.



*Enjoying lunch at the Apollo Bay Hotel*

*photo: Bob*

The maps drawers are no longer a jumble of unknown items, the state they have been in since we hurriedly packed up for repainting in 2014. June Ford, with help from others, has done an excellent job of sorting the mysteries in those drawers, labelling them and filing items. We have some excellent maps from the past, they explain just how various areas developed around Anglesea.

Some recent acquisitions from Jim and Helen Tutt have included toys, dolls clothes and a portrait of Jim as a child. The Tutts have had a big influence on this community and it is fitting that we record their significant contribution.

We have enjoyed having groups of children visit us from the Anglesea School. Karl Jacklin and Jan Morris have given them a short history of Anglesea, including indigenous occupation, visits by William Buckley and early white settlement. The children enjoyed old-fashioned games such as sack races and a tug of war.

It was a great honor that one of our museum items was selected to be one of only 10 on display at the Victorian Collections 100,000 Items Celebration Display; and even more exciting that it was one of only two selected for demonstration. Thank you Marilyn and Susan for representing us at this celebration. See report on page 4.

It is with sadness that I record the passing of our past President Harry Davies at the age of 87. Harry was president for three years, at a time when no one else would take on the job. See our tribute to Harry on page 6.

I take this opportunity of wishing all our members a Happy Christmas season and a successful 2018. I hope to see you at our Christmas break-up on Sunday 3 December at 2.00pm. We look forward to an exciting program in 2018.

We start the year with a topic we have very little information on, that is the indigenous occupation of this area. Our first outing will be to Beeac to the Windmill Park in March, followed by a pub lunch. Pub lunches seem to be very popular as part of our outing.

*Jan Morris*

PS. Don't forget to pay your subs.

## VICTORIAN COLLECTIONS



*Marilyn & Susan demonstrating the MikiPhone*

## Victorian Collections celebrating 100,000 hidden treasures

Susan Clarke & Marilyn Wendt  
Cataloguing team

We were thrilled to be invited to participate in Victorian Collections celebration of the landmark digitisation of 100,000 objects in a program to preserve Victoria's secret histories. The MikiPhone in our collection at History House was selected as one of only ten objects to be on display at a media event held at the Melbourne Museum on Thursday 26 October. Minister for Creative Industries Martin Foley addressed attendees from Museums Australia (Victoria) and several community museums from around the state, and praised the work of volunteers for this achievement. He said: "Victoria is home to more museums than anywhere else in the country. The digitisation of our collections allows us to share our rich cultural stories not just around our state, but to people all around the world".

The ten objects selected for display represented the breadth and diversity of cultural materials made accessible through Victorian Collections.



*Photos courtesy of Museums Australia (Victoria)*

Two objects from the ten were further selected for demonstration, and Marilyn Wendt deftly assembled the MikiPhone and explained it to an attentive audience. Her demonstration is now available on social media via Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/MuseumsAustraliaVictoria/?ref=br\\_rs](https://www.facebook.com/MuseumsAustraliaVictoria/?ref=br_rs)

A special thank-you to Margot Matthews who has spent many hours uploading the cataloguing data about our collection into the Victorian Collections website, where our 317 items currently contribute to the 100,000 hidden treasures.

There are still many more objects to catalogue at History House. More volunteers at Monday afternoon cataloguing sessions are always welcome!

## FIFTY YEARS AGO -1967

- \* Anglesea Police Station opened.
- \* Two construction workmen were killed in accident at Alcoa Power Station site.
- \* SEDCO off-shore oil well spudded in off coast.
- \* Aireys Inlet automatic telephone exchange opened.
- \* Anglesea Bowling Club opened.
- \* Barrabool Shire Home-Help scheme started.
- \* Sanitary pan service introduced into Anglesea.
- \* S.E.C. asked to replace Memorial Trees chopped down in Noble Street, Anglesea.
- \* Mail delivery service started to Anglesea homes.
- \* Two bushfires in area in October - one at Fairhaven and another at Anglesea.
- State Savings Bank purchased shop site in Anglesea Shopping Centre.

From Keith Cecil's cutting books of the Geelong Advertiser

## From A Fine Romance by Robert Armstrong

Robert Armstrong (1937-2016) had strong ties to Anglesea, his mother being Stella Evans, the youngest child of Jack and Mary Kate Evans from the farm, *The Wattles* at Anglesea. *Army*, as Robert was affectionately known by his Anglesea Cousins John and Don Evans, was a regular visitor to Anglesea all through his childhood and teen years, especially to stay with his cousins. He had his honeymoon in Anglesea and lived at *Summerglen* briefly with his wife Ruth and young daughter, after working on the Snowy Mountains project. Also a regular visitor to Anglesea was his wife Ruth Richardson, whose grandfather Donald Dunoon had a holiday house on the corner of Murray and Minifie Streets. Robert seems to have had an almost photographic memory, from which he has provided ADHS with great detail of Anglesea in the 1950s. Following the death of his wife Ruth in 2010, Robert wrote a memoir to his wife, *A Fine Romance*, recording their lives together, including descriptive stories of Anglesea. His three children have kindly given permission to quote from his book.

### Setting The Scene (page 1)

We were brought up in an age when our parents saved string, brown paper, paper bags, glass jars and rubber bands. Our mothers bottled fruit with their Fowler Vacola Bottling Kits, and they sewed and knitted and they cooked. There were no frozen foods, no plastic wrap, plastic bags or Scotch tape. Our shoes were continually re-soled and re-heeled; ladies mended their stockings and men's socks were darned, they were never thrown out. Old nails and screws were reused, and pieces of timber were never discarded. Our fathers wore hats and were clean shaven, except for some much older men who preferred a moustache but never a beard. Mothers wore aprons and carried a basket to the shops. Because most families didn't own a refrigerator, visits to the shops were generally for daily needs. School classes were from forty to sixty children. There was no Medicare or Medibank as we know it today. The voting age was 21, and hotels in Victoria closed at 6.00pm.

### Anglesea Fishing (page 276)

Reg asked Ruth if she would like to go with him to Point Roadknight to get some crayfish for dinner. ....They're a shilling each. Old Mister Monks and Syd Morow are due in about now, so let's go before the tourists get them. Young *Army*, 'You can stay here and light the copper so we can cook the crays.' They were back in thirty minutes with three of the biggest crayfish you could imagine.

### Remembering Church Attendance in 1926 (page 368)

Stella's mother would harness the horse and cart and take all of the girls to the little Presbyterian Church on the main road between the hotel and the river. That's because it was the only church in Anglesea and the minister was a family friend. Father said, "We were both Church of England but we were married in the Presbyterian Church by a Baptist minister." "Why a Baptist minister?" I asked. "Reverend Fred Wilkin was a good friend of the family," said Mother. "He really was a nice man "

### Anglesea Milk Round (page 410)

"My mother (Stella Evans) was driving her father's Chevrolet ute on the milk round at Anglesea long before she could see over the dash board" and on page 418 "Grandfather used to fly the Union Jack at *Summerglen* to let the milkman know they were in residence and that the milk billy and note were in the milk box."

### Local Butcher (page 420)

Neville Talmadge, a friend of *Army's* was an apprentice butcher at Bob & Betty Senior's butchers shop.

### Shops in 1959 (page 499)

Walking along Marine Parade I said to Ruth, "See that grocer's shop there, that's Baldry's. A few years ago my cousin Marj. married the son, Rex., and I think they run the shop now.... And that's Alsop's the butchers over there. Sandy Alsop married Marj's eldest sister Gwen. Her father is Uncle Jim Berryman."

### Entertainment (page 500)

Down the little street, towards the beach and opposite the picture theatre, was the old fun parlour on the beach front. One side was the Penny Arcade and the other side was a roller-skating rink. We wasted quite a few pennies playing the various games and the pin ball machines

### Wind Fall at The Wattles (page 515)

During WW2 one day a big white silk drogue came loose from one of the planes and drifted down on to the Evans farm. It was hidden from the authorities and after the coast was clear the whole family went about their days wearing hand-made white silk shirts,

### Boat Shed (page 521)

Looking downstream, the Dunoon, *Summerglen* Boathouse was the second on the left.



## VALE - Harry England Davies 1930-2017

It is with great sadness that we record the death of one of our loved and valued members, Harry Davies. Harry has been a member of Anglesea & District Historical Society since 1999 and also a member of the Surf Coast Family History Group. He served as President of both groups for three years.

Harry and his wife Bev. Came to Anglesea in 1996. Harry, a pharmacist, had his own pharmacies in Bentleigh and then in Olympic village. After selling his pharmacy he worked as a locum, including three months in Anglesea in 1976 just after he had purchased a holiday house here. Harry then served in a position with the Commonwealth Department of Health until his retirement.

Harry was an enthusiastic member of the Motor Yatch Club where he held office for several years. Harry was also a keen fisherman who loved to fish from the rocks. Our sympathy is extended to his wife Bev and children Ian (dec), Rodger, Gregg, Anne and Lee, as well as his grandchildren and great grandchildren.



*Harry with the Inverloch anchor*

**HARRY DAVIES** wanted to have all his friends from History House to come to 54 Eighth Avenue on Saturday November 25 between 1.00 and 5.00 pm to help drink his whisky or have a cuppa with his family, so everyone is welcome.

*Bev. Davies*



## REED ORGAN — Our valuable acquisition

An American Reed Organ originally made by the Estey Organ Co. in Brattleboro, Vermont USA has been donated to the Anglesea Historical Society by local resident Ruth Morrison.

This organ was originally donated to the Presbyterian Church in 1938 by Mrs Bertha Loveridge (nee Marriner), who also was responsible for renovating the church in the same year. The organ was played for many years by Mrs May Paton. Ruth Morrison purchased the organ from the church in the late 1970's and kept it in her home until donating it to the historical society earlier this year.

This organ replaced the first organ that was donated to the Presbyterian Church in 1917 by Mrs Sam Mawson. She donated it in memory of Charlie Young, who for several years attended the Geelong College and worshipped at St. George's Church in Geelong. Anglesea was his favourite holiday resort. "In response to the call of the Empire he nobly enlisted, and was killed while on duty at his post of observation in 1915". Charlie had been engaged to marry Mrs Mawson's daughter Ivy.

How does a reed organ create sound?

As the pedals are pumped, they generate sound as air flows past a vibrating piece of thin metal in a frame called a reed. There are 30 white and 25 black keys and 11 buttons called stops. The stops change the sound by increasing the volume and tone of the notes. There are two levers below the keys, called swells, which increase or decrease the volume of the sound by being pushed outwards with the knees. This instrument requires the use of both hands, both feet and both knees to produce music.

The reed organ is small thus allowing for easier transport for missionaries to take to foreign lands to be played in newly formed churches.

So, nearly 80 years after being first played in the Presbyterian Church in Murch Crescent, it has been donated to the historical society. The organ was played by Elizabeth McKenzie at the October meeting.

**CORRECTION:** Some of the information given at the October meeting has proven to be incorrect. The above article is the correct version following considerable research.

References:

1. Estey Organ Co. website.
2. Early Anglesea Families by Lindsay Braden
3. Along the Great Ocean Road, Coastal Christianity, The Story of Christian Witness at Anglesea and Airey's Inlet. by Cecil KL and Carr RV.