

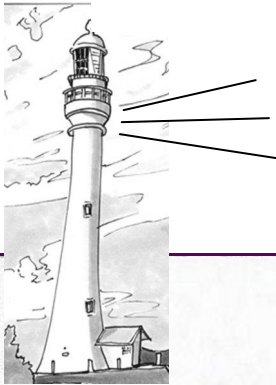
Coastal Current

Quarterly Newsletter Of The

Anglesea & District Historical Society

Issue No. 120
Spring 2018

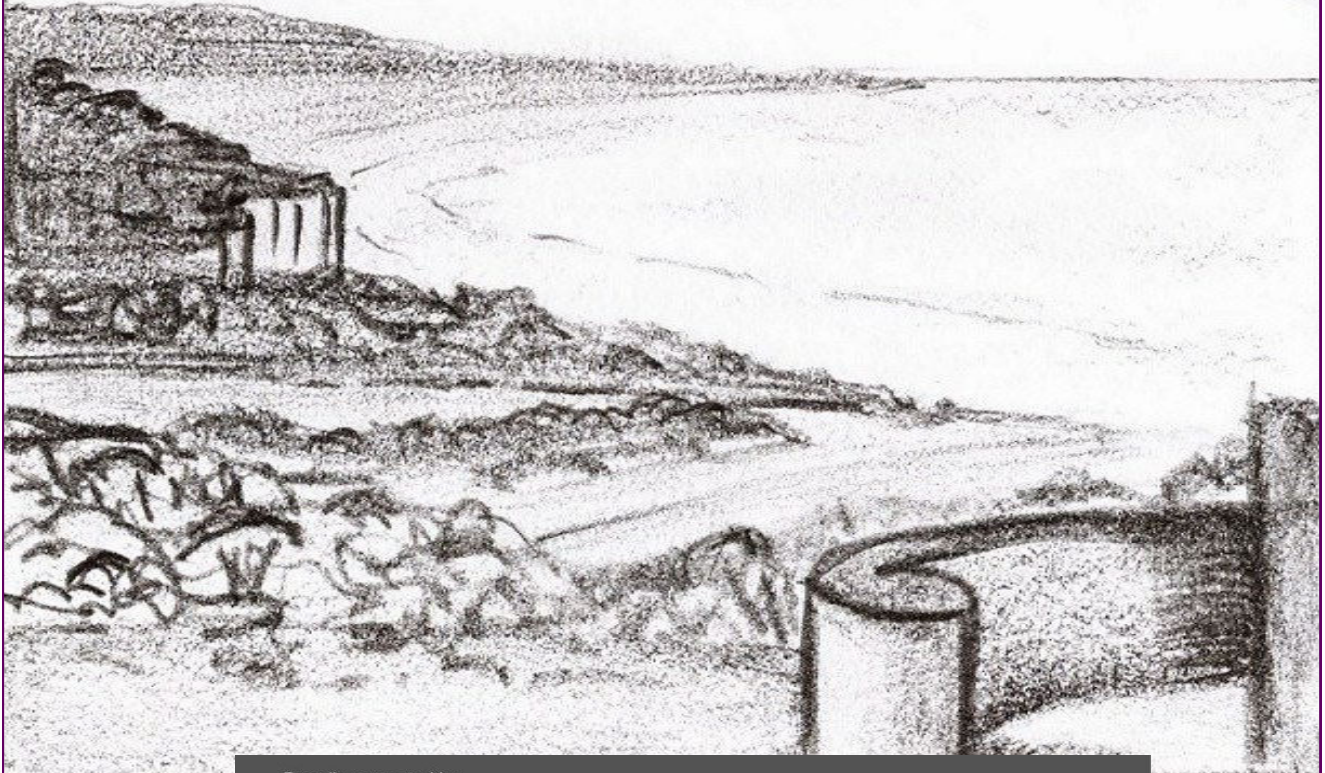
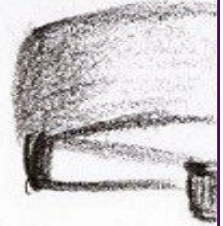
The Anglesea & District Historical Society is a not for profit organisation staffed by volunteer members of the community, whose aim is to research and preserve history of the local area.



Active Researchers

Preservers of Local History

Keepers of the Museum



Marilyn Robinson

Proudly supported by

Anglesea & District
Community Bank® Branch



2018/19 Membership fees are now due. Historical Society is \$20 for the first family member per year and \$15 for other family members (this includes insurance). People over 90 are free (no insurance). Family History (optional extra) is \$15 per family. Please notify if extra \$15 is Family History or extra Historical member. FEES DUE 1 SEPTEMBER_Pay direct: Bendigo Bank—BSB 633 000, Account 1430 28421—reference, your name, **OR** post to PO Box 98, Anglesea, 3230

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.

SEPTEMBER OUTING Thursday 6 September
To *The Heights*, Geelong and Barwon River, leave 10.00am from History House. Lunch at *Commun Na Feine* Hotel Cost \$15 plus lunch at own expense.

OCTOBER Sunday 7th 2.00pm at History House
Speakers: Alan Poigndester & Dawn Hollibone
Topic: Remembering Anglesea.

Sunday 14 October 2.00pm Official Opening of the Bathing Box. All friends welcome

NOVEMBER Thursday 15th Outing to Queenscliffe

Maritime Museum. Leave History House 10.00 am, visit museum, then lunch along the Docks. Cost \$15, includes morning tea, transport and entry. Lunch at own cost.



DECEMBER Sunday 2nd at 2.00pm at History House.
Christmas Break-up.

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.

Historical Society Committee

President: Jan Morris Phone 5263 3085

Email - davejanmorris@bigpond.com

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

Email - karlj@netspace.net.au

Treasurer: Chris Guerow Phone 5264 7602

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Museum Curator: Susan Clarke 0438 070 560

Email - susanclarke3230@hotmail.com

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Committee Members:

June Ford: Phone: 5263 1874

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Jim Tutt Phone 5263 1227

Email - tutthj@yahoo.com.au

MUSEUM OPEN TIMES

Open & Staffed the second Sunday of the month
2.00 - 4.00 pm or by appointment - Ph. 5263 3085.

Unstaffed but open for browsing

Mondays & Thursdays 1.30 pm - 3.30pm

Tuesdays & Saturdays 10.30am – 1.00pm

Open every Sunday during School Holidays
2.00-4.00pm

Photographs

Anglesea & District Historical Society has an extensive collection of photographs. Orders to Jan Morris:
Phone: 5263 3085 Email -davejanmorris@bigpond.com

Prices		On high quality	On 100 gsm
		photo paper	fine finish paper
A4	8.26X11.69	\$15	\$8
A5	5.82X8.26	\$8	\$4
A6	4.13X5.82	\$4	\$2

Digital images for personal use only \$5 each

Anglesea & District Historical Society Inc.

Box 98 Anglesea 3230 Victoria Australia.

President's Pen

Forty members enjoyed our **Winter Feast** when Sergeant John Digby spoke about the grounding of the sailing ship *The Hereford* in 1881. John's great great grandfather, Constable David Digby drowned on duty when he went to the stranded ship. He left a widow and a family of eight children. Each generation since David's death have had members being part of the Victorian Police Force. John is currently stationed at Colac Police Station.

Peter Matthews also spoke, giving members a clear explanation of the **Family File** (FF). FF is developing a database of Anglesea and district families, showing all places where we have information stored about each family. After the meeting, members enjoyed a delicious lunch and had time to socialise.

Our history is being recorded for everyone in town to see. The new owners of the Angahook Café are Darren and Leanne Reynolds. Darren and Leanne have an interest in history, and have joined our society. They have mounted an historical display in their revamped Angahook Café which is now called **The Surfing Hub**. A section of their display depicts the grounding of the sailing ship *The Hereford*, that ran aground on Inglesby Reef in 1881. We look forward to further connections with Darren and Leanne.

Our plan to put a small garden shed in the back corner of our yard has come to fruition. Thanks to Keith Hornibrook and Kevin Pollard who have organized the preparation of the site and the transporting and re-erection of the shed. Gary Cooper of Anglesea Home Hardware has kindly donated the shed that was formerly in the yard of his store, that is closing down. The shed will be erected as soon as the new fence has been put up. Receiving this donated shed allows us to move the tools from the garage, so the garage can be returned to being used as a workroom.

The Bathing Box marine and maritime displays are being organized ready for the official opening on Sunday 14 October at 2.00pm. Thanks go to Marilyn Wendt for the internal painting; an awkward job well done. Susan Clarke has lead a small committee that has organized this shed. A grant from the Surfcoast Shire has provided the materials for the hanging photo display. Plan on being with us for the official opening.

We will have the museum open on Saturday and Sunday of ANGAIR weekend, Saturday 22 & Sunday 23 September. Then there will be a combined History Week, and Seniors Week from 7th to the 14 October. It will be a busy week for us as we have some new displays and will especially welcome seniors. On Tuesday 9 October we will hold a Seniors *Sharing Our History* Day. This should be a fun time of remembering when and looking at our museum items. There will be a morning session starting at 11.00am followed by a hot lunch or lunch at 12.30 followed by an afternoon session. Entry will be by a gold coin donation.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Helen Tutt in July. Helen was the wife of Jim Tutt one of our valued committee members. Helen was responsible for our indigenous garden that surrounds History House. With two other people, Helen designed the garden, prepared the area, planted it and maintained it. Helen has also donated several interesting items to our museum. We are grateful to Helen for her support over the years. Our sincere sympathy is extended to Jim and their son Tim. There will be a celebration of Helen's life on Friday 7 September at 3.00pm at the Anglesea Bowling Club. I encourage all Historical Society members to join in this celebration.

We have several interesting activities coming up soon. On Thursday 9 September we will be visiting *The Heights*, former home of Louis Melville Whyte, who introduced surfing to the Surf Coast. We will have lunch at the *Commun Na Feiine* Hotel. On the way home we will visit the sites of former noxious industries, along the banks of the Barwon River. The booking sheet for this outing is on the front desk or phone me on 5263 3085.

At our October meeting, brother and sister Alan Poigndester and Dawn Holibone will recall their early times in Anglesea. Our AGM is also coming up in October. All positions on the committee are declared vacant, so please consider nominating and if interested speak to someone who currently on the committee (see list on page 2).

In November we will visit the Maritime Museum at Queenscliffe and among other things, see the mini cannon found at Point Roadknight earlier this year. This museum is an interesting place to browse. An attendant will point out some of the special items of interest. We will have lunch along the docks. There is a booking sheet for this outing on the front desk.

Jan Morris, President

LACHLAN RICHARDSON'S EARLY MEMORIES OF AIREYS INLET

This article was written by the late Lachlan Richardson in 2004 for the Bark Hut display at Aireys Inlet. Lachie served as a committee member of ADHS. He passed away in May 2018. Editor

In 1938 my father Cyril Richardson and my grandfather Alfred Richardson bought land on the cliff top at Aireys and built a fibro garage in which we 'camped' over holiday and weekend periods. The toilet with a pan was half way down the cliff at the back of the garage. My father and grandfather, who were both builders, built a fibro house in 1939. It had a lounge room with a plate glass window that was very large for its day. The lounge room had a veranda around three sides and an open fireplace with a local limestone facing. The front door had a round glass window in it depicting a crayfish. The house was named Cray Cottage. The kitchen had a black one-fire stove. Two bedrooms were off the kitchen. There was a small bathroom off the back veranda at



the back of the kitchen. On a shelf on the back veranda was the Coolgardie Safe, as there was no refrigerator. Over the years another bedroom was added by enclosing part of the front veranda on the east side. I remember sleeping on the front veranda on the west side behind a roller blind. The front entrance to the house was by this front veranda that was accessed by a fishing box for a step. The house had a tea-tree hedge and a wire fence topped with barbed wire enclosed the block. Further improvements were gradually made to the house by enclosing the back veranda, installing a hot water system and shower. A tank on an overhead stand fed the shower. The purchase of a shellite petrol stove obviated lighting the wood stove in summer. A small Vulcan electric stove again superseded this. For the January holidays the fridge was brought down from Melbourne on a trailer. It had to be manhandled with ropes to get it on and off with the whole effort being repeated to get it back at the end of the holidays.

Before purchasing the block and building the garage, the family camped on the cliff top in the hollow that is now Costa's back yard. I have been told that before this the family rented the lighthouse keeper's cottage before it was sold in 1937. The cliff top at Aireys in the early days was all grazing land with no bushes for protection against the strong winds often experienced. The track up to the lighthouse (present Federal Street) was just two wheel tracks. The lighthouse was enclosed by an eight-foot wire fence. As there was no garbage collection in Aireys we used to throw our rubbish down the cliff. Seems terrible but with no plastic packaging most things would biodegrade or rust.

Every morning I had to take a billy can across the paddocks to Albert Anderson's milking shed beside the hotel to collect milk for the day. Between Step beach and the Hotel was cleared land where the cows grazed. This paddock was enclosed by a post and rail fence. We had worn a track across this between our house and the hotel. The hotel had the store and post office out the back served by Joe Butler. Eaglerock Parade started off as two-wheel tracks, which followed the cliff line. When the ruts got too deep a new set of tracks was made further in from the cliff. Some remains of these tracks can still be seen today. In wet weather I can remember much slipping and sliding of the car as it tried to negotiate these tracks. I cannot remember what Lighthouse Road looked like in the early days and whether it had gravel on it. I do know that a friend of the Cameron's who owned a 1907 Dennis had to come up the hill in reverse.

We spent our time catching crayfish from under the rocks at low tide and fishing for leatherjackets and parroties and bluenose. To get the crayfish we tied muttonfish flesh (abalone) to a piece of string on a pole and lowered it down to the sea floor. We used a glass-bottomed box so we could see the bait and if a crayfish was there it would walk out from under the rock to the bait. When it was out from the rock, fishing net was placed behind it and it would flip back into the net and be captured. We fished off various rocks that were all given names, *Table Rock, Horseshoe Rock, Eagle Rock, Swimmoff Rock, Jumpover Rock, Berthons Ledge, Discovery Ledge*. You had to get out there as early as possible in the low tide, to beat the "Knees" family to the place, as they were also keen on Cray fishing. The largest crayfish were caught off *Eagle Rock* but this was only suitable in very calm weather. We drowned the crayfish in a tub filled with fresh water. If you boiled them before drowning, they kicked off their legs. To get to

Swimoff Rock we later bought an inflatable yellow dingy to get there in a reasonably dry condition. We also used to drag a net in the various bays along the coast between Aireys and Red Rocks (Urquharts Bluff). As I was taller than my father I had to take one end of the net out to deep water (past all the stingrays) while my father held the other end in the shallow water. After encircling the bay and any fish it may contain the net was dragged ashore. Sometimes we got hundreds of garfish and distributed them to other families that were holidaying near the lighthouse such as the Knees, Fitzgeralds, Chesterfields, Maddens and Vouels. Sometimes stingrays were caught in the net and we killed them by dropping large rocks on their heads. One time this caused half a dozen small stingrays to be born. It was a time when there were not many people around and there was plenty of fish and crayfish.

If you wanted firewood you just went into the forest and collected it. Of course there was petrol rationing and sometimes we came down by service car, which was a long bus with longitudinal seats with an outside door for each row of seats. During the war we had to cover all our windows with blackout screens every night. A mine was washed up near Eagle Rock during the war years. The store at the hotel had no refrigeration and we used to get meat dropped off from the butcher at Lorne, to a box serving the Angahook homestead. When Selby Café opened on the Ocean Road we were able to get our first ice cream at Aireys. Jack Suter later opened the present store and all the teenagers used to congregate there of an evening eating sundaes and ice creams.

On hot summer evenings families congregated on the cliff top where Costa's is now and tobogganed down the slope. Every family had made a toboggan. Body surfing at the mouth of the river was also another way the families enjoyed themselves. Some had those long wooden surfboards with a curved up front. Some evenings were spent singing songs at the Knees house as they had an old pedal organ. The road up to Bambra was not one to be attempted in winter or after heavy rain. It was just a dirt track. The lookout at the top of Peters Hill consisted of a tall tree with spikes driven into it to for climbing.

My grandfather stayed at the house at Aireys for a while after the war, building houses. He built houses for the Maddens near the lighthouse and for Gay Tennant on the sand ridge at Fairhaven. He used to have a midday meal at Cowan's guesthouse at Fairhaven. The only evidence of his handy work after the Ash Wednesday fires is Maddens fibro garage in Federal Street.

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE BOAT SHED?

Jan Morris

Many people have noticed that one of the three boatsheds along the river has been demolished. These boatsheds are an icon of Anglesea, so the demolition of one has caused considerable anxiety in the town. Do not fear it will be rebuilt to look exactly like the original one.

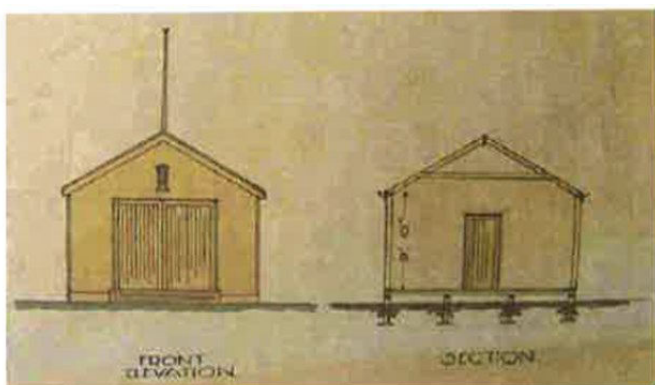
The three boatsheds were privately owned, The centre one was originally built in 1916 for the Bingley family. It later passed to the Hedley family. Geoff Caldwell, Director of Baptist Camping, told me that Camp Wilkin purchased the middle shed that was in a bad state of repair. At a cost of over \$100,000 they are rebuilding it to current strict standards. The new floor will be on stumps that are more than seven metres deep. Any of the old timbers that are useable will be reused in the rebuilding to make it as authentic as possible. The doors and vents on the ends will be returned to the rebuilt shed. The mezzanine floor in the roof space will also be re-erected.

Camp Wilkin have the original plans that were designed by architects Laird & Buchan of Geelong. According to Winchelsea Shire documents, the shed was restored by Bingleys' in 1951. It was then used by Hedley to conduct his boat hiring business from.

Camp Wilkin intend to use it for canoeing. As part of providing water related experiences mainly for young people.

There will be racks on the inside walls to store the canoes, oars, life vests and other equipment. The canoes will be available for use by groups visiting Camp Wilkin, mainly school groups.

So be patient because in time the boat shed will reappear, looking just like it once did. You will see groups of young people doing boating activities from that boat shed which will again be fully utilized.



Laird & Buchan, Elevation & Section Drawing of Bingley Boat Shed, 1916. Source: Geelong Heritage Centre, GRS 401, B60.

LIONS CLUB OF ANGLESEA 50th ANNIVERSARY

Jan Morris

The Lions Club of Anglesea celebrated 50 years of serving the community of Anglesea and district, on Monday 7 May 2018. The Lions Club was formed in May 1968 on the initiative of long term Anglesea residents, Ernie Lloyd and Brian Butterworth. A public meeting was held on 24 May 1958. The Club was sponsored by the Sunshine Lions Club and the charter meeting was held on 26 August 1968.



June Taylor and Leon Wilson present Betty Butterworth with flowers at the 50th anniversary dinner.

The charter meeting was a black tie affair with all the ladies dressed in their best evening gowns complete with furs. There were 21 members in the original charter club (there are 22 today). They ranged from a policeman, a milkman, a builder, and a plumber to a newsagent. The wives of the Lions members formed an auxiliary and assisted in various fundraising efforts over the years. However, after about 10 years the Lioness Club of Anglesea was formed out of the ladies auxiliary and it continues to this day as a separate club with its own office bearers and finances.

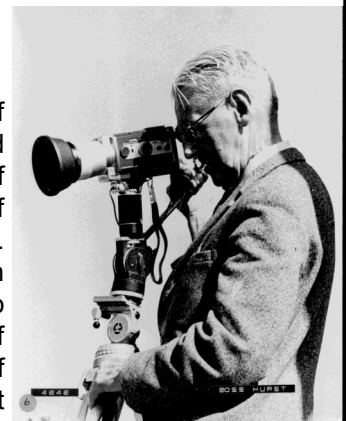
Anglesea is unique in that respect, having a Lions and a Lioness Club in such a small town. The first project of the Lions Club was to fund the new Senior Citizens hall with furniture and equipment. In the early days the club focused on raising funds through lucky envelopes, as well as newspaper and bottle drives. Fire wood was gathered and passed on to needy families, In 1969 Anglesea Lions sponsored the Hamlyn Heights Lions Club in Geelong. Today the Lions support a wide range of charities and sporting clubs in the town, as well as national and international Lions Projects. The most recent project has been the provision of ultrasound medical equipment at the Anglesea Medical Centre. A current project is the provision of defibrillators in cooperation with the Anglesea Community Bank. For such a small community it is sometimes said that the Anglesea Lions *punch above their weight* in terms of activity and fundraising.

Betty Butterworth, aged 91 years, wife of Brian Butterworth ("Lion Brian") one of the founding members of the Anglesea Lions, was the guest speaker at the anniversary dinner held at the Anglesea Hotel. She recounted the early days of the Lions Club in Anglesea and gave an insight into the early activities of the Lions. She is still an active member of the Anglesea Lioness Club and so has completed 50 years of service in one way or another through the Lions movement, to the community of Anglesea.

BOSS HURST and the vision he realised at ANGLESEA

At our August meeting Rex Bills shared with us about the Scouting Movement. Anglesea would never have been the centre of scouting without the vision of Harold "Boss" Hurst. It began in 1923 and continued for fifty years when "Boss" died. He had been presented to King George V and his grand-daughter Queen Elizabeth II, and yet his door throughout had been wide open to thousands of boys, regardless of race, class or creed.

For fifty years Boss was "Scouting" in Geelong. A bachelor, he was father to thousands of boy scouts and his influence on them was lasting. He gathered around him a dedicated group in the early 1920's and inspired them to assist him in his vision. Being a man of vision, who was not willing to sit idle and dream, he had his battles with the bureaucrats of the Scouting Movement especially about his concept of what a scout camp should be. Eumeralla is a lasting monument to "Boss" Hurst and his vision. Boss became interested in Scouting in 1923 as a young man of 32. He was requested by Sir Alfred D Pickford to become the Scout Commissioner for Geelong area and to develop the movement. One of his first achievements was the establishment of the first Camp, *Eumeralla*, on the banks of the Anglesea River, several kilometres from the site of the present camp. The Scout camps became very popular with more Scouts coming to each one. When the Scouting camps outgrew the riverside site, it was Boss who chose and negotiated the present site and was responsible for the early buildings on it. Boss's own house still remains on the site today.



From research of Keith Cecil