

# shire of eltham historical society

p.o. box 137, eltham, victoria, 3095.

## newsletter no.15 november 1980

NEXT MEETING 8P.M. WED., 12TH NOVEMBER, 1980

WAR MEMORIAL HALL

905 MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM

SUBJECT: LUCKY DIP - EXAMINATION OF COUNCIL HISTORICAL RECORDS

records of the Shire of Eltham contain many items of historical interest. Some, such as early rate records and minutes are of considerable importance for historical research but are of little general interest. Conversely the extensive collection of photographs which has been accumulated in the past 10 years has been the subject of considerable interest from members of the public and has formed the basis of a number of historical displays.

Between these two extremes is a large amount of material which, while not having the instant appeal of the photographs, is particularly interesting to anyone who takes the time to read through it. The material includes extracts from archival sources, personal reminiscences, copies of old maps, newspaper cuttings etc. Much of it was collected as research material for Pioneers and Painters. It is not catalogued and examination is somewhat of a lucky dip. In fact some of the contents are a quite unknown quantity. At this meeting these records will be available for members to browse through. The aim is to provide interesting reading for members but at the same time it would be desirable if notes of the contents are kept.

This meeting is the last for 1980.

### WERRIBEE PARK EXCURSION

This year's Christmas function will be an excursion to Werribee Park on Sunday 14th December. The former Chirnside estate has been developed as a tourist facility with the major attraction being the historic mansion. Transport is to be by private car but due to the popularity of this venue it is proposed that members should meet before entering the property. Meeting point is to be the northern driveway off K Road south of Werribee (Melway 201, D 1) at 11.30am. Bring your own lunch and portable barbeque (Park barbeques are likely to be fully booked.)

Admission charges are \$2.50 adults, 70c children and students, \$1.00 pensioners. A group discount is available on production of membership card.

### ELTHAM COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Once again the Society has won a prize for its float in the Festival Parade. The \$50 prize for the best local effort was donated by Statewide Building Society. We thank Statewide for this prize and commend its positive attitude to involvement in Community affairs.

Our float was based on the theme of "Pioneers of Eltham" and was accompanied by members in period costumes. Some members of the Victorian Folk Music Club provided appropriate music and the float was lead by local identity Jock Read on horseback.

As for last year major credit for preparation of the float must go to Joh Ebell. Joh was assisted by a small group of members. Thanks and congratulations are due to Joh and his helpers. In particular Joh would like to thank Mark Gough for his assistance. While we are handing out thanks we must not forget Eltham Hardware and Plumbing Supplies who donated the material for the float and Peter Quirke the fruiterer of Diamond Creek for the loan of his truck.

### YARRA VALLEY METROPOLITAN PARK

A further report of the M.M.P.W. has been provided for the society's records. It is entitled Yarra Valley Metropolitan Park, Report for Proposed Development. It is the culmination of a series of reports on the park which will ultimately extend on each side of the Yarra River from Fairfield to Warrandyte.

The extensive report contains many maps depicting various aspects of the proposed park development. It contains some historical information but is mainly of general interest.

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