

# SHIRE OF ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 137 ELTHAM VICTORIA 3095

## NEWSLETTER

№32

SEPTEMBER 1983

### NEXT MEETING

8 PM, WEDNESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER, 1983

ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM

FILM NIGHT FEATURING

"THE PRIZE" FILMED IN

ELTHAM IN 1959

VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

### OTHER COMING ACTIVITIES

"Coolart" Excursion, Sunday 23rd, October

Eltham Community Festival

Friday 14th, Saturday 15th, October

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

At this meeting we will show films of local and general interest provided by the State Film Centre. They will include:-

- \*"The Prize" - An early Tim Burstall film about the problems of a boy who wins a goat as a prize. Eltham residents will recognize the scenery and some parts are played by local identities.
- \*"Victorian Vintage" - A film about Victorian wineries including "Yeringberg" near Yarra Glen which has been the subject of a Society excursion.
- \*"Preserving Our National Heritage" - A 1964 film showing some of the earlier work of the National Trust in the field of preservation of historic buildings.

Please note the change in the venue for this meeting. It is intended that meetings now be held at the Senior Citizens Centre on a regular basis. It is located at the rear of the War Memorial Hall and access is obtained from the drive on the north side of the Eltham Shire Offices.

### EXCURSION TO "COOLART"

The Society's second excursion for 1983 will be held Sunday 23rd October. The destination will be "Coolart" at Somers on Westernport Bay. This property comprises an 1895 homestead with many outbuildings and situated in grounds of some 85 hectares which are being actively managed as a sanctuary. A large swamp area supports an impressive population of water birds and includes specially constructed viewing areas. "Coolart" is managed by well known naturalist Graham Pizzey.

The excursion will be by bus and will include brief stops at nearby places of interest. It will leave the Eltham Shire Offices at 10am sharp. Please be there by 9-30am. There are picnic facilities at "Coolart" and everybody should bring a picnic lunch. Note these details now because there will be no further Newsletter before the excursion.

We have booked a 24 seat bus so costs will be a little higher than for other recent excursions. However they have again been kept lower than would otherwise be the case because of the voluntary efforts of Bruce Ness as driver. If bookings are significantly in excess of 24 we can use a larger bus with the possibility of a refund on fares.

Bus fares will be:-  
Adults \$5-50      Children \$3-00

Entry to "Coolart" (not included in bus fare) is \$2-00 but with concessions for children & pensioners.

(Continued)

Procedure for booking will be as follows:-

1. Bookings will only be accepted on completion of the attached form and payment of the full bus fare.
2. Bookings may be posted or made in person at the September meeting.
3. Non-members are welcome but preference will be given to members in accordance with the following formula:-
  - (a) Two lists will be prepared - members and non-members.
  - (b) The members list may include one non-member to accompany each member (in addition to any children).
  - (c) The non-members list will include additional non-members in excess of one per member and those not accompanied by a member.
  - (d) Preference in bookings will be given to the members list until 7th October. After that date any available seats will be allocated to persons on the non-members list.
  - (e) In the case of each list seats will be allocated on the basis of order of receipt of booking. Non-members may book before 7th October and a refund will be made if seats are not available.

#### ELTHAM COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

This year's festival will be held on the weekend of 15th and 16th October. As usual the Society will participate. The main involvement will be in the Grand Parade through Eltham on Saturday 15th. In addition a display will be organized as part of the weekend activities at the Eltham Community Centre.

Involvement of members will be required as follows:-

1. Setting up the float on Friday 14th and possibly early Saturday morning. It is essential that sufficient members assist with this work or there is a risk that we won't have a float. In past years the float has been set up by a very small number of people.
2. Participation in the parade itself which commences at 12 noon. Plan to be there half an hour early, dressed in period clothing. Members can either ride on the float or walk with it. As in past years we will have members of the Victorian Folk Music Club with us to provide appropriate music.

Please advise the Secretary as soon as possible if you are able to assist with the preparation or intend to join in the parade. DON'T FORGET AND DON'T LEAVE IT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE OR YOU MAY FIND THAT IT IS CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF SUPPORT BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE HAS DONE THE SAME.

The theme of the Society's display is to be "Notable Local Residents" Due to lack of material on some people fitting this category and to limited space, the display cannot be comprehensive. Anyone with material suitable for display should contact the Secretary. Subjects can be present-day residents or people who made a significant contribution in the past.

Participation in the festival will be further discussed at the September meeting.

#### NEW LOCAL HISTORY PUBLICATION

Leader Newspapers are about to publish a book entitled "Eltham Shire - Historic Buildings People and Places". It is based on a series of articles written by Marguerite Marshall which appeared some time ago in the Diamond Valley News. Twenty buildings or places of historic interest are described. Each is illustrated with photos by Ron Grant.

Financial assistance for the publication has been given by the Shire of Eltham and Brunsdon Pump Supplies and this will enable the cost to be kept down to about \$2.50.

The Society intends to purchase a number of books for sale to members. It is expected that all members will want a copy for themselves and the book will make an ideal and inexpensive present.

A proof of the book will be available for perusal at the September meeting and orders will be taken then.

Kath Stephenson  
President  
439 9588

Russell Yeoman  
Secretary  
439 9717

SHIRE OF ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"COOLART" TRIP - OCTOBER 23rd. 1983

NAME.....

PHONE NO. ....

Please reserve the following seats:-

Members List

Non-Members List

Adult Members .....

Adults.....

Adult-Non-members.....  
(Maximum 1 per member)

Children.....

Children.....

Amount enclosed (Adults \$5.50, Children \$3.00) - .....

NOTE: 1. Seats will be allocated to the non-members list after 7th October.

2. Entrance fee to "Coolart" is additional.

Return this form with payment to Society meeting or P.O.Box 137  
Eltham. 3095.