

# SHIRE OF ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 137 ELTHAM VICTORIA 3095

## NEWSLETTER

№ 36

MAY 1984

### NEXT MEETING

8 PM WEDNESDAY 9 TH MAY 1984

ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE

MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM

(ENTER FROM SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)

### MARJORIE MOTSCHALL WILL SPEAK

ON HER BOOK "WILDWOOD DAYS AT PANTON HILL"

Marjorie Motschall originally intended to write a family history for members of her family. More recently she decided that the book should be more widely circulated and spent last year preparing it for publication. The result is a history of the Panton Hill area and the Motschall and Smith families that is eminently readable. It contains many highly amusing anecdotes of early life in the area.

Mrs. Motschall is particularly pleased with sales of the book since it was launched about 6 weeks ago. She has had many readers contact her personally to express the pleasure they found in the book.

At the May meeting Mrs. Motschall will talk about the book itself and of course about its subject matter. Copies of her book will be available for purchase at \$9.95 each.

### OFFICE BEARERS 1984

At the Society's Annual General Meeting on 14th March, the following office bearers and committee members were elected.

<u>PRESIDENT</u>	Kath Stephenson.
<u>VICE PRESIDENTS</u>	Cr. Alan Baker. Margie Reeves.
<u>SECRETARY</u>	Russell Yeoman.
<u>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</u>	Opal Smith.
<u>TREASURER</u>	Graham Beyer.
<u>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</u>	Bruce Ness Peter Bassett Smith, Phyllis Macdonald, Alan Gardner, Sue Law, Jim Sidwell, Jock Read, Neil Blair.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

1984 subscriptions are now due. Subs have been fixed at the same level as for past few years.

Adults	\$4.00
Students	\$1.00
Families	\$5.00

Income from subs provides the major part of the Society's operating expenses and it is helpful if payment is made promptly. If you have not already paid, please complete the attached form and send with your subs to the Society's Post Office box or bring it to the next meeting.

### VISIT BY WILLIAMSTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Following our visit to Williamstown in 1982, an invitation was extended to Williamstown Historical Society to visit Eltham. That offer has now been taken up and the visit will be on Wednesday 23rd May. We will be providing a guide for a bus tour around the area, and afternoon tea will be arranged for our visitors. Please contact Opal Smith if you are able to assist with afternoon tea.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Society members have been involved in a busy round of activities over recent weeks.

The Annual General Meeting was well attended. Following the formal business of the meeting, members heard Peter Cuffley talk in a most relaxed style on the very interesting subject of cottage gardens.

On 8th April over 40 members and friends travelled by bus to Portarlinton and Queenscliff. The main places visited were The Old Mill at Portarlinton, Fort Queenscliff and the Queenscliff Historical Centre. A commentary was provided on a number of other interesting locations on the way. Once again Bruce Ness is to be thanked for providing his services as driver. This trip provided a very full day of travelling and activities and those who attended seemed to find it most interesting and enjoyable.

The Eltham Shire Council's collection of historical photos has now been installed in the Eltham Library and is available for inspection on request. The official opening of the collection on 12th April was performed by Cr. Alan Horsley, Chairman of the Heidelberg Regional Library Committee. It was also attended by the Shire President, Cr. Alan Baker, a small group of Society members and library staff.

Most of the photos have been prepared for this new system by Society members, and thanks are extended to those who have helped. A small number of photos remain to be mounted and anyone who can help with this should contact Russell Yeoman.

The librarian has prepared a detailed subject index of the photos.

VICTORIA'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

The Society is represented on a committee convened by the Shire President for the purpose of arranging local celebrations for the 150th Anniversary. Activities will begin in November next and extend over the ensuing year.

The Committee has had one meeting and will soon consider specific proposals for the celebrations.

The matter of any suggestions from this Society will be considered at the meeting on 9th April.

A number of suggestions have been put to the Committee, and these will be listed at the meeting.

Kath Stephenson  
President

439 9588

Russell Yeoman  
Secretary

439 9717

Opal Smith  
Membership  
Secretary  
439 8209