

SHIRE OF ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 137 ELTHAM VICTORIA 3095

NEWSLETTER

№39

NOVEMBER 1984

NEXT MEETING

8PM. WEDNESDAY 14TH. NOVEMBER
SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTRE
OFF MAIN ROAD ELTHAM
(ENTER FROM SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)

FILM NIGHT FEATURING FILMS
ON ALAN MARSHALL AND OTHER
SUBJECTS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

ELTHAM FESTIVAL PARADE
12 NOON SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

CHRISTMAS BARBEQUE
6.30 PM WEDNESDAY 12TH DECEMBER
ELTHAM TOWN PARK

NEXT MEETING

The November meeting will feature films from the State Film Centre. "Gurrawilla" is one of a series of three films dealing with the life of the late Alan Marshall, well known to members as an Eltham resident and one of Australia's most famous authors.

This film deals mainly with Alan's work with the Aboriginal people.

"Search for Identity" is a case study of restoration of a Cobb & Co. coach house in central Victoria. It deals extensively with the methods of historical research used for the project.

"Highways Making History" is a Country Roads Board film which shows how roads reflect Victorian history. Other short films will also be shown if time permits.

As usual new members and visitors are welcome to our meeting.

ELTHAM COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

The Society is again arranging a float for the Festival parade. Members are requested to dress appropriately to the theme "Pioneers of Eltham". The parade starts at 12 noon and participants should assemble at 11.30am in Cecil Street. If you can assist at any time on Friday with preparation of the float, please advise Russell Yeoman. Members may either ride or walk with the float. As in past parades we hope to have a number of members of the Victorian Folk Music Club join us. This group greatly adds to the occasion with their happy music.

The Society is also arranging a display at the Eltham Community Centre in association with the activities there over the Festival weekend. The theme of this year's display will be the waterways of the local area.

CHRISTMAS BARBEQUE

The last Society function for the year will be a barbeque in the Eltham Town Park on Wednesday 12th December, starting at about 6.30pm. Similar Christmas break-ups in the last few years have proved quite popular. The location will be the electric barbeque nearest to Shillinglaw Cottage. Bring your own food, drinks, music and whatever.

MALDON TRIP

A bus load of members and friends travelled to Maldon on 28th October. This proved to be a long but enjoyable day. Peter Bassett-Smith provided an interesting commentary on points of interest along the way. At Maldon local resident, Mrs. Frances Gray, guided the bus around the many interesting features and entertained members with her lively and knowledgeable comments.

Because our usual driver, Bruce Ness was recovering from an illness Mees Bus Lines provided a replacement driver at the cost of the company. Mees have provided us with excellent service over a number of years, but this action goes well beyond what could be reasonably expected, and is very much appreciated.

VICTORIA'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

The official date for celebration of the 150th is Saturday 17th November, but associated activities have already commenced and will continue over the next year. Many events at State level have already been well publicised and programmes of events are available. On a local level events will be publicized in the local press and by brochures which will be available from the Shire Offices and Eltham Library. The first local event is to be the Eltham Community Festival which will be on the actual anniversary weekend. Other items include concerts, church festivals, opening of a B.M.X. track at Eltham. The Shire is constructing a recreational trail at Eltham Lower Park with a \$20,000 grant from the State Government.

The Society's major activity will be the proposed bus tour on 24th March, 1985, covering the history of Eltham through its architecture. Other activities are tentatively planned for later in the year. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

ELTHAM, NEW ZEALAND.

As well as our own Eltham there are places of that name in England, northern New South Wales and New Zealand. Eltham, New Zealand is a rural town near the well known Mt. Egmont on the North Island. Following the visit of the mayor of their Eltham to our Eltham, the Council has been presented with a book by Russell Standish called Eltham, One Hundred Years, 1884-1984. This small book provides a very detailed history of the town. It contains a number of old photos but suffers from one severe drawback - it does not contain one map.

The Eltham Library hopes to obtain a copy of this book which should be of considerable interest to local residents.

VICTORIAN REGISTER OF MEMORIALS

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria has received a grant of \$15,000 for production of a register of significant memorials, monuments and markers as part of Victoria's 150th celebrations. The R.H.S.V. is seeking co-operation of historical societies and has asked that each society nominate a person responsible for co-ordinating information about local memorials. Any member willing to assist is asked to contact Russell Yeoman.

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VICTORIA 150
GROWING TOGETHER 1934-5

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