SHIRE OF ELTHAM NISTORICAL SOCIETY P.O. BOX 137 ELTHAM VICTORIA 3095 NEWSLETTER Nº40 JANUARY 1985

NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, 13th FEBRUARY, 1985 6.00pm. B.Y.O. BARBEQUE, ELTHAM TOWN PARK 8.00pm. MEETING, ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZENS <u>CENTRE, MAIN ROAD, (ENTER FROM</u> <u>SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)</u> MEETING TOPIC: DISCUSSION EVENING ON <u>VICTORIA'S 150th CELEBRATIONS</u> AND OTHER FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

Members who attended the Christmas barbecue considered it such a successful function that they thought we should start 1985 in a similar way. The barbecue will be a preliminary to our first meeting for the year and will be at the electric barbecue in the Town Park nearest to Shillinglaw Cottage. Bring your own choice of food and drink.

In the next few months there are a significant nubmer of activities to which the Society is committed or which are available as options for our participation. Many of these matters are related to the celebration of Victoria's 150th Anniversary.

Discussion is proposed to be on an informal basis with the 150th as a general theme. However some decisions need to be made and in particular the following matters fall into this category:-

1. Public Tour

"A History of Eltham Through Its Architecture".

The Society is committed to arrange this 150th Event on 24th March. The possibility of a preliminary tour for Society members will also be discussed.

2. Other 150th Events

Several other proposals have been suggested including a "time capsule" and compiling an historical register. There is no commitment involved and we need to decide how these matters should be handled.

3. Heritage Week

Heritage Week is held in April under the auspices of the National Trust. The Council has offered the Society \$300.00 to arrange appropriate Shire involvement. One possibility involves purchase of microfilm of the "Evelyn Observer" newspaper and arrangement of a display on this theme.

4. Society Trip

Over the past few years a bus trip has been arranged during March or April. The possibility of such a trip this year and co-ordination with other activities will be discussed.

5. Eltham Court House

The Society has for many years been interested in the preservation and possible use of the Eltham Court House. The trial closure of the court from February this year means that the future of the building is now uncertain. Eltham Council has expressed interest in acquiring the property from the Crown. The possibility of use by the Society should be discussed.

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