

SHIRE OF ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 137 ELTHAM VICTORIA 3095

NEWSLETTER

NO. 48 MAY 1986

NEXT MEETING

8 PM WEDNESDAY 14 MAY 1986
ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CENTRE
MAIN ROAD ELTHAM
(ENTER FROM SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)
GUEST SPEAKER - MRS. JUDITH HARLEY
SUBJECT " BESSIE WINGROVE - AN ELTHAM CHARACTER "

WORKSHOP MEETINGS /SOCIETY BANNER PROJECT

8 PM WEDNESDAYS 28 MAY & 25 JUNE
MERUKA HOUSE
MERUKA DRIVE, ELTHAM

1986 SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE

MORE DETAILS ON THESE ITEMS BELOW

MAY MEETING

Bessie Wingrove, M.A., 1870-1955, was, in her own right, a character of the Eltham of her time. She was also the daughter of C. S. Wingrove, Secretary and Engineer to the Eltham Road Board and Shire for many years. Wingrove was an important character in Eltham's history and his home, now called "Wingrove Cottage", is still in use today.

Bessie was one of the few early women graduates of Melbourne University. She was also known as an artist. Following her parents' death she remained at "Wingrove Cottage" for the rest of her life.

Mrs. Judith Harley is the President of the Women's Committee of the National Trust. On this subject she speaks from personal experience because of her friendship with the Wingrove family.

As usual, new members and visitors are welcome at this meeting.

SOCIETY BANNER PROJECT:

A small group of members attended the workshop meeting on 23rd April to hear the Shire's Community Arts Officer, Tracey Naughton, talk about the possibility of the Society making its own banner. Tracey has been involved in a number of such projects with other organizations. She has the necessary expertise and enthusiasm to provide instruction to members wishing to participate.

It was agreed that the Society should make a banner based on a map of the Shire with buildings and other features of interest shown in their respective locations. Each item of interest could be the project of an individual member and would then be sewn on to complete the banner. Each item would be cut from appropriate material with detail being applied by machining or fabric paint.

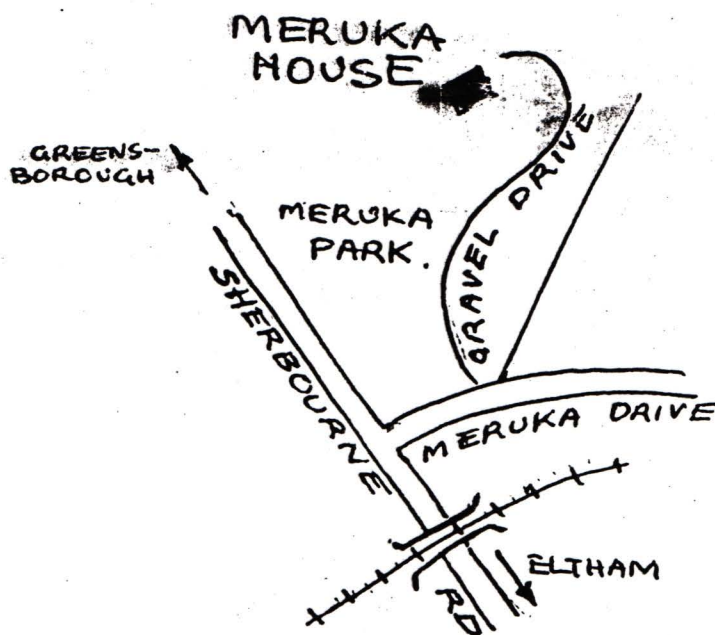
Members who attended were enthusiastic about the project. It is anticipated that additional members will want to become involved.

It is proposed to work on the banner at the next few workshop meetings which will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Dates for the next two are shown above. The venue will be Meruka House which is the Shire's Community Arts Centre and this will enable ready access to sewing machines and other useful equipment. A map showing the location of Meruka House is included in the Newsletter.

No special expertise is required to participate in this project. All members are invited to come along to find out more about it and hopefully to make a contribution. The finished banner will be used in a display of local banners and can then be used by the Society for such events as the Eltham Festival Parade.

~~Members wishing to work on other Society or individual historical projects are welcome to attend these workshops also.~~

~~Any member requiring transport should contact one of the people listed at the end of this Newsletter.~~



MONTMORENCY FRANCE:

A group of members from Montmorency has been collecting material to send to Montmorency, France. Blanche Shallard, Marjorie North and Opal Smith have now completed their collection and forwarded it to the Historical Society in the French town.

The collection includes an album of photos of Montmorency and posters of Australian birds and plants. Photo captions have been written in English and French with the help of Cecile Glass.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Society Subscriptions for 1986 are now due. Many members paid their subs at the Annual Meeting, but if you have not yet paid yours, then now is the right time to do it.

Please complete the attached Form and send with your subscription to the Society's Post Office Box or bring it to a Meeting.

Subscriptions are as follows:

Adult	-	\$5.00
Family	-	\$6.00
Student	-	\$1.00

OFFICE BEARERS 1986:

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on March 12th. Annual Reports by the President, Secretary and Treasurer were distributed at the meeting. Additional copies of these reports are available on request for members who were not able to attend the meeting.

Office bearers for 1986 were elected at this meeting and are as follows:

President	:	Sue Law
Vice	:	Cr. Alan Baker
Presidents	:	Kath Stephenson
Secretary	:	Russell Yeoman
Treasurer	:	Opal Smith
Membership Secretary	:	Opal Smith
Committee Members	:	(elected at Annual General Meeting and since co-opted by the Committee) Jock Read, Neil Blair, Phyllis Macdonald, Blanche Shallard, Bruce Ness.

Several former Committee members have not made themselves available for re-election, generally due to the pressure of other commitments. They include Peter Bassett-Smith and Graham Beyer who have in the past held the positions of President and Treasurer, respectively. Both have served as office bearers and committee members over many years and are to be thanked for their efforts. It is anticipated that their experience will still be available to the Society when required for specific projects.

The Annual General Meeting authorized the appointment of an auditor but has left that appointment to the Committee.

GEE LONG TRIP:

A bus load of members and friends spent an enjoyable day touring the Geelong area on 27th April. Despite a wet start, the weather of the majority of the day was only threatening and, at some stages, the sun even shone.

Major features of the trip were visits to the National Trust properties "Barwon Grange" and "The Heights". We also drove through a number of interesting areas of Geelong and visited the small town of Ceres in the Barrabool Hills.

President,
Sue Law,
439-9520.

Secretary,
Russell Yeoman,
439-9717.

Treasurer/Membership Secretary,
Opal Smith,
439-8209.