



Shire of Eltham Historical Society

NEWSLETTER

NO. 51 NOVEMBER 1986

P.O. BOX 137 ELTHAM VICTORIA 3095

COMING EVENTS

ELTHAM FESTIVAL PARADE
11.45 AM. SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER 1986

NEXT MEETING
8 PM. WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBER, 1986
SENIOR CITIZENS' CENTRE
MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM
(ENTER FROM SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)
SPEAKER: ANN THOMAS
SUBJECT : " THE YARRA TRACK-ELTHAM TO WOODS POINT".

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION
6.30 PM WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER, 1986
ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CENTRE

MORE DETAILS BELOW

ELTHAM COMMUNITY FESTIVAL:

This year's festival will be held from 7th to 9th November - that's this coming weekend. The parade will be held at noon on Saturday.

Our entry will rely largely on members' participation. Please come along dressed in an appropriate costume to ride in one of the vehicles or walk along with them. Our "float" this year will consist of Ben Hall's Cobb & Co. coach and it is also planned to have several vintage motor vehicles. Costumes should be Victorian to go with the coach and 1920's with the cars, but really any suitable period costume will do.

A further feature of the parade will be the use of our Society banner. The assembly point is in Cecil St. at 11.45 a.m.

NOVEMBER MEETING:

Ann Thomas's family comes from Marysville, one of the major towns along the Yarra Track. Although Ann had moved away from Marysville for some time she has now returned to that town to live.

Ann has carried out extensive research into the coach route to the Woods Point diggings known as the Yarra Track. She has written a book called "The Last of the Yarra Track Stopping Places," and is currently researching a more comprehensive book on the same subject.

The route of the track from Melbourne to Woods Point was via Eltham, Kangaroo Ground, Yarra Flats (Yarra Glen), New Cheem (Healesville) and Marysville. Apparently the Yarra Track "officially" started at Eltham.

This talk will cover a topic of local and general interest - Ann's expertise in this subject will ensure that it is covered at an appropriate level of detail.

As usual visitors and friends are most welcome at our meeting.

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION:

The Christmas break-up function will follow the same format as last year. That is, it will be a social function with music from the members of the Victorian Folk Music Club. Bring along a plate of food to share and whatever you like to drink.

The date is Wednesday 10th Dec. and you can come at 6.30 p.m. or any convenient time after that. The location is the Eltham Senior Citizens' Centre.

BANNER PROJECT:

The banner is now complete and together with banners produced by other groups has been in displays at the Community Centre, Woolworth's Arcade and other locations. It is to be used next in the Festival Parade.

The banner has received much favourable comment and this is a project that the Society can be proud of. Thanks to all members and friends who helped make the banner and to those who have assisted the organisers of the displays.

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

The associated events of the September meeting and the bus trip to Gulf Station and Toolangi proved quite successful.

Caroline Phillips' talk and slides on Gulf Station were an excellent preparation for the trip.

The bus trip was at a more leisurely pace than some we have done. There was adequate time to explore Gulf Station and its re-created old world garden. We also had time to visit the Coranderrk Aboriginal Cemetery at Healesville on the way to Toolangi.

At Toolangi we were treated to an excellent guided tour of the "Singing Garden" of C.J. Dennis by Jan Williams, proprietor of the Arden Tea Rooms. As well as describing the various features of the gardens. Jan was able to introduce many anecdotes about the famous poet and his wife (who seemed to have a major responsibility for the creation of the gardens).

The September meeting was held at the Judge Book Memorial Village. This seemed a most satisfactory arrangement for residents of the Village and we may schedule more meetings here in the future.

Sue Law,
President.
439-9520

Russell Yeoman,
Secretary,
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Opal Smith,
Treas/Membership Sec.
439-8209