



Shire of Eltham Historical Society

NEWSLETTER

NO. 54

MAY 1987

P.O. BOX 137 ELTHAM VICTORIA 3095

NEXT MEETING

8 PM WEDNESDAY 13 MAY 1987

ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CENTRE

MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM

(ENTER FROM SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)

1. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
SOCIETY INCORPORATION.
 2. BOOK NIGHT FEATURING BOOKS
ON LOCAL HISTORICAL SUBJECTS.
-

WORKSHOP MEETINGS

SOCIETY RECORDS & RESEARCH

8 PM WEDNESDAYS 27 MAY & 24 JUNE 1987

YEOMAN HOUSE

7 PETER STREET, ELTHAM

1987 SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING:

In accordance with notice given in the March Newsletter, this meeting will consider the matter of incorporation of the Society under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981. Whilst there are a number of advantages in becoming incorporated the major one, as far as this Society is concerned, is that the liability of any member is limited.

The Committee has considered this matter and recommends that members authorize the incorporation of the Society. In accordance with the provisions of the Act the matters to be considered by the meeting are as follows:-

1. Authority for a person to incorporate the Society.
2. Approval of a proposed statement of purposes.
3. Approval of proposed rules.

The Committee's recommendation is that Mr. Neil Blair be authorized to incorporate the Society. A draft of the proposed statement of purposes and rules is sent to members with this Newsletter. It should be noted that these may be changed if so determined at the meeting.

Whilst it is expected that this section of the meeting will be very short, it is not desired to discourage full consideration of the statement of purposes and rules if that is required by members.

BOOK NIGHT:

We have just completed our Heritage Week display featuring sources of local heritage information, mainly books. Collection of these books together at the one time has shown that there is a surprising number of books which deal, at least in part, with the history of this area. They range from collectors' items such as Victoria and Metropolis 1888, to small booklets produced by local schools and other organizations. Also featured were books by local authors, notably Alan Marshall. A number of first editions of his early books were used.

It is proposed to devote this meeting to an examination of these books (and a few which would not fit in the display). The format will be a brief introduction to each book by Russell Yeoman, followed by discussion and examination of the books.

As usual, visitors and new members are most welcome.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

At the Annual General Meeting on March 11th the following office bearers and committee members were elected:-

President	Sue Law
Vice Presidents	Kath Stephenson, Neil Blair
Secretary	Russell Yeoman
Treasurer/Membership Secretary	Opal Smith
Committee	Phyllis Macdonald, Blanche Shallard, Mary Regan, Bruce Ness, Jock Read.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subscriptions for 1987 are the same as for last year and are now payable. Many members paid at the Annual General Meeting but those who have not should complete the enclosed form and send it with their subscription to the Society's post office box or bring it to the next meeting. Prompt payment would be appreciated.

Subscriptions are as follows:

ADULT MEMBERS	\$5.00
STUDENT MEMBERS	\$1.00
FAMILY	\$6.00

SOCIETY TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY:

A number of functions have been listed in the Society's programme for this year to celebrate our twentieth anniversary. The first function will be a dinner to take the place of our usual July meeting. The cost will be \$18.00 per head which includes everything except drinks (which will be B.Y.O.) There will not be enough time to arrange bookings after the July Newsletter so the booking form is included with this Newsletter. The form should be completed and returned with payment at the May meeting or sent to the Society's post office box.

The time and date of the dinner is 7.00 WEDNESDAY, JULY 8TH and it will be held at:

St. Margaret's Church Hall, Pitt Street, Eltham.

Mini-bus transport is to be arranged from Judge Book Village. Guest Speaker will be ANDREW MACKENZIE author of the recently published book "Walter Withers, the Forgotten Manuscripts"

This function is primarily for members. However, there are no strict rules and members are quite welcome to bring a partner or friend who is not a member.

Arrangements have been made to produce twentieth anniversary souvenir wine glasses featuring the Society's logo. These will be sold for \$2.50 each and will be available at the dinner. Advance orders not necessary.

Bruce and Joy Ness's display of the Society's historical collection on July 19th is also intended to be generally for Society members. More details will be provided in the July Newsletter.

The Afternoon Tea planned for October 10th is intended to be a more public celebration of the 20th Anniversary. Appropriate people such as Councillors, former members, representatives of other societies, etc. will be invited to attend. It is proposed to form a sub-committee to organize this event and it is hoped that people other than committee members will participate. It is intended to form this sub-committee at the May meeting.

A further anniversary project, not previously announced, has been agreed to by the committee and is now being actively pursued by Joh Ebeli (who was the originator of the idea). This involves the placing of a further plaque near the Society's time capsule monument. The purpose is to more fully explain the blacksmith's use of the tying plate which forms the main feature of the monument. Charmac Industries is donating the plaque and Graham Beyer is constructing a base to mount it on. A date for unveiling this plaque is yet to be decided. It will probably be in August.

OTHER BRIEF ITEMS:

A comprehensive report on the "As We Are" Banner Project has been prepared by the Community Services Department of the Shire of Eltham. The Society has a copy of the report which is available to members on request.

The MELBOURNE CITY EXCURSION was considered a success by those who participated. However, the numbers were not adequate to fill the bus and the Society had to subsidize the cost. An excursion such as this could not hope to cover all features of interest in the city and nearby areas. It was designed to cover a wide variety of historically interesting places. They included South Melbourne's portable houses, the Royal Exhibition Building and Fitzroy Town Hall. Notes were available for self guided walks through and near the Fitzroy Gardens at lunchtime. The routes used between major locations included roads following the Yarra River and numerous inner suburban streets containing interesting terrace houses.

The "hat factory" in Sherbourne Road has ceased operation and the site is proposed for re-development. Equipment is being sold for scrap but Bruce Ness has arranged with the owners for a few of the smaller interesting items of machinery to be donated to the Society. Mr. Mark Kirsch is thanked for this donation.

The Committee has been considering the matter of affiliation with regional groups of historical societies. Our area falls on the boundary between the Eastern Region which includes mainly metropolitan societies and the Central Region which is mainly based on rural municipalities. It is considered that the Eastern Region is most representative of our interests and that affiliation with that group should be pursued.

Sue Law,
President.
439-9520

Russell Yeoman,
Secretary.
439-9717

Opal Smith,
Treasurer/Membership Secretary.
439-8209

SHIRE OF ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

RESERVATION FOR 20TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

7.00 P.M. WEDNESDAY JULY 8TH 1987

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

Number of people _____ @ \$18.00 per person

Amount Enclosed : \$

Return with payment to May Meeting or send to P.O. Box 137, Eltham 3095,
by JUNE 19TH 1987.

**SHIRE OF ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION.**

1987

NEW MEMBERSHIP

RENEWAL

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE HOME _____ BUSINESS _____

ADULT \$5.00 STUDENT \$1.00 FAMILY \$6.00

OTHER MEMBERS (For family membership)

OCCUPATION _____

OTHER INTERESTS/SKILLS _____

HISTORICAL SOCIETY INTERESTS:

HISTORY GENERALLY LOCAL INTEREST HISTORICAL RESEARCH

PEOPLE/SOCIAL HISTORY PLACES/PHYSICAL HISTORY

HISTORICAL OBJECTS/ANTIQUE SOCIAL/MEETING PEOPLE

OLD DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION, BUILDINGS ETC. MUSEUMS ETC.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT INTER-SOCIETY ACTIVITIES EDUCATION

TOURS, OTHER AREAS WRITING SPEAKING

OTHER (Please specify) _____

Please tick appropriate squares.

Send with subscription to P.O. Box 137 Eltham 3095.