

Shire of Eltham
Historical Society

INCORPORATED

P.O. BOX 137 ELTHAM VICTORIA 3095

NEWSLETTER
NO.66 MAY 1989

NEXT MEETING

8 PM WEDNESDAY 10 MAY 1989

ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CENTRE

MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM

(ENTER FROM SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)

GUEST SPEAKER DUNCAN KING-SMITH

"LISTENING TO THE LANDSCAPE"

— " —

ELTHAM TO KINGLAKE

LOCAL GEOLOGY AND LANDFORM EXCURSION

9 AM SUNDAY 21 MAY 1989

MAY MEETING

During 1988 Duncan King-Smith conducted a series of interviews with thirty people who have lived and worked in the Shire of Eltham for most of their lives. Excerpts from the recorded interviews have been assembled into a sound programme entitled 'Listening to the Landscape'. It has recently been open to the public at Hurstbridge and will be at various locations around the Shire over the next few months.

Duncan was commissioned by the Eltham Shire Council to carry out this oral history project as part of its Bicentennial programme. He has condensed many hours of interviews into six separate programmes, each with a slightly different theme. Society members who participated in the interviews include Marjorie North, Garnie Burges, Jock Read, Frank Burgoyne, Bruce and Joy Ness, Margaret Banks, Dorothy Wills, Marjorie Smith Motschall and Flo Spicer.

Duncan will talk to us about his experiences in carrying out this project and we will hear some of the material he has assembled. It is expected that this will be material which is not available in the public programme.

ELTHAM TO KINGLAKE EXCURSION

The geology and landform of an area represent the beginning and the basis of the history of that area. They largely determine soil types, vegetation, accessibility, natural resources and other factors which affect settlement and land use. A knowledge of these factors is a major aid to an understanding of detailed local history.

The plan for this excursion on 21st May is to cover the major and most interesting features of the landform and geology of the Shire of Eltham. This will require travelling from the Yarra River at Eltham to the Great Dividing Range at Kinglake. Private cars or mini-bus will be used depending on numbers. If cars are used then seats will be available for those not wishing to drive. To make the necessary decisions we need to know who is going. Please fill in the attached form and return to the May meeting or to the Society's Post Office Box.

We will leave the Eltham Shire Office at 9:00 a.m. and plan to conclude with lunch at the Kinglake National Park at about 1:00 p.m. Comments on the way will be provided by local geologist, Henry Guillaume. Bring your own picnic lunch. There is no charge for the excursion.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the Annual General Meeting on 8th March the following office bearers and committee members were elected:

President	:	Sue Law
Senior Vice President	:	Neil Blair
Junior Vice President	:	Doug Orford
Secretary	:	Russell Yeoman
Treasurer/Membership Secretary	:	Opal Smith
Committee Members	:	Jock Read, Kath Stephenson, Phyllis Macdonald, Blanche Shallard

The purpose of the Committee is to manage the affairs of the Society in the interests of the members. If you have any ideas for the better operation of the Society please pass them on to one of these people.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for 1989 are now due. If you have not already paid, then please complete the attached form and forward with your subscription or return both at the May meeting. There has been no change to subscriptions in the last few years. They remain as follows:

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

RESEARCH PRIMARY SCHOOL CENTENARY

The Centenary of this school is being celebrated this year with a number of events. An "Old Time Gala Fete" will be held on 17th June between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. On Saturday 19th August there will be a "Return to Research" and further details will be provided in the next Newsletter. In the meantime, the organizers would like to hear of any Research people who have left the district. Information should be sent to Andrew Lemon, P.O. Box 598 Eltham 3095.

HERITAGE WEEK

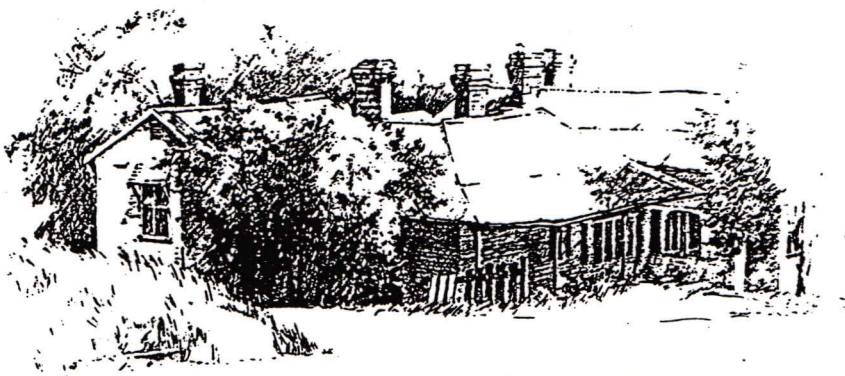
The Eltham Heritage Walk as a Heritage Week event was designed as a guided walk for groups of up to about fifteen people. It achieved its objective quite well despite poor attendance on one of the four days.

The notes and map were prepared so that they could later be used as a self guided walk. They will shortly be available for this purpose from such places as Shillinglaw Cottage, the Eltham Library and the Shire Offices. In the meantime, copies are available from Russell Yeoman. The walk is about 7 km in length.

WALTER WITHERS

Our Walter Withers plaque project is currently on "hold" while we are investigating funding of appropriate mounting for the plaque.

The former Eltham home of Withers, "Southernwood", is currently for sale and is to be auctioned on 6th May. Because of the historical importance of this house the agents have forwarded a copy of their brochure to Society members.



Walter Withers House and Studio - Eltham

OTHER BRIEF ITEMS

Blanche Shallard is currently organizing a family history project. She is writing to members of long established families inviting them to provide information on their family history for Society records. It will take a long time to contact all appropriate families and anyone willing to volunteer information for the project could contact Blanche on 435-1010.

The Society has received a donation of farm equipment to add to our growing collection stored at the Ness's house. Our thanks to G. and N. Hawthorn for these items.

The Society has purchased a booklet entitled "The Lands Manual - A finding guide to Victorian lands records, 1836-1983". This is a very useful reference for anyone contemplating seeking information on land matters, whether for family or other historical purposes. It is available for loan to members.

Russell Yeoman,
Secretary.
439-9717

Sue Law,
President.
439-9520

Opal Smith,
Treasurer/Membership Secretary.
439-8209

SHIRE OF ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ELTHAM - KINGLAKE EXCURSION

SUNDAY - 21ST MAY 1989

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

Number Attending: _____

Return to May Meeting or send to P.O. Box 137, Eltham 3095



Shire of Eltham
Historical Society

NEW MEMBERSHIP _____

RENEWAL _____

INCORPORATED

1989

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/ANTIQUES _____ SOCIAL/MEETING PEOPLE _____

OLD DOCUMENTS _____ PRESERVATION, BUILDINGS ETC. _____ MUSEUMS _____

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT _____ INTER-SOCIETY ACTIVITIES _____ EDUCATION _____

TOURS, OTHER AREAS _____ WRITING _____ SPEAKING _____

OTHER (Please specify): _____

Please tick appropriate squares.

Send with subscription to Eltham Historical Society
P.O. Box 137
ELTHAM 3095