

**Shire of Eltham
Historical Society**
Incorporated

P O Box 137, Eltham, Victoria, 3095

**NEWSLETTER
NO. 96 MAY, 1994**

NEXT MEETING

8 P.M. WEDNESDAY, 11 MAY, 1994

ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CENTRE

MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM

(ENTER FROM SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)

VIDEO PRESENTATION

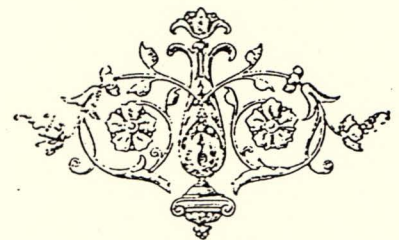
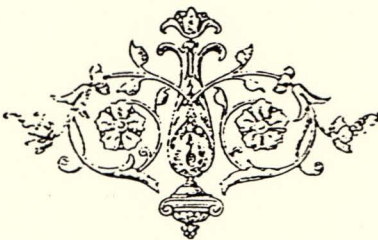
SHORT FILMS OF LOCAL &

GENERAL HISTORICAL INTEREST

WARRANTYTE EXCURSION

12.30 P.M. SUNDAY, 29 MAY, 1994

MORE DETAILS BELOW



MAY MEETING:

For this meeting we have assembled a selection of videos from various sources. They are mostly of local origin and local interest. Some are of more general historical interest. These are from a series of art videos in the Eltham Library collection. We have a large volume of material and may not get through it all but we will play that by ear on the night. Our programme for the year did advertise the 1960 Eltham film "The Prize". Unfortunately, this has proved impracticable to obtain on video.

The films we will see will be selected from the following:

- : Golden Summers
The story of the Heidelberg School of painters.
- : At Home with Neil Douglas
This film is set at the former Bend of Islands home of this well-known local artist.
- : Give Me Wheels
A c.1970 RACV film of a journey through suburban Melbourne and on to Eltham, Yarra Glen and Warrandyte.
- : Yarra River History
Excerpts from a film produced for the Board of Works Centenary in 1991.,
- : Untitled Shire of Eltham film showing scenery and Council works throughout the Shire.
- : Four Colonial Painters 1832-1887. An examination of works by John Glover, Benjamin Duterrau, Eugen Von Geurard and W C Pignatelli.

This informative film night will include some films not normally available for public viewing. We think that this varied programme will prove interesting and informative for members and any visitors who are, of course, most welcome.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subs for the next year were fixed at the AGM and are now payable. Many members have already paid. If you are not among them then we ask you to pay now - either at the May meeting or by mail direct to Treasurer Gwen Orford at 125 Napoleon Street, Eltham 3095. Most people do not fill in the forms that we have provided in the past for renewals so we have discontinued their use. There are some risks that without the form people will forget to pay - but YOU won't will you. Forms are available for new memberships. Ask Russell or Gwen for a form.

Subs have now remained unchanged for some years and are as follows:

Adult	\$10.00
Family	\$15.00
Students	\$ 2.00

WARRANTYTE EXCURSION:

At about this time each year we generally arrange a low key excursion in the local area. This year we have arranged to visit Warrandyte. Bruce Bence, President of Warrandyte Historical Society will show us around a number of places of historic interest. Note that the date is **Sunday 29th May** not 22nd May as shown in the Society Programme .

The programme is as follows:

- 12.30 pm Meet at Warrandyte Museum (former Post Office) in Yarra Street for picnic lunch (B.Y.O.) on the verandah and inspection of Museum.
- 1.30 pm Leave Museum for bus tour of Warrandyte.

Bruce is arranging the local community bus and there may be a small charge for the driver. This is a sixteen seat bus. We will need to know how many are going so that we can decide if other arrangements need to be made. Tell Russell Yeoman at the May meeting or by phone if you are coming and if you will need a ride to Warrandyte. Part of the tour will be an optional inspection of the Fourth Hill Mine. Bring a torch if you would like to go in the mine.

OFFICE BEARERS 1994:

At the Annual General Meeting in March the following people were elected as office bearers and committee members for the next year:

President	: Harry Gilham
Senior Vice President	: Sue Law
Junior Vice President	: Doug Orford
Secretary	: Russell Yeoman
Treasurer/Membership Secretary	: Gwen Orford
Committee Members:	: Opal Smith; Blanche Shallard; Jock Read; Mick Woivod.

The number of committee members is less than required by the Society's rules and we are seeking to co-opt at least two additional members. If you think that you have something to contribute to the Society then we ask that you give serious consideration to volunteering for one of the vacant positions. Talk to Harry Gilham or Russell Yeoman if you are interested or would like more information.

ANDREW ROSS SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM:

The Museum opened for three Sundays in April as part of the Victorian Heritage Festival. The open days resulted in limited public visits but provided the opportunity for the Board of Management and Friends of the museum to work on displays. Currently the second display room is being developed but a fair amount of work is still required to complete it.

The new Board of Management is still finding its feet but hopes to open the Museum on a regular basis in the near future - probably two Sunday afternoons per month. This will require completion of the second room and they plan to set up the front yard as a 19th century cottage garden.

Members who can help with setting up the Museum or running it on open days are asked to talk to Harry Gilham (439 1175) or Mick Woiwod (712 0563). More items for display are also required. The theme for the second room is work and workers in Andrew Ross' times. Work was principally carried out on the farm or in the home and to a lesser extent in small industries. Mick would be happy to talk to anyone who thinks they have items which may be relevant.

"**Andrew Ross' Reminiscences**", the book related to the Museum theme, has now been reprinted and is available for purchase. At this stage Mick holds the stock of the books and enquiries should be directed to him.

MORE NEWS:

The "**Moving Around Tours**" which we arranged for the Victorian Heritage Festival were most successful. The various walks attracted attendances ranging from about 10 to 30. The mini-bus tour was fully booked shortly after announcement. Gary Bartlett was guide for the Significant Trees walk and Russell Yeoman for all the rest. Participants seemed very pleased with these events and particularly enjoyed inspections of mud brick houses on several of the walks.

Nell Bell delighted members at the AGM with her tales of Eltham in the 1950's and 60's. A particularly humorous episode was her description of land purchase in Eltham in 1949. Husband George paid five pounds deposit for a block at night. The next day they were unable to identify the land. It took several attempts before they were able to find it again.

Well-known local artist **David Armfield** has donated one of his paintings to the Society. The subject is "Mr Bird Spraying His Orchard c.1958". The painting is currently being framed and should be available for viewing at the May meeting. We are most grateful to David for this generous donation.

The new **Eltham Library** is to be opened on 22nd May. As well as being of great benefit to Eltham in a functional sense, this building is an interesting and controversial addition to Eltham's architecture. The official opening is in the morning and the Library will be open for public inspection in the afternoon, in conjunction with the Shire President's Picnic in the adjacent park.

Mick Woiwod's book on the history of Kangaroo Ground is at an advanced stage of writing and the plans are for it to be launched in September. There is still scope for adding new information and Mick is still collecting material on local families and events. Contact Mick soon if you have any information you think should be included.

The family of the late **Alf Anderson** have donated a box of old tools and other items originally from the Anderson family orchard in Mount Pleasant Road. These items have been passed on to the Museum for use in the farm work display.

Harry Gilham
President
439-1175

Russell Yeoman
Secretary
439-9717

Gwen Orford
Treasurer/Membership Secretary
439-8642