

**Eltham District  
Historical Society  
Incorporated**  
PO Box 137, Eltham, Victoria 3095

**NEWSLETTER  
No. 108 MAY 1996**

**NEXT MEETING**

**8 PM WEDNESDAY 8TH MAY 1996**

**ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CENTRE**

**MAIN ROAD ELTHAM  
(ENTER FROM OLD SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)**

**GUEST SPEAKER - RUSSELL YEOMAN**

**"HUME AND HOVELL'S  
VICTORIAN TRIP"**

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**FURPHY FESTIVAL**

**ANDREW ROSS MUSEUM, KANGAROO GROUND**

**2 PM SUNDAY 19TH MAY 1996**

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**AUTUMN EXCURSION**

**ON THE TRAIL OF HUME AND HOVELL  
8.30 AM SUNDAY 26TH MAY 1996  
LEAVES FROM OLD ELTHAM SHIRE OFFICE  
MORE DETAILS BELOW**

## MAY MEETING AND AUTUMN EXCURSION

The meeting and excursion are associated events on the theme of Hume and Hovell's 1824 expedition from the limits of settlement in New South Wales to Port Phillip. It should be noted that we have changed the date of the excursion from that printed in our 1996 programme to avoid a clash with Mothers' Day. It will now be two weeks later on Sunday 26th May.

The Hume and Hovell expedition ranks with the great feats of Australian exploration by the early European settlers.

It was poorly equipped and subject to disagreements between the leaders during the journey and for many years afterwards. Most of us have a cursory knowledge of the expedition but there remain disagreements, even among experts, on various aspects of the journey. In New South Wales a great amount of detailed work has been done in establishing the Hume and Hovell Walking Track which covers about 370 km between Yass and Woomargama near Albury. There is no equivalent in Victoria, although there is a series of monuments across the state mostly erected for the 1924 centenary of the expedition. A number of these monuments seem to be wrongly located.

Russell Yeoman has been reviewing the literature on Hume and Hovell as well as walking and driving over some of their route. The ultimate aim of this work is to look at the feasibility of establishing a Hume and Hovell trail across Victoria.

The idea of the combined meeting and excursion is firstly, to talk about the expedition in general and, particularly, the Victorian part and then to travel as closely as practicable over the sections nearest to Melbourne. We hope that both the meeting and the excursion will prove to be of interest in their own right. You don't have to come to both but there will be benefits if you do.

The bus excursion will join the route of the explorers near Flowerdale and then proceed through Strath Creek and Broadford. We will then travel through Wallan to a lunch stop at Woodlands Historic Park near Tullamarine Airport. Here we will have the opportunity to visit Woodlands Homestead (1843, some years after Hume and Hovell). After lunch we will travel on through Deer Park and Werribee to Avalon Beach near Geelong where the expedition reached Port Phillip Bay (which they thought was Western Port).

This excursion will be mainly driving (rather than visits to locations where we spend some time out of the bus). Woodlands will be the main stop but there will be stops for morning tea (Broadford) and afternoon tea (Avalon Beach). You will need to bring your own provisions for lunch and the tea stops. There is shelter at Woodlands if the weather is poor. There will be brief stops at the various monuments en-route.

The cost of the excursion is \$20 per person (children \$10). The attached booking form should be returned with payment to our post office box or handed to Gwen Orford at the May meeting.

This will be a fairly full day so we need to leave promptly at 8.30 am. Please arrive a little early. We expect to return about 5.30 pm.



## **OFFICE BEARERS 1996**

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; Diana Bassett-Smith; Margaret Ball; Shane Stoneham.

Margaret and Shane are new Committee members replacing Mick Woiwod and Bob Francis. Mick finds that his time is fully occupied with his writing and work with the Andrew Ross Museum. Bob will be travelling overseas for a significant part of the year.

## **FURPHY FESTIVAL**

Information on this important event at the Andrew Ross Museum has previously been sent to members. Just to recap, it will be held at the Museum on Sunday 19th May. The formal part of the festival will commence at 2.00 pm but the Museum and the special Furphy displays will be open earlier on the Sunday and on the Saturday.

An additional part of the festival not previously mentioned is the launching of a previously unpublished book by Joseph Furphy. "A Boy of the Old Brigade" is a small book about the life of Joseph's father who lived at Kangaroo Ground. This small book will be available in a limited numbered edition or an ordinary edition.

Contact Mick Woiwod on 9712 0563 for further information.

## **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

In accordance with a notice of motion the Annual General Meeting has resolved to change the Society's financial year to run from 1st July to 30th June. Last year's subscriptions will run until 30th June and the next subscriptions will be payable on 1st July.

Subscriptions remain unchanged and are as follows:

Adult	\$10.00
Student	\$ 2.00
Family	\$15.00

Subscriptions should be sent direct to Treasurer, Gwen Orford at 125 Napoleon Street Eltham 3095 or to the Society's post office box.



## OTHER HAPPENINGS

As advised in our last Newsletter the Alan Marshall Festival is to be held at Noorat, Alan's birthplace, on Sunday 5th May. We have sent a few things relating to Alan's time in Eltham to help with the display. Ring Russell Yeoman for information.

If you can't get to Noorat then there is a more local event on 5th May. This is the Dunmoochin Open Day at the Cottles Bridge home of the late Clifton Pugh. Ring 9710 1209 for details.

The long overdue Shire of Eltham Heritage Study has been completed and presented to Nillumbik Shire Council. It has not received any publicity but is a very significant resource document. The Council has now engaged consultants to extend the study to cover the whole of the Shire of Nillumbik. Russell Yeoman represents the Society on the Steering Committee for the extended study.

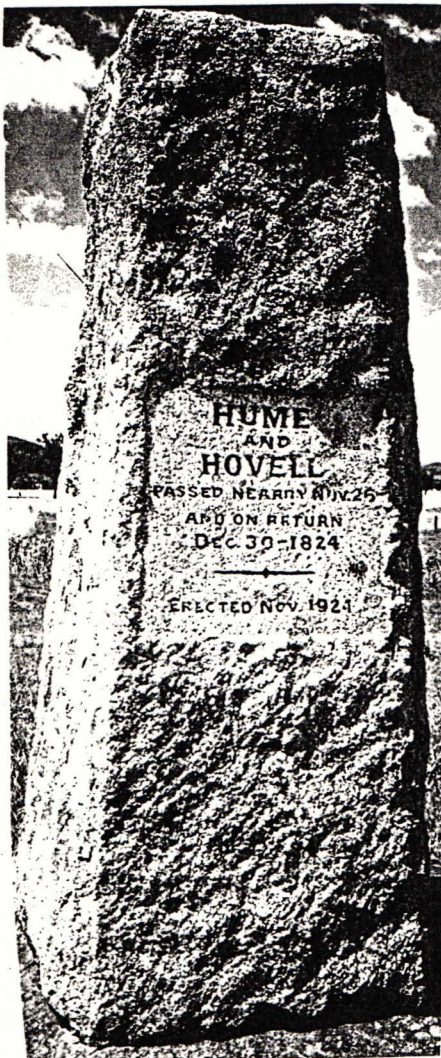
In the meantime, we hope to obtain a copy of the Eltham study as a resource document for our Society.

Nillumbik Shire Council is producing a series of brochures on various aspects of the Shire. The most recent is Townships of Nillumbik which briefly covers all of the Shire's 19 townships and locations. It contains historical and general information.

Harry Gilham  
President  
Phone 9439 1175

Russell Yeoman  
Secretary  
9439 9717

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9439 8642



HUME & HOVELL MONUMENT  
AT ANGLESIDE IN  
NORTH-EASTERN VICTORIA



ELTHAM DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AUTUMN EXCURSION

SUNDAY 26TH MAY 1996

BOOKING FORM

Please make a booking for the Autumn Excursion on Sunday 26th May 1996 as follows:

(    ) at \$20 each

Total \$

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is payment for \$

Booking form and payment may be returned to Gwen Orford at the May Meeting on 8th May or forwarded to P O Box 137 ELTHAM 3095