



ELTHAM DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Incorporated

No. A0016285F

728 MAIN ROAD (PO BOX 137) ELTHAM 3095

NEWSLETTER NO. 130 JANUARY 2000

**NEXT MEETING
8-00 PM WEDNESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY**

LITERARY EVENING

**ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CENTRE
MAIN ROAD ELTHAM
(ENTER FROM OLD SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)**



FEBRUARY MEETING

Our literary evening on 9 February will comprise readings of poetry, short stories or other articles of local interest. We have arranged for some members to read selected items but anyone is welcome to bring along a contribution to read.

Some of the items that have been selected are poems by Clem Christesen, short stories by Alan Marshall, selections from the Furphy poetry competition, an Andrew Ross article from the Evelyn Observer, an item by Fanny Withers from "Walter Withers, the Forgotten Manuscripts".

As usual for our February meeting this is a low key, member participation evening to start off the new year. We hope that you can think of some other readings, perhaps of lesser known works to add to the evening's enjoyment.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To satisfy the requirements of the Society's rules, notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Eltham District Historical Society Incorporated will be held at 8.00pm on Wednesday 8 March 2000.

The Agenda of the Annual General Meeting is set out below in accordance with the rules. Further detail will be given in the March Newsletter.

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of 1999 Annual General Meeting
3. Reports:
 - a. President's Report
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - c. Any other Reports.
4. Statement by the Society in accordance with Section (3) of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981
5. Election of office bearers and ordinary members of committee positions to be filled as follows:
 - President
 - Senior Vice President
 - Junior Vice President
 - Treasurer/Membership Secretary
 - Ordinary Committee Members (not less than three and not more than six)
6. Fixing of entrance fee (if any) and annual subscription
7. Any other business of which at least two weeks notice has been given to members

It should be noted that under the Society's rules nominations of office bearers should be made in writing to the Secretary not less than seven days before the meeting.

Nominations should be signed by two members of the Society and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate. If insufficient nominations are received further nominations shall be received at the meeting. However, it should be noted that where a valid prior nomination is received it will have priority and no nomination for that position can be accepted at the meeting.

SOCIETY PROGRAMME 2000

The Committee is currently looking at suggestions for a number of activities for the Society in 2000. A full programme for the year will be included with the next Newsletter. Anyone with suggestions for Society activities should contact a Committee member as soon as possible.

We have made arrangements for the Annual General Meeting in March to hear Bruce Nixon, publisher of Charles Joseph La Trobe, Landscapes and Sketches, talk on La Trobe. One meeting during the year should commemorate the year 2000. Perhaps a panel discussion on reminiscences of the 1900's would be appropriate.

As to excursions, we will probably cover some more, or even complete the Heidelberg School Artists' Trail. We also think there would be value visits to the Eltham Cemetery and the War Memorial Tower at Kangaroo Ground.

HUME AND HOVELL UPDATE

Members who participated in our Hume and Hovell excursions a few years ago may be interested to hear that the 175th anniversary of the journey by these explorers has just passed. January 18 was the anniversary of the completion of their expedition at Yass.

Russell Yeoman has continued to research this remarkable journey including covering significant stretches of the route on foot. He has now visited most of the Victorian monuments commemorating the event.

Phil Chapman from Penrith, N.S.W., has commemorated the anniversary by walking the full route of both the outward and return journeys. He has followed Hume and Hovell's timetable as closely as possible. Russell walked with him on two days of the return trip, once through Melbourne's western outskirts and a full day walk from Euroa to Violet Town.

There has been disagreement over many years about details of the explorers' route and some of the monuments are not correctly located. Many thought that the matter had been resolved in 1981 with the publication of Alan E J Andrews' book. Not so says Phil. He has his own theories on the route some of which disagree with Andrews. Phil believes that much past work has been done by "armchair historians" and that there is no substitute for checking theories on the ground. He hopes to produce his own book in due course.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

We plan to continue in 2000 with our workshops to improve the state of the Society's records. These are held on the evening on the first Tuesday of each month and in the morning on the third Monday. Dates for the next two months are:

9.30 am Mondays - 21 February, 20 March
7.30 pm Tuesdays - 7 March, 4 April.

We welcome any help from members at these workshops. The Society's records are also available for research at these times or at other times by appointment. Ring Harry or Russell for information.

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Several interesting courses are being run by members at the Nillumbik Living and Learning Centres. Harry Gilham will conduct his Eltham Township Walkabout over four weeks commencing with Tuesday 2 May. Jock Read and Doug Orford will be assisting.

Mick Woiwod is running a ten session course on the Wurrundjeri People of the Yarra Valley and another visiting sites of local interest at Kangaroo Ground. Further information, including enrolment details is in the Centres' programme.

Harry Gilham
President

Russell Yeoman
Secretary

Gwen Orford
Treasurer /
Membership Secretary
Phone 9439 8642

Phone - 9439 1175

Phone - 9439 9717

RUSSIAN CABBAGE PIE

It has been said, wrongly I feel, that Russian literature derives its depth of introspection and its variety of mood from the national diet of cabbage pie. (Unless we wish to produce an Australian Tolstoy, Dostoevsky or Chekhov, we would be well advised to avoid adding cabbage pie to our diet. However, should you have occasion to entertain a celebrity artist of the calibre of Rostropovich, Oistrakh or Richter - not to mention distinguished Eltham writers and artists - offer him a cabbage pie and he will be enchanted!) Cabbage pies are cheap and easy to make.

1½ cups plain flour. ½ cup cold water. ½ teaspoonful of salt. 1 lb. butter. 1 small cabbage. 3 eggs.

The crust can be made in either of two ways. The traditional Russian method is to use unrefined flour and yeast, but this is rather complicated. Excellent results can be achieved with puff pastry, provided you use butter for shortening and prepare the dough the day before. To make the pastry: mix the flour, salt and water, knead, roll out to ¼ in. thickness; place very thinly sliced butter (use one third of the butter for this purpose) over the surface, fold four times, wrap in clean napkin and place in refrigerator. Cool thoroughly. Again roll out, fold and place in refrigerator. Repeat five times. Finally roll out to required size, for top and bottom crust, insert the filling and bake in hot oven. Remember not to grease the pie dish, but slightly dampen with wet cloth. Serve hot. When making the filling, it is important to remember that the cabbage should be fresh and sweet. Chop it finely, salt, put in a pan, cover with cold water and leave to stand for 10-15 minutes; drain thoroughly, squeezing out remaining drops of water and fry in the rest of the butter, making sure that it does not burn. Add three hard-boiled eggs chopped small. Traditional Russian cabbage pies (using three or four times the quantity of the ingredients listed above) are usually 2 ft. x 1½ ft. and are 3 in. deep. Wood stoves give best results. To serve eight people.



Clem Christesen

Nina & Clem Christesen



Visitors are most welcome at
General Meetings

Unless otherwise advised,
General Meetings are held at
the Senior Citizens'
Clubrooms, Eltham

Any additions or alterations to this
programme will be advised in the
Newsletter.

Records Workshops are held at the
Eltham Local History Centre, 728 Main
Road Eltham. The centre is open for
research at these times or by
appointment.

Enquiries-Workshops, membership,
research, etc:

Russell Yeoman
Phone- 9439 9717

Harry Gilham
Phone - 9439 1175

Gwen Orford
Phone - 9439 8642



**Eltham District
Historical Society
Incorporated
P O Box 137 Eltham, Victoria
3095**



Programme
2000

2000**FEBRUARY**

Tuesday 1st
7.30pm Records Workshop

Wednesday 9th
8:00 pm General Meeting
Literary Evening

Monday 21st
9.30am Records Workshop

MARCH

Tuesday 7th
7.30 pm Records Workshop

Wednesday 8th
8:00 pm Annual General Meeting
Election of Office Bearers
Speaker : Bruce Nixon
"C J Latrobe"

Monday 20th
9.30 am Records Workshop

APRIL

Tuesday 4th
7.30 pm Records Workshop

Wednesday 12th
8.00pm Committee Meeting

Sunday 16th
Excursion
Heidelberg School Artists' Trail

Monday 17th
9.30 am Records Workshop

MAY

Tuesday 2nd
7.30 pm Records Workshop

Wednesday 10th
8:00 pm General Meeting
Panel Discussion
Memories of the 20th Century

Monday 15th
9.30 am Records Workshop

Sunday 21st Excursion
Andrew Ross Museum and
War Memorial Tower

JUNE

Tuesday 6th
7.30 pm Records Workshop

Wednesday 14th
8:00 pm Committee Meeting

Monday 19th
9.30 am Records Workshop

JULY

Tuesday 4th
7.30 pm Records Workshop

Wednesday 12th
8.00 pm General Meeting
Guest Speaker: Ken Eckersall
"Eltham Inhabitants"

Monday 17th
9.30 am Records Workshop

AUGUST

Tuesday 1st
7.30 pm Records Workshop

Wednesday 9th
8:00 pm Committee Meeting

Monday 21st
9.30 am Records Workshop

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 5th
7.30 pm Records Workshop

Wednesday 13th
8.00 pm General Meeting
Guest Speaker
"Yallambie"

Monday 18th
9.30 am Records Workshop

OCTOBER

Tuesday 3rd
7.30 pm Records Workshop

Wednesday 11th
8:00 pm Committee Meeting

Sunday 15th Excursion
Eltham Cemetery

Monday 16th
9.30 am Records Workshop

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 8th
8:00 pm General Meeting
Members' Projects

Monday 20th
9.30 am Records Workshop

DECEMBER

Tuesday 5th
7.30 pm Records Workshop

Wednesday 13th
6:30 pm Christmas Function