



The Kernel

Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society

"Love and Cherish the City in which you live"

Newsletter

December 2020

President's Report

by Kay Hayes

We are coming to the end of what has certainly been a different year for us all. Many of our members and volunteers have still been coming to the office at least two days a week and have kept the business side of things ticking along, as well as those concentrating on data entry to ensure our photos and documents are safely kept.

Glenalvon has not been open to the public since the end of March, and we were pleased to assist Campbelltown City Council in holding two days of morning teas for invited business workers from Queen Street. This was also to introduce them to the new program – OnQ – which is taking place along Queen Street now. There is an attractive green space outside Glenalvon with planter boxes and seating. That section of Lithgow Street is now one way.



To commemorate the 200th Anniversary of Governor Macquarie's proclamation of Campbelltown, the Council buried a time capsule in the "Macquarie" section of the garden of Glenalvon. Two receptions were held for invited guests. The 100 year capsule contains many items from business, community groups and schools as well as a copy of our latest Grist Mills.

The journal was launched on Saturday 28th November, and despite the very warm weather, it was wonderful to see 78 members and guests in attendance. More on the launch on another page!



We have previously mentioned the banners which we acquired earlier this year from the 1988 celebrations. We have been able to return some to Allan and Barbara McClelland, a stitching worked by Allan of his family home Glenroy, as well as one for Bradbury School. We are also returning a section stitched by members of Campbelltown Senior Citizens group.

Patrick Duffy, a member of the Society was delighted to receive the embroidery entitled "Denfield" as that is his home and has sent us this photograph of it hanging in the hallway of the house.

In September I had the pleasure of signing the latest Deed of Licence with Paula Pfoeffler, Manager of Community and Learning Libraries. Paula is our liaison with Campbelltown City Council. This new Deed gives permission for our Society to continue calling Glenalvon our "home" and is for another five years. Of course we are obliged to abide by the clauses regarding the care of the house, as is Council regarding maintenance of the house and gardens.



We recently noted the passing of Norman (Norm) Campbell, and as you would be aware we conferred Life Membership to Norm when he moved to assisted living. Many members sent emails and messages congratulating Norm and wishing him well. He asked that his thanks be passed on to those members.

This year, I particularly wish to thank the volunteers who have continued working at Glenalvon and supporting the work of the Society. My personal thanks to them for their help and support during my stay in hospital. I am happy to report the fall did not have any lasting effects, once I completed my different social distancing for recovery.

On behalf of the committee I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and the hope for a healthy and safer 2021.

Best wishes

Kay



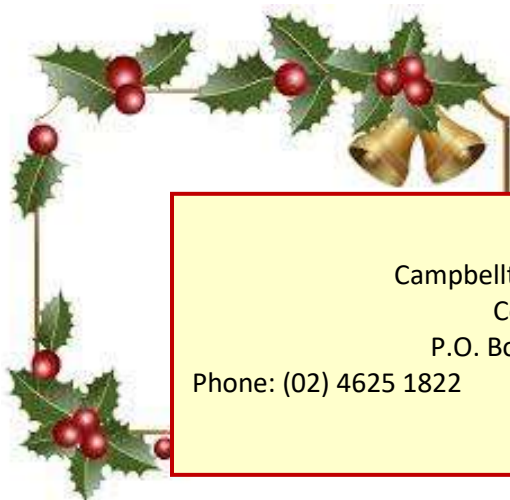
Some months ago Jeff McGill found this picture while searching old magazines and thought we would find it of interest.

It is dated March 27, 1948 and it of local girl Pamela Bolton of Kenny Hill.

Pamela rode in the 1948 Royal Easter Show on *Lexie*, winning three 1st Prizes. The report tells us that the Show authorities were left anxious that the standard of dressing should be as high for 1949, issuing information on what they considered correct wear, to all competitors. Miss Bolton's outfit set the standards.

Pam's mother was Edith (Edie) Whalan who lived on the Narellan Road at Kenny Hill. She married Gus Bolton of Mosman, who had served with Australian Naval and Expeditionary Force as a Dental Surgeon in Rabaul in WWI. He passed away in 1934 when Pam was just 4 years old and Edie returned to Campbelltown to live with her parents.

Pam also appears on the cover of *The Sun's* supplement called *Color*, Sunday, 20th March 1949 edition, riding *Lexie*. JC/20



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The Launch of the November Grist Mills

Founding of Campbelltown and the Macquaries

On Saturday 28th November the latest edition of the Grist Mills was launched. This was a special edition marking the Founding of Campbelltown, 200 years ago, on the 1st December 1820. The journal was written by CAHS member Tom Reeve.

Titled *The Founding of Campbelltown and the Macquaries with Pioneer Thomas Rose* concluding the five part history of the 'water men' as the back story.

Saturday being close to this historic event was ideal for the launch of a book which includes a brief record of the colonial history leading up to the founding of our Town, and, what happened on the day it was proclaimed. A short Timeline of Events, from 1788 up until 1840 can be found on the centre pages.

You will find a summary of the lives of Governor Lachlan Macquarie and his wife Elizabeth Henrietta Macquarie, focusing on the history of their 12 years in Australia, with excerpts from Lachlan Macquarie's Journals which relate to the Airds District (proclaimed 1810) and Campbell Town. These are very interesting records, with many personal observations by Macquarie.



With so many functions cancelled across 2020 it was wonderful to get the chance to host a function in Glenalvon's grounds with many members and special guests pleased to be back at a social event. While the day was exceedingly hot, people enjoyed the chance to catch up with friends, with gazebos set up for shade giving a festive feel to the occasion. Many stayed to enjoy an excellent morning tea.

It was pleasing to see some of the other towns in this area that are significant to Macquarie also represented; Mrs Nola Douglas of the Appin Historical Society with Joy Farrow, Camden Historical Society's John and Julie Wrigley, Brian and Lee Stratton and Rene Rem (Cawdor Village was named by Macquarie on 16th October 1820, six weeks before our town) as well as Liverpool's Pamela Valentine and Glen Op Den Brouw.

Professor Reuben Rose with his wife Kate also travelled up from Boloco, on the Snowy River Way near Dalgety, to join us. As a direct descendant of Thomas Rose he had several entertaining family yarns to tell.

Thomas Rose did many things in his life, but the most enduring things were done here at Campbelltown. He is remembered best perhaps for building the 60 foot high stone tower mill for gristing wheat at Mount Gilead. It remains an icon of the wheat growing days of Campbelltown.

Rose also led the Committee for constructing the Water Reservoir in Hurley Park.

Thomas Rose directed the construction of an earth-walled dam (1833-34), to be followed by the stone-walled reservoirs (the lower one is the Cattle Tank for livestock) and two silt traps, built by convicts in 1838-39. This served the Town's water needs until the end of 1888



As a girl I went to a High School which was situated close to Great Stone Park, Stretford, Manchester, UK. At the entrance to the park stood a stone boulder about the size of a large chest freezer. On the top of the stone are two depressions in which, during the Great Plague epidemic, were filled with vinegar. The stone stood at the border between the city of Manchester and the farming community of Stretford. The people of Manchester used to put money in the depressions in the stone for the vinegar to disinfect it, to pay for produce left by the farmers of Stretford. The stone has been recorded here from the 13th Century so was probably used as a plague stone during the Black Death epidemic of 1350 as well as the Great Plague of 1665.



In present times, my brother-in-law attends an exercise class where the instructor, following local council guidelines, has a money box containing disinfectant where the class members place their class fees. Not much has changed in 350 years!



Vale

Colleen Egelton

8th May 1925 – 1st December 2020

Colleen was born in 1925 and came to Campbelltown in her late teens, in 1944, when her father was appointed Principal of Kentlyn School. There was no accommodation in Kentlyn so they rented 'The Retreat' in Allman Street. During these war years of petrol rationing Colleen would drive her father to Kentlyn each day. The road after St John's Church on Convent Hill was dirt and very rough. Eventually her father was transferred to Mt Hunter.

Colleen met Ray Egelton who at the time was delivering bread for Harrison's bakery on the corner of Queen and Broughton Street. At her insistence he later bought the milk run from Harringtons, delivering milk from Lithgow Street through to Leumeah. The couple married and moved into a house on Sydney Road (Queen Street). They had two daughters, Helen and Geraldine.

In 1977 the family moved to St Andrews where Colleen became active in helping with the setting up of Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish.

Colleen passed away in Camden District Hospital after having been cared for, for many months, at home by her daughters.

Fr Shane Kelleher summed up her life with three important words 'Family, Faith and Friends'.

She was always welcoming, ready to put on the kettle and make a cuppa and sit and talk, and with the other appropriate tag being 'Campbelltown's Wikipedia', you would know that the conversation would always be interesting and lively; full of old Campbelltown yarns.

Colleen passed away on 1st December 2020.



Norm Campbell 1923 - 2020

Norm Campbell was born in Lithgow Street Private Hospital in 1923 and as a child lived in *Stanwell House*, one of the Colonial Buildings in Queen Street. His mother had been adopted by George and Margaret Chinnocks who could not have children of their own.

It was a childhood lived across the Great Depression, followed by the years of the Second World War. Norm did not see war service being rejected for medical reasons, but remembers the time as bleak on the homefront. After his mother passed away he worked as a shopkeeper in the general store where he had always lived.

Norm had many varied jobs during his working life. He gained work as a movie projectionist in various areas around Sydney before Fred Eves invited him to be a projectionist for the Macquarie Cinema. The



introduction of television in the 50's curtailed the cinema's activities but at that time Norm began doing stints as a news correspondent for ABC radio, reporting on local events. Later on he would buy a camera and delivered filmed news reports for Channel 2 and 7. During the sixties, Norm was hired by Jim Vernon to be a photographer for the Campbelltown - Ingleburn News, Camden News, the Picton Post and Macarthur Advertiser. At the beginning of the 1950's Norm had also joined the local fire brigade, becoming Captain in 1968 at one of the busiest and wide ranging of districts.

'Norm as very passionate Campbelltonian, very private by nature, yet the very first to put up his hand to help on a worthy project', Jeff McGill recalls.

Robert Penfold sums him up. 'Norm was the man who first up.....didn't let on too much, particularly on a personal basis. When I arrived at the Campbelltown Ingleburn News and Camden News in 1971 as the first ever trainee, the first cadet in the newsroom, Norm had all the "knowledge".

He was the true local....also the proud volunteer fire captain....also the photographer and importantly... the collector of Campbelltown's visual history. Jim Vernon the editor, knew that when he sent Norm out on a job he would always deliver....mainly because Norm knew everyone.... and he had the photos to prove it. Once Norm decided that you cared about the town's reputation AND the paper's reputation as much as he did...he was very giving.

Campbelltown will forever owe a great debt to Norm Campbell because he has preserved its history through his lens; the photos of General Sir Denzil Macarthur Onslow leading the Fisher's Ghost Parade through town in the 50's, ... or perhaps the first electric train arriving from Liverpool or the photos that show the transformation of a country town surrounded by dairy farms into a vibrant city...When they see all that ...they will have one man to thank. Yes Norm was quiet, somewhat shy.....unassuming.....but always present. That was the Norm Campbell so many of us knew.'

Jeff McGill adds 'I was a bit scared of him at first....but when I got to know him better, I realised the big gentle heart under that hard shell...Norm helped me with some of my early books, and was always happy to have a chat about any theory, notion, or idea re C'town history.

Norm was sharp as a tack till the end, and as I look back I feel very honoured to have been taken under his wing the way I was.

He used to work very closely with the late Ron Moore on various video and book productions... Norm was a perfectionist and any project had to be done well...'



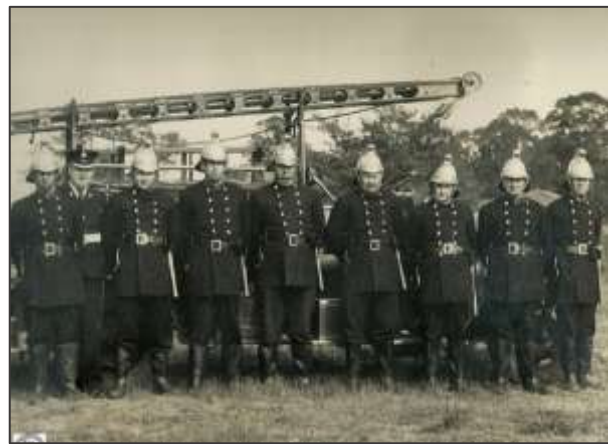
Colleen Egelton (Left) with Mrs Lloyd (Norma) King and Mrs George (Gert) King



Above: Norm Campbell with Mayor Kath Whitten and B F Andrews President of the Fire Board

Above Right: Norm in front, dressed up with neighbourhood children, taken behind the Colonial Buildings.

Right: Coronation Celebrations 1953 with Norm on the far end.



Dates to Remember

Best Wishes for the Christmas Season

Saturday 27th February First Members Meeting for the year at Glenalvon 1.30pm Afternoon Tea to follow

Saturday 6th March Relaunch of the May Clissold Dressmakers Display 10.30am at Glenalvon

Saturday 20th March Launch of Grist Mills by Wayne Williams 10.30am at Glenalvon.

Morning Tea will be provided.

Saturday 27th March Members Meeting at Glenalvon. Afternoon tea to follow

