



The Kernel

Campbelltown and Airs Historical Society

"Love and Cherish the City in which you live"

Newsletter

February 2018

President's Report

by Kay Hayes



Welcome to our latest newsletter and I don't think it is ever too late to wish friends and colleagues "Happy New Year". On behalf of your committee I extend very best wishes for a safe, happy and healthy 2018. I hope you continue to enjoy the newsy letter and don't forget if there is ever a story you would like mentioned, either of people or places please let us know. We welcome your ideas.

Also we launch our latest Grist Mills in March and it is a great read. Please come to the launch, there will be some 'old Campbelltownians' there and it is the perfect time to catch up.

Some of volunteers who are working on updating the data base, Sue Kijurina, Gillian Blackstone, Julie Crowley and John White are finding some real "treasures" in amongst documents and papers. Lots of "ooh look what I have found" and to those of us who have been around awhile the memories come flooding back.

For any Society or group like ours, the Line of Succession can sometimes cause concern. Our treasurer David Beddie has indicated some time ago that he will stand down in August this year. David has served us so well for 12 years, for which we thank him, and we would welcome any expressions of interest in filling this position.



Already this year we have welcomed groups from Wollondilly Seniors Friendship Club and Baptist Care, Narellan and Glenalvon has been host to a garden wedding with photographs in the house as well as the garden. We are proving to be a popular tour group destination with bookings until September. Julie and I showed our Social History of Campbelltown presentation to the Probus Club of Leumeah Combined at Wests Leagues Club, being very warmly received.

Congratulations are extended to member and volunteer Colin Menger, who was nominated in this year's Australia Day Campbelltown Citizen of the Year. Colin is a regular member of our garden team and has also assisted in many projects as well as writing articles for Grist Mills. This year Colin marks up 50 years as a JP and has supported the community in many ways over the years. Thank you Colin.

Campbelltown and Airs Historical Society Inc

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News: Changes to look out for at Glenalvon

While we have had a nice Christmas break taking time out for a few weeks, several of the volunteers also used this time to change displays, improve the presentations and take in some exciting new machinery, so that Glenalvon keeps varied and interesting and always worth another look.

How they had fun



Our new display is called “ How they had fun – how our forefathers amused themselves ”.

In the servants’ quarters there are three showcases and another two in the display room inside Glenalvon. We have on display children’s toys including a clockwork beetle, a Negro money box - which these days would not be politically correct, but I’m sure some of you will remember from your own childhood and some old strap-on roller skates.

Items in the other showcase are Dance Cards with a pencil so the gentlemen could pencil in their name against a dance they wish to reserve, an antique zither complete with instructions, radio licences and a crystal radio set amongst other items. We have a

cabinet with sports memorabilia including running shoes, nothing like Nike, and baseball mitts, photos of football teams, tennis players and the opening of Menangle race track.

In the display room we have patterns for 1930 dresses and a home-made dress from the period, crochet patterns and other craft items as well as scouting memorabilia.

The Timber Roller Gets a New Home



The Wooden 19th Century Handmade Roller, which has been in Glenalvon’s yard for some time now, has been moved to a spot that will ensure its lasting value.

Council helped with this project by laying some sandstone blocks for flooring, close to the Ag Shed, to lift the roller from the ground. Kevin Rixon has made a rail for safety, (this will be of benefit both for the roller and for the visitors who are viewing it!) and it will shortly be under a cover during the times that Glenalvon House is not open to visitors.

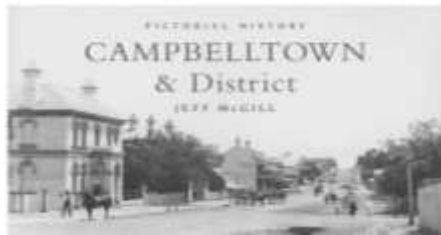
Land rollers were used in English farming practice, following the harrow to consolidate the soil, crush the clods and smooth the surface. Consolidation was necessary on some soils to give plants a firm root-hold; pressing seed onto the ground and so assist germination.

Many Australian farmers did not go to the expense of buying a commercial land roller but made their own from large logs, old wheels or concrete poured into a drum or boiler flue. All that was then needed was to attach an axle to the roller and construct a frame to which were attached the axle ends.

This ironbark roller was donated to the society through Syd Percival, when the ‘Machinery Shed’ was still under construction. It was built by Patrick Byrne on his farm, Lachlan Vale, Appin and later owned by Norman Percival. At the time of its donation (November, 1994) it belonged to Mr Wilfred Playford of Brooks Point Road, Appin, and was estimated to be over 100 years old.

This new position will help to draw attention to a significant piece of farming machinery in our collection.

It's not too late!



While we have noticed these books flying off the shelves all through the Macarthur district

It is not too late to get your copy. This beautiful book showing Historic Campbelltown using many photos from the Society's valuable collection is still available for purchase from CAHS.

IGT

Change of Venue

Have you noted the change of venue for this year's presentation?

We have booked

St John the Evangelist Church hall

For our

Dr Ivor G Thomas Memorial **Presentation**

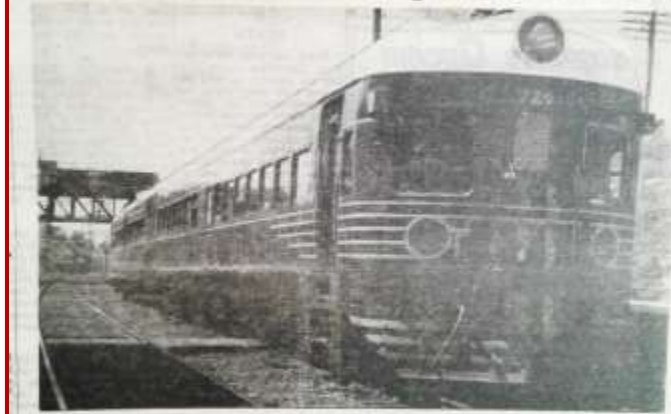
18th August 2018

Do you remember when.....



The souvenir edition of last year's IGT. The story of Ivor G Thomas and the achievements of the Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society is also still available, but be quick!!

New Diesel Train Improves Service



Train services between Liverpool and Campbelltown have been greatly improved as a result of a new two-car diesel train replacing steam trains on all off-peak and many peak period services.

since in this district would be improved further by the introduction of a new diesel train. The new diesel train will be introduced in the near future. It will be a two-car train and will be used on all off-peak and many peak period services. The new train will be used on all off-peak and many peak period services.

C'town-Ingleburn News 1963

Dates to Remember

Glenalvon Open Times: Monday 5th March and Saturdays 10th and 24th March – 10am to 1pm

Grist Mills 'Yarns along the High Street' launch: Saturday 17th March at 10.30am followed by Morning Tea

March Members' meeting: Saturday 24th March

Speaker: Lloyd Pitcher Topic: 'Caroline Chisholm. Afternoon Tea to follow.

50 years since Campbelltown became a city and railway electrification: 4th May with events at various venues

First Railway

In 1857 the contract was awarded for the construction of a rail line between Liverpool and Campbelltown and the line opened for public travel in *May, 1858*.

The line, made up of easy grades and light earthworks, had no intermediate stations between Liverpool and Campbelltown and was of single track throughout. In fact there were eight stops on the entire journey to Sydney, taking one hour and 45 mins. There were four trains per day Monday to Friday and three on a Sunday.

A turntable was provided at Campbelltown station and fuel was wood billets as coal had not yet been tried as a locomotive fuel

You could travel 1st, 2nd or 3rd Class. Since Sydney station (at that time near Cleveland Street, Redfern) was an 'open' station, the tickets of passengers travelling to Sydney were collected at Newtown.

The railway had been operating for two years before separate goods trains were run, until then trucks were attached to any convenient passenger train.

Need a Justice of the Peace?

Greg Dillon can help you out

Contact him via email on

greg_dillon@primus.com.au

Remember the days when Queen Street was the centre for all your shopping? When you knew all the store owners, and most of the people, as you walked along the footpath?

Then come along to the launch of
Yarns along the High Street

Catch up with some of those business holders or their families over a nice morning tea.

10.30am on 17th March at Glenalvon



Special Event 4th May 2018,

To Celebrate 50 years of Campbelltown

becoming a City and the Electrification of the Line

The Society, H J Daly Library, Campbelltown Council and Macarthur Advertiser are planning events on the 4th May so please mark in your diaries to keep that day free. More details will follow later, however at this stage we have confirmed

12pm. Re-enactment at Campbelltown Railway Station with Mayor and Guests

12.45pm. Civic function and Afternoon Tea at Civic Centre, hosted by the Mayor. The Society will have access to tickets for this event, and are particularly interested in members who were present at the original festivities.

We are also interested in hearing from those members who were present at this event in 1968, either at Campbelltown Railway Station, the following pageant down Queen Street or as a Local School Student involved on the Day. If you were there on the day tell us your stories. We would like to add collect them as a record of that important day in our city's history. Contributions can be emailed to president@cahs.com.au or ring Kay on (02) 4625 1822 for more details.

A Special Delivery



Some weeks ago, Peter Hodge from Brian's Secondhand City in Leumeah, came into Glenalvon to see if the Society would be interested in taking a winnower. The winnower, at that time, was a fixture on the back of Peter's ute, having been moved from his closing business. It needed a home.

Originally from the Temora district it has been in Airds Road, Leumeah for quite a while, attracting a lot of attention outside his business. It is a great piece of machinery, still in working condition.

Kevin Rixon cleared a space in the Ag Shed and early one morning in late January, Peter's ute arrived with its cargo. Tom and Hank Reeve and Liam Rixon were on hand along with Peter and Kevin, and the winnower was seamlessly unloaded and moved directly into the Ag Shed.



The earliest Australian winnower manufacturer was John Stokes Bagshaw, who began operations in Adelaide in 1838. The Bagshaw winnower is designed for Australian conditions, and a great advance over the old practice of tossing grain in the air to remove the chaff. Still, operating it in the hot Australian summer was dusty, labour intensive, hard work.

To get an idea of how it works: A stripper has metal 'fingers' to strip the heads of wheat, with a beater forcing the heads into a hopper and then unloading onto the ground. The winnower pulled up alongside the heap of grain and chaff on the ground which had been dropped by the stripper.



The wheat heads were then shovelled into the winnower, whose revolving threshing drum was turned by hand to separate the grain from the heads. This was then cleaned through shaking sieves and a blower, delivering the clean wheat to bags via an elevator. Some years later the stripper and winnower were combined into what is known as a 'combined harvester'.

Right: The grain is beaten from the heads by the drum and separated from the chaff by wind from the fan, through the moving sieves or riddles.

