



Newsletter

Help Celebrate Heritage Week and 50 years of the Altona Laverton Historical Society



SUNDAY 17TH APRIL 2011

Heritage Week is a new Annual National Celebration of Australia's Heritage.

The Altona Laverton Historical Society is planning an event at the Homestead Museum, Altona on Sunday the 17th April 2011 between 12 p.m - 4 p.m, to allow for persons to bring in photos of significant Historic events around Altona and Laverton and to have the opportunity for them to be scanned and recorded in the Society Database for future reference (See Page 2).

We seek to receive and catalogue items such as :

- Photographs of past residents activities from individuals or Club Groups
- Indications of any Digital images or digital video that are considered relevant to the project
- (Slides and Older traditional film images may also be relevant for consideration but this will need special equipment to transfer these images into digital format, this may not be possible on the day.)
- As a guide it is felt that images should be considered by the owners to be of special significance to the individuals or groups involved in regard to past or recent events, information 50 years or older is of special interest.

- The photos must be owned by the persons submitting them and permission given for the recording or reproduction of any images or materials submitted.

- It is planned that a database of photos will be collated to enable a permanent record of images received together with any supporting details regarding the circumstances of the photos, such as the year the photo is believed to have been taken, and the event involved.

- Note **Altona U3A Inc. in partnership with the Altona Laverton Historical Society Inc., has received funding from the Hobsons Bay City Council for a Community Partnership and Networking Project.*

It is a two year project to produce a DVD that will portray the history and current diversity of the Senior Citizens Clubs and Groups in Hobsons Bay.

This could also be an opportunity to present relevant photos of Senior's activities to be scanned on the day.

The relevant Seniors Clubs have been advised of Heritage Day.

Celebrate Heritage Week



Photographs, Memories & Devonshire Tea

at the

Altona Homestead Museum

Sunday 17th April 12 pm to 4 pm

Bring in your old Photographs of Altona of days gone by and whilst you are enjoying a Devonshire Tea in the historic courtyard of the Homestead we will scan your photos and add them to the museum archives.

Prize of \$100 voucher will be awarded for the most historically significant photograph

Enquiries Peter 0430 808240 or Sharon 0408 317 324



If images are already in the .jpg file format and individuals have the ability to place them onto an USB stick, CD, Or DVD this would aid in the ease of passing the files on to the main database records.



ALTONA LAVERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The Altona Beach Festival gave us the opportunity to have the courtyard area used for the provision of Devonshire tea's by member Annette Stephens, the photos above show the initial set up and the attractiveness of the area for such an event

HOMESTEAD – Outside

The working bee on Sunday 6 March concentrated on rejuvenating the courtyard in preparation for the afternoon's monthly Sunday opening and the forthcoming Altona Beach Festival.

We hope members will appreciate the changes improving the display of courtyard objects while increasing the amount of usable space adding to the area's versatility.

Thank you to Roger Blair, Frances Brennan, Ann Cassar, Barry Hanson, Jim Hevey, Kim Walsh, Sharon Walsh and Peter Weaver for giving up your valuable time, in many cases juggling quality time at the homestead with other obligations.

HOMESTEAD – Inside

Carol Winfield has commenced wonderful work in the front rooms transforming them by using her marvelous interior decorating skills, ably assisted by multi talented Bob Groves. You might look to check out the exciting new look next time you visit.

8mm FILM – Standard and Super

Ada Ackerley, secretary Williamstown Historical Society, has very kindly loaned us her 8mm film projector so that we may have a look through the society's film collection. If any members have 8mm film they would like to view and think may be of interest to the society to have a copy, please contact the secretary to arrange a date to have your film screened. Please make this a priority as we need to return the projector to Ada within a reasonable time.

Our sincere thanks to Ada for offering the loan of her projector, along with her copy of the Langhorne book which we were very interested to see Ada contributed to.

MISSING IN ACTION

Has anyone seen the front door bell that normally sits in the power point near the front door? We have been unable to locate it in recent days and are looking for your help to find it.

The button on the front gate won't work without it and this system was set up to alert museum staff when a wheelchair bound visitor wants access.

SEAHOLME PRIMARY SCHOOL

We had the pleasure of welcoming 75 students aged six and seven years from Seaholme Primary School to the homestead on Friday 4 March. After being divided into two groups and leaving their drink bottles on the front porch, they sat down on the rug in the drawing room for a short introductory talk from the president, Peter Weaver, on the development of the homestead and Altona. Students then explored all areas of the homestead and courtyard taking approximately 30 minutes to complete their visit.

A number of the students were very interested to see early photographs of the homestead but their young years meant they were too short in stature to take full advantage of the photograph swing boards – something for the society to consider in its future planning.

Members Committee Reports

Report on the delegates meeting of the WMGHS by Bob Hawkins

I had the pleasure of representing the Altona Laverton Historical Society, also present was Irene Middlebrook a life member and past Secretary of the ALHS.

In attendance were delegates from Altona Laverton, Broadmeadows, Craigieburn, Keilor, Living Museum of the West, St.Albans, Sydenham, Sunshine, Werribee Societies and the TAA Aviation Museum. Footscray H.S. and Williamstown H.S. were apologies. Various reports from the delegates alluded to, pioneer families, creating historic sites bus tours, cataloguing and digitising of photographs, documents, maps and other memorabilia, a grant to restore a cenotaph commemorating the nurses of World Wars 1 & 2 (Keilor), 152 year old church (low grade', "National Trust) sold for \$1.3m. (Craigieburn). Living Museum not opening as often (lack of Government funding). St.Albans with the launch of book, the "St.Albans Footprint".will celebrate the centenary of a local reserve, and the transfer of collection of images to database and celebrating the 150th.year of Local Government (Sunshine)

A gift from a local family of memorabilia was tabled, being theatre programs from 1924 of an opera featuring Dame Nellie Melba with most of the photographs personally autographed. Other business involved the moving of a motion to send a congratulatory card to Joan Ridley on her retirement as President of the Williamstown Historical Society for some 20 plus years.

After all reports were delivered the most important question put to the delegates was that after some 30 plus years should the group continue to meet ? Did the delegates feel that it was still worthwhile to continue or has time dulled the enthusiasm and are the meetings still informative and interesting. There was no hesitation when a resolution was moved by Bob Hawkins and seconded by Gordon Hope (Werribee H.S.) with an overwhelming unanimous vote from the delegates for the WMGHS to continue.

In the interim, President Elayne Whatman of Broadmeadows H. S. will act as minutes secretary and will endeavour to produce a newsletter of reports to be circulated to all delegates.

It was also decided that Elaine Brogan (ALHS) who has been involved for some 20 plus years with the WMGHS to continue. as a Community Representative on the. Management Committee of the Living Museum of the West.

For my part I informed the meeting to activities of the, ALHS including the 100 years of Aviation celebrations, giving a short verbal coverage of the events at Altona, also the "Ghost Nights at the Homestead" which had proved to be very popular, ongoing cataloguing, and the introduction of having a guest speaker every other meeting night.

With such a full program the meeting lasted some 3 hours.

Report No. 2... ".Celebration of J.J. Hammond's flight in a Bristol Boxkite in 1911." ... Bob Hawkins

The Altona Library held an afternoon tea and presentation to celebrate the 100 years of aviation at Altona on the March. With an audience of some 30 plus guests Cr. Michael Raffoul, Mayor of Hobsons Bay, officially opened the afternoon and welcomed everyone. I had been approached by the Library staff earlier about the audio visual presentation I had presented at the Bleriot dinner. After delivering a copy of the video to the Library I was contacted once more asking would I consider doing the presentation personally to which I agreed. During my address I identified myself as a member of the Altona Laverton Historical Society pointing out that the Museum was just across the road and invited all to visit. As well as the video I added a slide show of aviation trivia of events that took place in the West of Melbourne to which, I believe from reports, the presentation was warmly received by all with added complimentary remarks to myself.

The library staff had put together a static display consisting of photographs and reports on the Bristol Boxkite. Also representatives from the "Australian Aircraft Restoration Group" Moorabbin Airport,were in attendance with a graphic static display.

The Homestead Museum was open in support of the Altona Beach Festival, a general review and feedback on the event will be carried out but to all intents and purposes it was a successful day for all parties involved, the ALHS banked \$711 from Admissions, a Donation from Annette Stephens and Book sales on the day.

This was offset to some extent by the cost of printing colour brochures to publicise the Society activities.

It was a long day with a number of members able to attend to various duties and resources were stretched, so remember if requested to help out at future events please make yourself available whenever possible

Thanks to Ann Cassar from the President.

Our current Secretary Ann Cassar has advised the Committee of management that she is stepping down from her position on the Committee, and that of Secretary.

Ann has advised that increased responsibilities with an ongoing project at Melbourne Museum, and increased responsibility for the care of her Grand son means that she is unable to devote the time required to continue on the Committee.

Ann will continue with Historical research duties with the Altona Laverton Historical Society.

President Peter on behalf of the Committee of Management, has thanked Ann for her past involvement and wishes her all the best on behalf of members, and looks forward to her continued involvement in other areas.

Treasurers Report

Bank Balances 1/7/2010	\$11304.43
Income	\$16713.73

	\$28018.16
Expenses	\$12935.82

Balance	\$15082.34

The totals include the Investment and Cash Accounts at Bendigo Bank and current to 6th April 2011

Calendar

Next Meeting

19th April 2011 7.30 p.m

Topic

The Twentyman Family

Member ,Roger Blair will continue with the theme of residents in the Homestead and give us the background in regard to the residence of the Twentyman family, and their time on site and their continuing contribution to the Altona Community



Altona Homestead Museum

home **Altona Laverton Historical Society Inc** PO Box 236, Altona Vic 3018

MINUTES

Minutes of ALHS business meeting (general meeting) held Tuesday 15 March 2011 at the Altona Homestead Museum, 128 Queen Street, Altona commencing 7.42pm, chaired by Peter Weaver.

	Detail	Action
1.	Present Peter Weaver, Ann Cassar, Jim Hevey, Roger Blair, Margaret Rice, Ethel Muller, Joan Kent, Barry Hanson, Sharon and Kim Walsh, Bob and Maureen Hawkins and Pauline Chamberlain.	
2.	Apologies Owen Hyde	
3.	Minutes Previous Meeting Minutes for 18 January 2011 have been distributed. Moved Sharon Walsh, seconded Jim Hevey they be accepted. Carried.	
4.	Business Arising from Minutes None that will not come up elsewhere.	
5.	Correspondence List of correspondence 15 February to 15 March 2011 tabled.	
6.	Finance i. Treasurer, Jim Hevey, tabled report indicating balance of \$14,545 in the accounts. ii. Recent payments have been made for flowers for Lavinia Hanson and Elaine Brogan, television, vintage tiger moth flights (prizes), two marquees, digital notetaker and six foldaway tables. Moved Jim Hevey, seconded Sharon Walsh the report be accepted. Carried.	
7.	Reports Written reports for Western Region meeting and library talk on aviation will be circulated with next newsletter.	
8.	Contributions to Museum Recent gift by Margaret Rice of a ladies woollen bathing costume that would have been worn in the early 20 th century was shown to members.	
9.	Events i. Altona Beach Festival: Homestead open from 10am to 8pm, entry gold coin donation, free flight competition will assist with building database, Annette providing Devonshire Teas and will set up Friday. Bus tour guides – 11am Barry Hanson, 12 noon Margaret Rice, 1pm Owen Hyde, 2pm Barry Hanson?, 3pm Peter Weaver. ii. Heritage Week, Sunday 17 April, homestead open 10am to 2pm, photographs required for scanning, camera for most interesting historical photograph. iii. Reminder monthly Sunday open days coming up for April and May.	
10.	Projects i. Community Partnership and Networking Project between U3A and ALHS financed by Hobsons Bay City Council is a two year project that will produce a DVD recording the history and current diversity of seniors groups in Hobsons Bay, the production of a live performance and a temporary exhibition. ALHS members currently involved are Carol Winfield, Jim Hevey and Ann Cassar. Other members wishing to participate will be most welcome.	

10.	<p>Projects contd</p> <p>ii. Turtle Video operated in Altona during 1974/5 and Heino Saarelaht, lecturer in media studies at NMIT, is researching the organisation including tracking down reels of film initiated by them, for conversion to DVD. ALHS has four reels that hopefully can be converted.</p>	
11.	<p>General Business</p> <p>i. Recommended ALHS consider arranging tours such as visiting the Johnston Collection, Blackbird boat trip, mini bus to Warrandyte, Partarlinton-Drysdale district, Sarah Langhorne grave Williamstown.</p> <p>ii. Additional storage may be available at the former EPA building.</p> <p>iii. Sick List – Lavinia Hanson to have plaster and pins removed tomorrow from broken arm; Elaine Brogan home recuperating from recent operation. Wishes expressed to both for a speedy recovery.</p>	

Meeting closed 8.25pm.

Members Nights (speakers) 7.30pm (Tuesdays)

19 April, 21 June, 16 August, 18 October and 13 December.

Business Meetings (general meetings) 7.30pm (Tuesdays)

17 May, 19 July (AGM), 20 September and 15 November.

ALHS/Meetings/Minutes/Minutes Business Meeting 15.3.11

SPEAKER

Members Night – 19 April

Roger Blair will reminisce about earlier times in the homestead.