



The Wandong History Group Inc. Quarterly Newsletter FREE with your What 's News



WHAT'S OLD

Issue 20 - December 2021

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"CONGRATULATIONS" Allen & Karen on receiving the O.A.M. Award



L-R Shelley, Amira, Allen, Dylan & Norina.
Grandson Dylan pinned the medal on Allen.



L-R Allen, The Hon Governor Linda Dessau & Karen , Allen pinned the medal on sister Karen
A very proud mother Kath Christensen and Karen's partner Neil Mugavin looking on.



FROM THE EDITOR

This year, despite the challenges that Covid-19 has presented has flown by, as I write there is news of a new variant lets hope that we don't have the same challenges all over again with it. Last edition I mentioned the new bridge replacement for the doubled stacked trains that is being designed by ARTC (Australian Rail Track Corp) we were waiting for an environmental effects study to be published that was supposed to ally many of our fears over the project. The report has now been published and with only a few days to consider the report and make a submission the history group along with other groups have put a submission back to ARTC on the document provided. Unfortunately the document did not as promised enlighten us as to the impact of the new bridge at Wandong, some things we do know is that there are to be property acquisitions, that Pickett Walk will be destroyed and the pin oaks and other trees planted by the community will also be removed. ARTC are still refusing to show a plan saying it has not yet been done, however from what we know there is a lot of information out there that points to them having a good indication of what they are going to do. Also there are several areas of great historical significance that will be destroyed by this project. It is also disappointing to see that Mitchell Shire is not consulting the community about this despite having talks with ARTC, MSC tells us the talks are "in confidence" but ARTC refute that so we don't know who to believe. Please keep abreast of this, this project will have a big impact on Wandong and we need our townfolk to be properly informed, remember its to late once its gone.

On a brighter note the restoration project for St Michaels church is coming along splendidly and Greg and his team are working at a cracking pace. We wont be finished by Christmas but should be shortly there after and we are so looking forward to moving back in and setting ourselves up and being able to welcome visitors.

We were saddened and shocked by the sudden passing of Allan Ryan, a true gentleman and such a great Wandong person he is deeply missed by his friends in the community and we extend our deepest sympathies to all of the Ryan family. ANZAC Day 2021 will be a lasting great memory for me of Allan when his grandson Daniel conducted our service with many Ryan family members present, it was a great day for Allan and he was so proud of Daniel, the family then had a family reunion after the service and by all accounts had a fantastic day. Hopefully a lovely memory for all the family to keep of Allan. He will be long remembered by so many, Vale Allan.

Karen Christensen.

CHURCH RESTORATION



1. Prior to work starting.



2. Scaffolding ready to be erected.



3. Bricks laid out in order as they were removed from the sacristy.



4. Bricks uncovered under porch landing.



5. New sacristy floor laid.



6. Rebuilding the sacristy.

CHURCH RESTORATION



7. Roof being removed



8. Steps being removed for the new access ramp.



9. Preparing area for new access ramp.



10. Overseeing the works, archaeologists and builder.

