

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



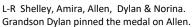
WHAT'S OLD

Issue 20 - December 2021

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









L-R 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 townsfolk 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.



Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

From all of us to all of you: Have a Merry and safe Christmas be kind to each other and look after our most precious resource, our beautiful town.

Sunday March 27th 2022

Put this date in your diary, for the next "Back to *

Wandong Luncheon at the Wandong Australiana *

restaurant. More details in February What's News *

HISTORY MATTERS

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In this column we will try to keep abreast of the things that affect our town and its historical links.

The Wandong History Group's charter is to protect and preserve the history of our area. As we are within the Mitchell Shire, we need to be informed of happenings within the shire that may affect us.

We note the article in the North Central Review congratulating several local organisations on their successful grant applications for shade sails. The Wandong History Group approached Mitchell Shire Council when these grants became available with the intent of applying for a shade sail for the Wandong Heathcote Junction Memorial Park. Our ANZAC Day service is held at midday, this is so that we fit in with other services in the shire giving people the ability to attend different services if they so wish. The downside of this is that the sun is at its highest point and on a warm day can be a problem for those standing during the service.

Mitchell Shires response to our request for permission to apply for the grant (required when the application is on shire land) was rejected by MSC on the grounds that, "there is a strategic plan" for the park and the shade sails are not part of that. Well its over to you now MSC do you care about the good citizens of Wandong and will you do something to help protect them from the dangers of skin cancer?

VALE— David Keath Deepest Sympathy to wife Wilma and family. Dave was a regular attendee to the Back to Wandong Luncheons. He generously shared his knowledge on the Clonbinane History.

BOOK SALES

There Was a Soldier—Karen Christensen
(A history of Wandong at War) \$20

From Lightwood Flat to the Forest—Lynne Dore
(A history of our schools) \$20

WANDONG IN PICTURES

Book (1-5) \$7 each or \$25 the set.

Wandong War Memorial

Wandong Seasoning Works

Wandong in Business,

Wandong Timber Mills and Tramlines

Wandong Buildings

All books available at the Wandong Newsagent or contact the History Group.

DONATIONS

The Wandong History Group accepts donations of any Wandong/ Heathcote Junction, Clonbinane related historical artefacts. All items will be kept and displayed sharing our past and preserving it for the future generations.

2021/2022 COMMITTEE

President/Secretary: Karen Christensen

Vice President: David Moran

Membership Secretary: Di Vidal

Treasurer: Sandra Moran

Newsletter: Karen Christensen & Di Vidal

Committee Meetings will now be held bi-monthly on the first Thursday of the month 7.00pm at the

Wandong Public Hall.

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