

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

“WHAT'S OLD”

Issue 22—June 2022

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FROM THE EDITOR

Better late than never they say, this edition of Whats Old is indeed late, and I apologise for that. We were hoping to have been able to have a big spread on the finished church project and held over the What's Old pending that. Unfortunately some late hold ups, including the power company taking their time to reconnect the power line held everyone up, the electrician was none to pleased or the builder and we thank them for their patience and perseverance, but the church is now complete.

Australian Government's Culture, Heritage and Arts Regional Tourism (CHART) Program.

The History Group has a strong record of attracting grants to assist our operations and in this our tenth year of operation, we began with three grants, one from the Foundation For Rural and Regional Development (FRRR) to create a website, soon to be launched, a grant through the volunteers program for new computer equipment and one for the supply of archival storage material. The Group received \$2928.00 toward purchasing conservation archival material. This grant allows us to protect our valuable photographic collection in a sustainable and efficient manner as well as making it more accessible to the visiting public. Our volunteers are now hard at work placing our collection materials into various folders and binders. It is exciting to be able to display our collection along with various historical artefacts gathered from around the district.

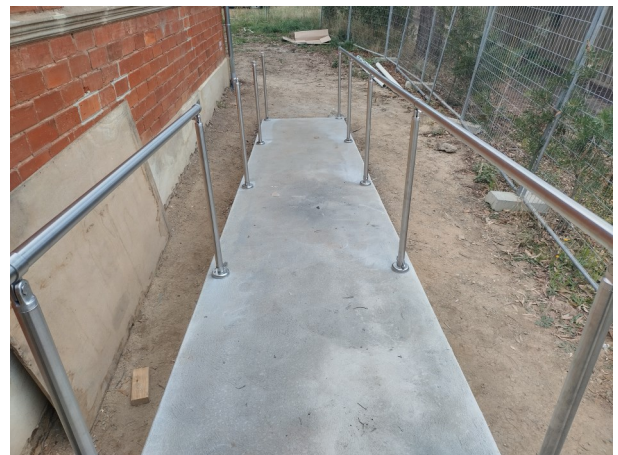
We have an exciting list of activities and events coming up toward the end of the year, in August we will be fulfilling our promise to the families of the airmen who were remembered last year with the unveiling of a plaque on Mt Disappointment. Due to the Covid restrictions at the time many of the families were not able to attend so this year we will have a special event for them. There will also be the official re-opening of the Church following its conservation and restoration through a Living Heritage Grant from DWELP, and our Annual History Week Exhibition.

It is with great sadness we note the passing of Maurice Scanlon, Maurice lived all his life here following on in his fathers footsteps on the family farm. He was the instigator of the local CFA, realising the need for such a service after fire tore through the farm, he was captain at Wandong for over 30 years. He survived the Black Saturday fire by sheltering in the wheel hub of his trusty tractor, and even though the farm was severely impacted rebuilt and continued on in his usual cheerful manner. Maurice had a great sense of humour, had a love of sports and was a great contributor to Wandong, it was fitting that the CFA formed a guard of honour to farewell him on his final journey. Vale Maurice.

Stay Safe Everyone—Karen



Back to Wandong Lunch participants





Members of the History group and St Patricks Parish pleased the project is nearly complete



A new beginning for the Wandong History Group, we cant wait to be settled in and organised.

ANZAC Day

Once again we were very happy to host Wandong's ANZAC Day service the day takes a lot of effort to set up and pack up after and we have few helpers so a big thanks to those who did help . A large crowd attended and the Wandong Primary School children excelled in reading parts of the program. We hope that these youngsters will remember the part they played in years ahead and maybe come back and take part in future services.



HISTORY MATTERS

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 were surprised to see work being done on Rail St to install bus stops for the train replacement buses. This project came about without consultation even though the shire did know about it, but failed to let anyone else know. We were concerned about the removal of the old guttering but it seems that PTV have had a change of heart and are not installing the second stop.

We are continuing to engage with ARTC on the matters relating to the town's heritage that will be affected when the new rail bridge is built . We need the people of the town to get behind this as well or we will be stuck with something completely inappropriate for the town. Without local support they will just plough on and we believe there are alternatives to the current proposal but we need to put up a united front to make change happen.

If you see anything that you think may not be appropriate happening let us know, we are happy to help where heritage matters are concerned and there are strict rules around what can and cannot be done under them. Removal of material from a site regardless of its heritage status is illegal and it is important that artefacts are properly recorded. A lot of Wandong has artefacts remaining especially in areas where the timber works were.

BOOK SALES

Ghosts Gold and a White Elephant—Ron Pickett \$50

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.

We would like to thank Jan Heriot nee Thomas for her recent donation of some Wandong memorabilia that belonged to her father Jack who ran the general store.

2020/2021 COMMITTEE

President/ Secretary Karen Christensen

Vice President: David Moran

Treasurer: Sandra Moran

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