



## TRIBUTE

JUNE, 2020

FREE PUBLICATION

# St Marys & District Historical Society Inc. - Quarterly Newsletter PO Box 640, ST MARYS NSW 1790 – Street Address - St Marys Corner,

Mamre Rd, St Marys – Parking via 29 Swanston Street.

Email: info@stmaryshistoricalsociety.org

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

FOR THE PROTECTION OF OUR MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC THE CHAMBERS BUILDING HAS BEEN CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE CORONA VIRUS AND THERE WILL BE NO ACTIVITY ON WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. OUR MEMBERS HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND. KEEP SAFE.

## In the Meantime!

## Of Hats, Boyfriends and other Feminine Frivolities

A story of hats in Sydney in 1940-50s

(Ref. From: RoyRoys.net Source Bev Cameron)(Image Ref. from Pinterest.com)

Hats! Growing up, for me, was always linked with dressing up and dressing

up demanded adding a hat. Childhood birthday parties always included party hats. Sometimes we'd make our own with crepe paper, glue, glitter and lots of ingenuity. But the best sort of fun with hats came when shopping with Mother. In the '40's and '50's and even well into the '60's, hats were de rigeur (required by etiquette or current fashion) for the fashionable woman. Mother, short on finance but long on artistic talent, in the late '40's and early '50's, became an habituate of a basement city store called JUNE MILLINERY. To enter JUNE MILLINERY was to enter a cavern of delights, an Ali Barber's cave of colour and light. Here could be found every sort of hat block, soft felt hat bodies ready to be steamed into shape, rolls and rolls of



straw and nylon crinoline, ribbons, artificial fruit and flowers, bolts of veiling, sequins, spangles and hatpins: the lot! It was entrancing!

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#### **VALE GAYE NYHUIS**

Sadly, on the 24<sup>th</sup> April we said goodbye to our dear friend and member.

Gaye's vibrant personality and talents were generously shared with several groups she aligned herself with. As a young woman working at 'June Millinery' Gaye acquired the skills in hat making and several of her creations are held by the Society and the Encore Historical Sewing Group. Gaye's interests were broad so being a member of the St Marys Country Women's Association, Lapidary Club, View Club were a natural fit. Gaye resided in Colyton with her family and when the opportunity came, she joined 'Team Colyton Community Group'. Our thoughts go out to her family and friends.

#### **Cancelled Events for 2020:**

#### "Back to St Marys" - Event Cancelled

The Society's 'Back to St Marys' open day event planned for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020 has been cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We are now looking forward to holding next year's event on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Advertising will be placed on our Facebook and Web pages leading up to the event.

#### St Marys Spring Festival – Event Cancelled

St Marys Town Centre has advised that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the *St Marys Spring Festival* for 2020 has been cancelled.

## Memories of Past Events



Members enjoying themselves doing a 'Jig' at the Blue Mountains Crossing Bi-centenary Breakfast Celebrations 11<sup>th</sup> May 2013



2015 WW1 ANZAC Centenary Commemorative Service & Breakfast of the Cooee Re-enactment March Victoria Park, St Marys November 2015 Commemorative Service & Breakfast



2017 Members Christmas Lunch



Members working with Penrith City Council for the erection of pavilions to house the Bennett Wagons in South Creek Park 2014 (Photos: C. Volkiene)



The St Marys & District Historical Society meets every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month at 1 pm – at the St Marys Precinct "Chambers" Building – Mamre Road, St Marys.

#### No meetings in January or December ALL WELCOME

Open to the Public on Wednesdays & Saturdays from 10.00am - 2.00pm (meeting days till 1.00pm) and by appointment for Groups Please contact: Lyn Forde: 8840 8771 / Groups/Bus Trips - Norma Thorburn: 9623 2307

Patron of our Society is Jackie Greenow, OAM.

Back issues of the "Tribute" can be found on our website at www.stmaryshistoricalsociety.org

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(While care is taken to ensure that all articles are accurate, the opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Society.) Any comments on this Newsletter are encouraged.

PLEASE, DON'T THROW OUT AUSTRALIAN HISTORY. OLD PHOTOGRAPHS, BOOKS, LETTERS, RECEIPTS, DOCKETS, NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES. IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU ARE NOT SURE ABOUT PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Editor: Caroline Volkiene Page 4.