



TRIBUTE

SEPTEMBER, 2022

FREE PUBLICATION

St Marys & District Historical Society Inc. - Quarterly Newsletter

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‘ Recording & Preserving the Heritage of St Marys ’

Executive Committee for 2022/23

The Society’s 2022/23 Executive Committee was voted in recently at the Annual General Meeting held on 24th September. Congratulations to President: Lyn Forde, Vice-Presidents: Robyn Gorman and Tom Thorburn; Secretary: Marie Koen and Treasurer: Norma Thorburn.

Lyn Forde (P) congratulating our secretary, Marie Koen on her Honorary Life Membership award for her services to the Society.



2022 'Back to St Marys'

On the 11th September the Society’s annual ‘Back to St Marys’ event was held and enjoyed by all those who attended. Historical photographs from the Society’s archives were on display, along with our current display “The Changing Skyline of St Marys”. Big thanks to our members who were on hand to offer assistance and to enjoy a good chat with our visitors.

Raffle Winners

The winner of the Bunnings \$100 gift card was won by ticket holder Orange W54 and the 3 bottles of non-alcoholic wine was won by ticket holder Orange W50. The winners have been notified and have claimed their prizes. Thank you to everyone who came along and made our annual ‘Back to St Marys’ a successful event and we look forward to seeing you again in 2023.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENTS

2022 St Marys Spring Festival's 'Grand Parade'



Top: Robyn, Marie and Rebecca battling the wet and windy weather!

Right: Members Robyn Gorman and Eric Kent. Photos: Lyn Forde

Thank you to Robert Brown, President and members of the Model 'A' Ford Club NSW who kindly invited the Society's members to be passengers in their vintage cars for the Grand Parade.



Norma Thorburn OAM - Guest Speaking



➤ On Wednesday, 24th. August members of Gosford Legacy travelled by bus to St Marys to visit our Society's Chambers. While they enjoyed morning tea, served by our ladies, I gave a talk on the Early Settlers of St Marys ably assisted by my husband Tom's slide show. This was followed by Question Time and it was pleasing to learn that one of the visitors grew up in St Marys, while another had previously lived in Werrington. We then had a tour of our Historical Displays and moved on to The Family Table at the Diggers and Band Club for lunch before they left for home. All said they really enjoyed the day. Norma Thorburn OAM.

- Norma was invited as guest speaker at St Marys (South Creek) Probus Club on Wednesday 21st September. Whilst Norma gave her talk on early St Marys her husband Tom presented a PowerPoint presentation of photographs. As usual this was followed by question time.

Right: Colman Young, President SSMSC Probus Club and Tom Thorburn.



Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Service 18th August 2022

Members Lyn Forde, Norma and Tom Thorburn attended this year's service held at the St Marys Diggers Club. The commemoration was well attended and a tribute was laid by the society's president Lyn Forde.

The focus was on the original concept of The Battle of Long Tan, as well as the 50th anniversary of the withdrawal of combat forces from Vietnam. Vin Cosgrove OAM provided an address encompassing the many achievements that veterans had achieved over the 50+ years since their participation in the Vietnam War.

Jack Jewry a local of St Marys was killed 56 years ago at the Battle of Long Tan.

Penrith City Council 2022 Local Celebration Award Winner Steven Green - Citizen of the Year

Congratulations to our member Steve on winning Citizen of the Year!



Steven Green has dedicated many thousands of hours to volunteering for numerous community organisations throughout Penrith and NSW. He began his volunteering work with St John Ambulance as a Cadet at age 13, eventually becoming a Headquarters Staff Officer and moving into roles such as Divisional Superintendent, providing essential training, mentoring and support to members and other groups. Steven has provided first aid care at many local community and sporting events including World Youth Day and the St Marys Spring Festival, served on the Nepean Local Emergency Management Committee, and is often invited as a guest trainer for other organisations. He has also served on several boards and executive committees including Bridging the Gap in St Marys and the St Marys and St Clair Anglican Parish Council. Steven is a national Director for the Wireless Institute of Australia, the Public Officer and acting Secretary for the Enrolled Nurse Professional Association based in Kingswood, and the President of the Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club where he and his team provide radio communications training and support including, emergency preparation. Steven also devotes time to providing pastoral care and chaplaincy to nursing home residents and mental health patients in hospital, as well as peer support to emergency service personnel. He is also on-call for the NSW Police when a support person is needed for local youths and those with disabilities.

Ref: Penrithcity.nsw.gov.au. Photo: Caroline Volkiene

VALE DIANE JAMES



Sadly, on the 24th September we said goodbye to our dear friend and member.

Diane's former vocation being in administration was put to good use when collating documents. Diane enjoyed meeting people who visited the society and was happy to sit and chat about local history. She was a regular in the St Marys Spring Festival grand parades and was happy to don a period costume when the society was invited by community groups to add to their celebration.

Until late, Diane resided in St Marys with her family. Our thoughts go out to her family and friends.



The St Marys & District Historical Society meets every 4th Saturday of the month at 1 pm – at the St Marys Precinct “Chambers” – Mamre Road, St Marys.

No meetings in January or December.

ALL WELCOME

Open to the Public on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10.00am – 2.00pm (meeting days till 1.00pm) and by appointment for Groups

Please contact Lyn Forde: 8840 8771

Guest Speaker – Norma Thorburn: 9623 2307

Patron of our Society is Kerrie Davies.

Back issues of the “Tribute” can be found on our website at www.stmaryshistoricalsociety.com.au

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Memories of St Marys - South Creek NSW, Australia

(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.