



TRIBUTE

SUMMER, 2015

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.

Awarded Honorary Life Membership 2014 – In June Clr Jackie Greenow, OAM and Kerry Davies (nee Martin), Editor of Nepean News were presented with their Honorary Life Membership badges for their support of our Society.

In September, Tom Thorburn (our webmaster), and one of the first members of the St Marys & District Historical Society, was presented with an Honorary Life Membership for his commitment to the society.



Photos courtesy of Lyn Forde.

PROGRESS REPORT ON SOUTH CREEK PARK

Work on the pavilion for the Bennett wagons are well under way and we are all looking forward to the completion of the project in 2015.



Photos courtesy of Penrith City Council.

MEMBERS WORKSHOPS

POPPIES

Australia is commemorating its involvement in the First World War of 1914-1918. The most recognised symbol of this war is the Flanders Poppy (Papaver Orientals) this poppy will only grow on disturbed ground and during the spring of 1915 the western front was awash with red poppies. At the Armistice talks in 1818 a US YMCA worker (Moina Michael) was reading a poem by John McCrae called “In Flanders Fields”, it was then she decided to wear a red poppy in remembrance. The French Secretary of the YMCA (Madam Anna Guerin) liked Moina’s idea so much that she had poppies made to be sold to help widows and orphans of this war. From this idea came the tradition of wearing the Flanders Poppy in memoriam. World-wide the people of countries that were involved in this Great War are making poppies so the ladies of the St Marys Historical Society decided to join in. Their idea is to make some wreaths for this commemoration and to crochet the poppies. Some of the ladies did not know this craft but said they were willing to learn. So they had a day together for those that wanted to learn and learn they did with some often humorous but mostly very good results. We will look forward to seeing their finished wreaths. Note – Moina wrote a book on this called, “The Miracle Flower. The story of the Flanders Poppy”.



Left Photo - Our members crocheting poppies - Caroline Volkiene, Sheila Biddulph, Marion McLeod, Margaret Dwyer and Margaret Mills. Right Photo - Sorting out our shoe collection - Norma Thorburn, Margaret Dwyer and Margaret Mills

Photos courtesy of Paul Mills.

SOCIAL EVENTS

At the end of our October meeting our members visited a local business Birdwood Studio (Picture Framing & Frames). The building is an example of a late nineteenth century brick cottage with decorative cast iron detailing; this demonstrates a phase in the development of St Marys with the construction of working class cottages. We enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea with our hosts under the shady trees in their garden.



Photo courtesy of Carol Volkiene.

On Tuesday 18th November our Society was invited to the Integration of Mamre House into CatholicCare Social Services (held at Mamre Homestead). The Mamre Ministry began nearly 30 years ago when youth unemployment was at an all-time high.



Sister Mary Louise Petro



Members Lyn Ford (VP), Eric Kent (VP)
and Caroline Volkiene (President)

Photos courtesy of Carol Volkiene.



A group of our members recently attended an evening at Werrington House for the launch of the 2015 season of Penrith Symphony Orchestra performances.

Our host were the Hon. Peter Collins AM. QC and Jennine Leonarder-Collins, Jennine being a member of the board of the PSO.

It was a beautiful evening under the trees and we were well entertained by Ayse Goknur Shanal, Soprano and Leigha Dark, Harpist.

It was great to catch up with familiar faces and meet many new ones. We now look forward to attending some of their concerts next year.

Photo courtesy of Tom Thorburn.

On the 24th November our members were invited by His Worship the Mayor of Penrith, Councillor Ross Fowler OAM to attend the official opening of the St Marys Corner Flagpole and Lights Installation.

Our members Caroline Volkiene, President and Vice Presidents Lyn Forde and Eric Kent attended as representatives of our Society.

Photo - Caroline Volkiene (P), Ross Fowler (Mayor of Penrith), Lyn Forde (VP), Clr Bernard Bratusa, Tanya Davies MP. Member for Mulgoa.



The new flag installation will display the City's diversity in the eastern part of Penrith City as is currently the case at the Civic Centre in Penrith. The installation, comprising three flagpoles and lighting, will host the Australian flag, the Aboriginal flag and leave space for a third flag to reflect cultural events happening in the City. -

Photos courtesy Eric Kent.

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

Patron of our Society is Councillor Jackie Greenow, OAM.

Back issues of the “Tribute” can be found on our website at www.stmaryshistoricalociety.org

This Newsletter is a free publication. Articles in this Newsletter may be republished if permission is given by the Society.

Please contact: us on 0450132181 & leave a message



(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

Our Members would like to Wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

