



National Trust

Trust - e - News

CASEY/CARDINIA BRANCH

December 2007

CHRISTMAS NEWS LETTER

Dear Branch Members,

For those of you who could not attend the AGM this year this is part of my Report to the meeting.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2007

The Branch has completed another successful year. The Heritage Information and Trust Gift Shop has become the hub of our Branch activity, and our Calendar of Events also made a substantial contribution to fundraising and growth of our Branch Membership, which is now at a record high of 242 memberships or approx. 400 members.

The National Trust (Victoria) Branches' Forum was held in the historic "Lancewood" house in Bendigo on Saturday 31st March 2007. The Casey Cardinia Branch was represented by Rob & Annette Aldersea, Rosalind Crofts and me. The opening address was made by Dr Graeme Blackman, Chairman of the Board, and followed by CEO Martin Purslow. Presentations by our Branch representatives were inspirational. The next forum will be held early next year in a location to be determined.

The Branch involved schools in "A Short Story Competition" organised by Ian Good. All prizes were donated by Sponsors and entries were judged by Carol Norman. This created a great deal of interest among the primary schools and prize giving night was enjoyed by many parents and friends. Congratulations to Ian Good.

Heritage Info. Centre and Gift Shop is becoming place to meet friends and look at "what's new" in the shop. Thanks to Annette Aldersea and her Committee there is always something new to tempt you to purchase that special gift. I would like to place on record just how much the success of this Gift Shop is due to Annette Aldersea, who does all the ordering, keeps track of deliveries, payments, back orders, pricing, and displays. Annette with her small committee, Lyn Wyatt, Susan Mahoney, and Lesley Sealey are to be congratulated along with the Volunteers who work in the Shop for their exceptional contribution.

My report continues on Page 2.

In closing I would like to thank the Branch Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer, Secretary and Committee Members for all the support they have given me throughout the year. Thanks also to the Casey and Cardinia Councils for allowing us to work with them to conserve our heritage. Thanks to all of you who have supported us by continuing to be members of this great organization.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year.

Kind Regards, Ruth Crofts,
President

TRUST GIFT SHOP

HERITAGE INFORMATION

"PIONEERS PARK"

BERWICK

OPEN 11.00 AM TO 3.00 PM

CLOSED TUESDAY

BROAD SELECTION OF QUALITY GIFTS TO SUIT ALL AGES

SUPPORT YOUR TRUST BRANCH THIS CHRISTMAS

STOP PRESS

JOIN OUR HAPPY BAND OF VOLUNTEERS

THE TRUST GIFT SHOP WILL NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO START IN THE NEW YEAR

THE TRUST GIFT SHOP CLOSED FOR JANUARY RE OPENS FEBRUARY 2008

PHONE: 97071518 FOR MORE INFORMATION

TRUST GIFT SHOP



BRANCH FORUM BENDIGO



Calendar of Events 2007 - This year has been most successful with most activities fully booked, and all running at a small surplus.

- The first activity was held in **February** when Heather Arnold our Local History Officer conducted a walking tour of Berwick. "Walking through Berwick Past," The group, consisting of about 30 people, pushers and dogs on leads assembled at Pioneers Park, at 10.00am to follow the Heritage Markers to learn more about the history of Berwick. Heather has offered to conduct the second half of this walking tour next year.



- Our first Branch Meeting was held in **March**, when Ian Good gave an illustrated talk about the Old Berwick Primary School's interesting history and its importance to the local community. This talk was very well attended by enthusiastic members.



- Unfortunately our **April** activity "Behind Closed Doors" had to be cancelled due to the drought causing many gardens to be too distressed and the owners not wanting visitors.



Courtesy of the Berwick & Pakenham Gazette

- At the **May** Branch meeting we were fortunate to have Dr Kerry Jordan, the National Trust's Conservation Co ordinator and Architectural Historian, provide a fascinating illustrated insight into the 19th Century homes of the gentry to the simple folk. "From Slab Huts to Grand Mansions"



- In **June** we visited "Beleura" in Mornington for again a most enjoyable tour of the house and garden, with morning tea and lunch. Anthony Knight spoke of the history of the house, its owners and the restoration of the house and garden. This visit was the most financially successful this year being fully booked.



- In contrast, in **July** we had “Lunch with Chloe” at Young & Jackson’s Hotel and then visited the “Famous” exhibition at the State Library. Everyone enjoyed this social outing and the fascinating history of “Chloe.” Thanks to Rosalind Crofts.



- **September** we had a tour and lunch in the magnificent historic mansion “Rupertswood.” Lunch was in the main dining room where we enjoyed a delicious two course meal and experienced the grandeur of the superbly restored mansion. Raffle made a profit thanks to Margaret Rossell.



- At the **October** Branch Meeting we were enthralled by Chris & Rob Pritchard’s illustrated talk about “Ham House – The Inside Story,” an interesting addition to the U.K. Trust’s series “National Trust National Treasures” seen on ABC TV.

- “A Day in the Country” held in **November** was a self drive observation run organised by Bob & Nevis Cochrane which finished at Archies Creek Hotel for lunch. Beautiful views, an excellent lunch and no one got really lost.

Conservation Activities

- **Kenilworth Coach House** in Beaconsfield was threatened with demolition due to neglect. With the assistance of the late Tony Rushton the matter came to a head 12/2/07 when a public meeting was held resulting in a Petition to Council and the Demolition Application being denied. The Council then allowed the sale of the Lot with the proviso that the owner restores the building. This is now being undertaken by a sympathetic new owner.



- **Avenues of Honour** – Casey City Council passed on 1st November 2007 the following resolutions

(a) *That as a matter of urgency, a detailed arboricultural report be prepared encompassing all of the Avenues of Honour within the City of Casey.*

(b) *That a further report come to Council before the end of February detailing the works that will support the ongoing sustainability of the Avenues of Honour.*

(c) *That Council enter into negotiations with Vic Roads for maintenance and restoration responsibilities for the section of Princes Highway Berwick, which contains the Berwick/Beaconsfield Avenue of Honour.*

(d) *That the cost of appropriate signage for each of the Avenues be included in the report.*

- **Gembrook Ave. of Honour** – Cardinia Shire Council completed an Arboricultural Report in 2006 which posed several options regarding the trees. The community and the RSL became concerned and held a meeting which Rob Aldersea and I attended. Subsequently the community formed committee and the Branch is being kept updated on its progress.
- **Significant Trees** briefing meeting with consultant from Enspec will be held on Wednesday 12th December 2007 from 7.00 pm to 8.30 pm at the Council Offices regarding the Branch assisting with location of significant trees missing from the register. This is currently confidential but additional volunteers are required.
- **Casey Heritage Sub Committee & Conservation Advisory Committee** – The Branch was represented on both these committees of Council during the year.
- **Casey Cardinia History Reference Group** The Branch is represented which is a very good heritage network to belong to as with the inclusion of the National Trust Branch the group now covers a broader aspect of our heritage. This has been a very busy year with several achievements we are growing our Member base and working well with both Municipalities and the Heritage Information and Trust Gift Shop proved to be a great success.

Now as we look forward to next year I thank you all for your continued support and my special thanks to the Branch Committee for their continued exceptional assistance and support throughout the year.

I look forward to having you join us in some of our future activities in 2008.

I would like to wish all our Branch Members, Volunteers and Supporters a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

