



National Trust

# Trust - e - News

## CASEY/CARDINIA BRANCH

*December 2009*

### CHRISTMAS NEWS LETTER

Dear Branch Members,

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

#### **PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2009**

The Branch has again completed another successful year although difficult due to illness. The Shop and the Branch Activities have covered all the cost of running the Branch, maintained 225 memberships and finished with approx. \$10,000 surplus. Our Trust Branch Gift Shop, operated entirely by the volunteers has enhanced its reputation for quality gifts thanks to Annette Aldersea and her Committee and also for friendly professional service thanks to our dedicated Shop Volunteer Group.

Two applications for Local History Grants have been submitted to publish Ian Good's "Pages from the Past" a booklet focusing on various heritage aspects and the lives of some of those who contributed to the growth and development in the area. The Branch will also contribute to this project to ensure a high quality publication.

Our Branch Advocacy saw the Branch and many members Objecting to the proposed high rise development in Lyall Road Berwick. Casey Council rejected the Application on all five grounds listed in our Objection. We will support the Council at VCAT in March.

The Branch continues to work with both Municipalities on heritage matters, having representatives on the Casey Conservation Advisory Committee, and Heritage Subcommittee. Cardinia Council notifies the Branch of any planning amendments relating to heritage. We have been involved with the Avenues of Honour signage, Significant Trees Register and are part of the Casey Cardinia Local History Reference Group

A special thanks to the Branch Committee for sustained support throughout the year. Rob & Chris Pritchard, Rob & Annette Aldersea, Bob & Nevis Cochrane, Carole Buchanan, Bruce Greenland, Ian Good and Rosalind Crofts. Rob Pritchard took on the role of Vice President - Casey and Bruce Greenland replacing Don Wallace as Hon Treasurer and we look forward to Noelle Murdoch joining us as Minute Secretary, and farewell and thanks to Carole Buchanan for her support.

In closing I sincerely thank you all for your support; for taking part in our Branch Activities; by purchasing from our Trust Gift Shop; or working as a Volunteer, but most especially for being a National Trust Member of this great organization.

May you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Best wishes, Ruth Crofts - President

*Activities continue on Page 2*

### **TRUST GIFT SHOP**

#### **HERITAGE INFORMATION**

**"PIONEERS PARK"**

**BERWICK**

**CLOSED FROM 23 DEC.**

**REOPENS 25<sup>TH</sup> JAN. 2010**

**OPEN 11.00 AM TO 3.00 PM**

**CLOSED TUESDAY ONLY**

**SUPPORT YOUR TRUST  
BRANCH THIS  
CHRISTMAS**

**STOP PRESS**

**URGENT**

**MORE VOLUNTEERS**

**ARE NEEDED**

**JOIN OUR HAPPY BAND  
OF**

**VOLUNTEERS**

**Learn a new skill**

**THE TRUST GIFT SHOP**

**CLOSED FOR JANUARY**

**RE OPENS**

**25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010**

**PHONE: 97071518**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**



Casey Cardinia Branch Members Outings

# Calendar of Events 2009

This year has been very busy and successful, with most activities fully booked, and all activities made a surplus. But equally important these events provided the opportunity for members to participate learn about the Trust and get to know other Branch Members.

2<sup>nd</sup> February – A Branch Planning Meeting for 2009

23<sup>rd</sup> March – Members Monday – Morning Tea and Talk  
Regular meetings were held in the Function Room at the Berwick Heritage Info. Centre and Shop

19<sup>th</sup> April – Visit “Harewood Homestead” – Hosted by Dr Patricia McWhirter



“Harewood Homestead” was built c. 1857 by William Lyall, who with John Bakewell and John Mickle owned thousands of acres around Cranbourne, Tooradin and Koo Wee Rup from 1852.

The current owner Dr Pat McWhirter has restored the house and researched the history. Some of our group dressed in period costume on arrival Dr McWhirter conducted the tour and enthralled all present with the history and restoration of the house, the out buildings and the historic garden. The original library books and other collections within the house are carefully preserved and recorded. Afternoon tea was served in the huge dining room.

May- Saw many Branch members visit the Crime & Justice Experience as individual members

15<sup>th</sup> June- Members Monday – Morning Tea and Talk – Show & Tell an item of Heritage Value to you.

20<sup>th</sup> July – Branch Meeting with Guest Speaker - Ian Good “History of Berwick Quarry” Exhibition



23<sup>rd</sup> August - Branch joined in the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations at Como.  
7<sup>th</sup> September – Morning Tea and Talk – Show & Tell

12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> September – Weekend bus trip to Ballarat, hosted by the Ballarat Branch

The Casey Cardinia Branch enjoyed a very special weekend in Ballarat, hosted by the National Trust local Branch to places not open to the public. We assembled at the Trust Gift Shop, Berwick and departed in our luxury coach at 8.30am. During the trip to Ballarat we completed our first quiz with prizes, and munched on nuts & sweets.

On arrival in Ballarat we went to the Former Female Refuge (1867) now a private home where we were treated to a morning tea of freshly baked scones, courtesy of the Ballarat Branch. The tour of the Female Refuge, and steam laundry was fascinating, adding a level of understanding to the gold rush days that is often overlooked. The Former Female Refuge took in women that were destitute and pregnant and provided them with a safe place to give birth and rehabilitate them.

Next we visited Craig's Royal Hotel (1857) for a delicious light lunch and a conducted a "behind the scenes" tour of the magnificent recently restored hotel. We were given a special and were proud that the owner comes from Cranbourne.

We then had a guided our tour of Ballarat entitled "The Development of Ballarat with Emphasis on Architecture," starting with an overview of the city from Brown Hill. We also visited many notable places including the Old Curiosity Shop, the Botanic gardens, Lake Wendouree, and P.O.W. war memorial etc. We will now look at Ballarat with a greater knowledge and appreciation.

We settled into our motel and enjoyed a "Happy Hour" prior to enjoying a dinner at the motel with some members of the Ballarat Branch.

Next day after a cooked Breakfast we went to Alfredton for a tour of the historic property "Lauderdale" (1856) a magnificent blue stone building privately owned. We enjoyed a tour guided by the owners and morning tea with members of the Ballarat Branch.

We arrived at the restored Ballarat Station in time to see the Steam Train arrive. We then had lunch in the recently restored cafeteria of the station. After lunch many of us visited the Art Gallery to see the Hans Heysen Exhibition, the Photo Beinnale, or explored the not normally open heritage buildings.

The return trip was via Bacchus Marsh for afternoon tea, another quiz with prizes and nibbles. We arrived in Berwick by 6.00 pm.



12<sup>th</sup> October – Branch Meeting with Guest Speaker – Annette Aldersea - Restoration of "Primrose Park"



"Primrose Park" Present owners Annette (in period costume) & Rob Aldersea

## 8<sup>th</sup> November – Behind Closed Doors

Fifty National Trust Members enjoyed a tour of privately owned heritage properties in Harkaway, Berwick and Officer last Sunday. The tour commenced in the 100 year old **Harkaway Hall**. Welcomed by the Mike Pender, President of the Hall Committee, we enjoyed a photographic exhibition of local history. Maps, name tags and notes on places of historic interest were distributed.

The group then set off to near by **“Wickham”** c.1854, the earliest surviving homestead in Harkaway. The present owners, Clare & Graeme Ganderton, have charmingly renovated the house, outbuildings and heritage garden.

The next property we visited was in Berwick, **“Burnbank”** c. 1854. The property previously a dairy farm is associated with Edwin Flack the first Australian Olympic Gold Medalist. The house has been extensively renovated by the present owner, Barbara Dalton, to provide exclusive short term accommodation in a heritage setting.

From the history notes provided, several points of interest were observed on the drive to **“Primrose Park”** c 1988. We were welcomed by the present owners, Annette and Rob Aldersea. After saving the property from certain demolition ten years ago, Rob and Annette with total commitment to its restoration, have meticulously restored the building to an elegant Victorian Villa. The exterior, the interior, all fittings, furnishings and even the garden are of the correct period.

A traditional afternoon tea was enjoyed in the beautiful garden.

**“Behind Closed Doors”** was a most successful activity organised by the National Trust Casey/Cardinia Branch this year. We thank the property owners for generously allowing us to visit their homes.



Present owners of “Wickham” Charlotte, Clare, & Graeme Ganderton with Ruth Crofts Branch President



National Trust Members assemble at the entry to “Burnbank” Berwick

30th November – Branch 7th AGM with Guest Speaker – Kevin Weeks – News Paper Collection

13th December – Volunteers Christmas “Thank you” Celebration.

*The President and Committee of the Casey/Cardinia  
Branch wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a  
Happy Healthy New Year*

*We hope to see you at some of our 2010 Activities and at the Berwick  
Heritage Centre & Trust Gift Shop*

