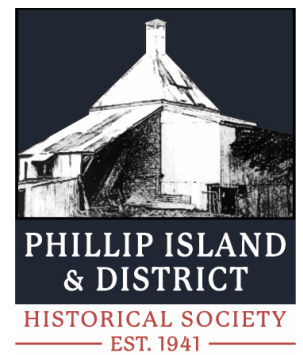


Phillip Island District Historical Society Inc.

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www.phillipislandhistory.org.au

President: Doug Waugh
Secretary: Pamela Rothfield



Welcome to our April newsletter! I hope everyone has had a wonderful and enjoyable Easter.



Image courtesy Examiner Newspaper W.A.

As we commemorate ANZAC Day, I find myself reflecting on the importance of remembering history and the sacrifices made by so many. During my recent holiday in Japan, one of the most poignant experiences was a special few days spent in Hiroshima. Beyond the beauty of the cherry blossoms, the incredible food, and the warmth of the people, the visit to the museum dedicated to the tragic events of 1945 left a profound impact. The museum vividly captured the devastation and loss suffered by hundreds of thousands, reminding us of the

resilience of those survivors and the importance of honouring the memory of those who perished. At the same time, we too on ANZAC Day, remember the courage and sacrifices of those who have shaped our history.

As I reflect on this, I feel particularly fortunate that the themes in our own museum are more joyful in nature. However, the task of sharing the past—its stories, people, and milestones—is one we always strive to achieve with the same depth of engagement and respect. While the subject matter may differ, our goal is always to connect with visitors and provide a meaningful experience, just as the Hiroshima Museum does in its unique way.

Looking ahead, our next exciting project is the celebration of our beloved Warley Hospital, which opened in December 1923 and closed its doors in 2008. This exhibition will coincide with the opening of the new Cowes Urgent Care Centre. We are hopeful of having some fascinating memorabilia to display that will take you through the history of what began as a Bush Nursing Cottage and evolved into a vital private hospital. It promises to be a journey through time, showcasing the significant role this wonderful institution played in our community.



In March, we kicked off the year with our first general meeting at the RSL (left). Many thanks to our committee member, Jason Cameron, who took on the role of MC for the afternoon, ensuring plenty of fun as everyone tried to guess the uses of some rather curious objects on display. It was a light-hearted

and engaging start to what promises to be an exciting year!

It is with mixed emotions that I must inform members that, due to personal commitments, I will be stepping down from my role as Secretary of the Society after five fulfilling years. As a result, we are now seeking a new Secretary to join our team. While I will continue to serve on the committee, I am confident that the incoming Secretary will find this role both rewarding and engaging, with plenty of opportunities to contribute while taking on meaningful challenges. If any members are interested in learning more about the role, please don't hesitate to contact me on 0418 368 607.

Membership of our club continues to slowly increase - but again I stress the importance of grabbing a friend and convincing them to join the Society.

In other news, we are looking forward to the visit of our heritage consultant, Mark Joseph, who will be assessing the condition of all the chicory kilns on the island. He will compile a comprehensive report to guide us in efforts to ensure these kilns are preserved and maintained for future generations. We are grateful to the Bass Coast Shire for their support through the Community Grant, which has made this important work possible.

As we look ahead, we would like to inform members that our monthly newsletter will transition to a quarterly format starting this quarter. This change will allow us to focus on delivering more in-depth content, including updates on upcoming events, projects, and the exciting developments within our Society. We're looking forward to keeping you informed and engaged with more detailed and thoughtfully curated updates every three months.

Yours in history
Pamela Rothfield

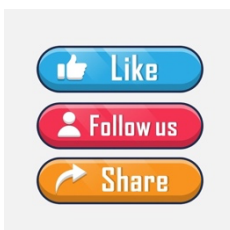
What in the World...?????



Congratulations to Neil & Gill Moseley who guessed the correct use of each strange object.

1. Sponge cake slicer
2. Saw setter to adjust the teeth of saw
3. Caustic pen to remove warts and corns
4. Bicycle registration plate for WA
5. Microscope slides of plants and insects
6. A Woman's guide to marriage
7. Woman's fob watch

Don't forget to **Like, Follow** and **Share**:



<https://www.facebook.com/pidhs>

www.phillipislandhistory.org.au

<https://www.youtube.com/@PhillipIslandHistoricalSociety>.

A Visit to Glen Isla: A Glimpse into Phillip Island's Past



Last month, the committee had the pleasure of visiting *Glen Isla*, (left) a historic home that offers a fascinating look into the early days of Phillip Island. According to the Heritage Place Study, Glen Isla was built in 1869 for Robert and Margaret Anderson, who originally purchased over 3 acres of land from Crown Allotment 65. Robert, a skilled plumber and machinist in Melbourne, would travel weekly by ferry to his plumbing business while living at Glen Isla with his family. He later added to his landholdings by

acquiring the neighbouring land of some 4 acres.

The house, an imported American timber kit home, remains a remarkable example of 19th-century architecture. Described as a picturesque homestead, it features a double-story weatherboard building with a gabled corrugated steel roof, narrow eaves, elaborate bargeboards, and turned timber finials. The windows are timber-framed, double-hung sashes with shutters, and the expansive grounds are graced by Norfolk Island pines and three oak trees, believed to be over 100 years old. The property also included sheds, stables, and a fernery adorned with intricate lacework.

Many of the home's original features, including fireplaces and stained glass windows, still remain intact,



Glen Isla from *The Weekly Times* in 1925

giving visitors a sense of the elegance that once graced the home. After the death of Margaret Anderson in 1888, the house was extended with the addition of two cottages.

The Andersons' daughter, Wilhelmena, was born in 1856 aboard the ship *Wilhelmena* during their voyage to Australia. After her mother's death, Wilhelmena operated Glen Isla as a boarding house and went on to marry James Young in 1888. She became the first Sewing Mistress at the Cowes School. Robert Anderson died in Cowes in 1897, and thereafter, the property passed through many different owners, each leaving their own mark on this historic site.

I understand that in the 1970s, when the property was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Lunn, the Phillip Island & District Historical Society were offered the opportunity to exhibit displays in the kitchen of Glen Isla.

Our visit to Glen Isla was a reminder of the island's rich history and the families who helped shape it. We're grateful for the opportunity to explore such a significant part of our local heritage.

A big thank you to Maddie and Ian Baker for allowing the committee the wonderful opportunity to view your beautiful home, up close and personal.



Above left, members of the Society shown around the grounds of Glen Isla.

Right, the internal staircase in all its glory.



Image above clearly showing lacework and the turned timber finials and quatrefoil motif gable vents on Glen Isla.



Membership Matters.

Do you know someone who would like to become part of our Society? Every membership strengthens our ability to preserve the essence of Phillip Island. Let's make sure the voices of our past are never lost — encourage others to join us today.

www.phillipislandhistory.org.au/membership