



TRIBUTE

SEPTEMBER, 2019

FREE PUBLICATION

St Marys & District Historical Society Inc. - Quarterly Newsletter

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‘Recording & Preserving the Heritage of St Marys’

Executive Committee for 2019/20

The Society’s 2019/20 Executive Committee was voted in at the Annual General Meeting held on 28th September. Congratulations to the Society’s President: Lyn Forde, Vice-Presidents: Tom Thorburn and Rebecca Brown; Secretary: Marie Koen and Treasurer: Norma Thorburn.

‘Back to St Marys’

On Sunday 8th September the Society’s annual ‘Back to St Marys’ event was held. Although the weather was terrible on the day the ‘old faithfuls’ turned up, as they do every year and it was very pleasing to see some new faces attend. It was a day of reminiscing over old photographs and welcoming our visitors with our slide show and displays. Our members provided scrumptious refreshments for the visitors and they all promised to return and see more of our collections in the future.

This reunion is held on the second Sunday of September every year and everyone is welcome.



Norma Thorburn ‘Overview of Bennett Wagons’

Photos: Tom Thorburn

Back to St Marys Raffle Winner

The raffle was drawn at the society's September general meeting. Winning ticket was **Black F 85**. The winner has been notified and has collected their prize of a Crochet Blanket and book 'Dharug & Dungaree' The history of Penrith and St Marys to 1860. *Congratulations!*



Visitor Paul Lack and member Eric Kent. Photo: Tom Thorburn

Thank you to everyone who came along and made our annual 'Back to St Marys' an enjoyable event and we look forward to seeing you again in 2020.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENTS

1st Cambridge Park Scouts Visit 16th September

Lyn Forde (P) welcomed the members from 1st Cambridge Park Scout Group to the Chambers on Monday evening. The group had come along to learn about the history of St Marys and area to enable them to attain their local history badge.



Lyn Forde (P) and Marie Koen (S).
Photos: Caroline Volkiene.



Several questions were given to the boys and girls to answer by following a hint trail in the form of a compass.

The night finished with Eric Kent (right), a former 1st St Marys Scout leader, recalling his time with the scouts.



St Marys Spring Festival Dinner and St Marys Citizen of the Year.

On the 20th August the St Marys Spring Festival Dinner was held at St Marys Band Club. The 2019 St Marys Citizen of the Year was announced and congratulations go to Betty Murray who has taken out this honour.

Over the years Betty has been an advocate for road and pedestrian safety in the St Marys area. She has worked tirelessly to improve the safety of those living in and visiting St Marys.



Left: Martin Coote and Sue Fryer, St Marys Town Centre Management with Betty Murray 2019 St Marys Citizen of the Year. Photo – Caroline Volkiene

Unfortunately, the 2019 St Marys Spring Festival was cancelled due to high winds.

2019 Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration Sunday 18th August.

The society's executive committee attended this year's service held in the auditorium of the St Marys RSL Club. A floral tribute was laid by the society's president Lyn Forde.

This service was held in conjunction with the St Marys Outpost sub-Branch of the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia.

Major General (Retired) Jim Molan AO DSC delivered a thought-provoking Address and was very well received by those who attended.

The 1/15 Royal New South Wales Lancer Band and the 5 Engineer Regiment, Catafalque Party, and Andrew Iverson, Piper were in attendance.

“Jonnie Russell Tribute Show to Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith”

On Sunday 22nd September, members Tom and Norma Thorburn attended the “Jonnie Russell” Tribute Show to Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith” at the Gaels Club at Kingswood.,

Jonnie wrote and recorded “The Immortal Southern Cross” some time ago and performed it on the show. Norma was invited to speak about when “Smithy” came to St Marys to give joy flights in 1930 and to also display some photographs of the event. It was a great afternoon. – by Norma Thorburn Photo: Tom Thorburn



Congratulations to member Paul Mills



Research Officer, Paul Mills who is also a member of the Nepean Men's Shed recently received their 2019 President's Award for his outstanding contributions to their Shed.

We send our congratulations to Paul for his achievement in receiving this award.

The Nepean Men's Shed is a place for men of all ages to be socially active, to form new friendships and allow opportunities for interaction in their lives.

Photo: Paul Mills, Nepean Men's Shed

ARTICLE OF INTEREST

Nepean Times, Saturday 15th September 1917, pg3.



St Marys

PROSPECT OF WATER FAMINE.—The long, unseasonable and utterly unseasonable dry spell now prevailing has brought that dismal prospect—probability of a water famine locally—in sight again and the urgency of the situation requires that an effort should be made to obtain an adequate supply for the town. It has been suggested that St. Marys public would be well advised to adopt (per arrangement by the civic council with Penrith authorities) the carrying out of a scheme, at the minimum of cost possible, which would ensure a good supply from the nearest and most adequate source available to St. Marys, viz., the Nepean River, Penrith

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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 Jackie Greenow, OAM.

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

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

Please contact: Lyne Forde: 8840 8771 / Bus Trips - Norma Thorburn: 9623 2307



(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.

*St Marys & District Historical Society's
2019 Display
"Stories from the History Wardrobe"*

On Display from 22nd March to 4th December 2019



*Jump on a fashion time-line and become enlightened by
St Marys/South Creek history with the help of period clothing sewn by
members.*



*Aboriginal Stone Artefacts Display,
generously on loan from Colin Gale, Darug Elder*

*The Chambers Building, St Marys Corner
Cnr. Mamre Rd & Gt Western Hwy
Parking via 29 Swanston Street, St Marys*

*For Enquiries Lyn Forde: 8840 8771
Group Bookings, Tours & Guest Speaking - Norma Thorburn: 9623 2307*