

March, 2020

Hello members,

It does not seem like six weeks have elapsed since we closed up shop at HeritageWorks. It appears that many people have spent the intervening time productively. Our enforced isolation has resulted in some serendipitous occurrences. Judging by the items being sent to W&DHS, cupboards all around Australia are being searched and tidied up. In the week leading up to Easter the president discovered some photographs and slides from the early 1950s had been deposited in her letter box. The two photographs, one of which was taken by Warrnambool photographer Ralph Illidge, show the then Warrnambool Technical School principal Mr Willison and some of the students. We have put the photos onto our Facebook page, and will also publish them in the next *Warnimble* in the hope that someone will recognize some faces among the students.

This week we were emailed some slides, c. 1962, sent from Sydney, though held by a late relative of the sender, in Orange, NSW. The donor has kindly offered to post the originals to us. We have also received email from an enquirer wanting to know our postal address as she has “something to send to us”, and also an offer from a man in South Australia to donate an artefact which had been languishing in a shed. So it appears that there is much sorting and rehoming going on across the country. Some people are using their time to research. Enquiries this month relate to aspects of the Antarctic Ice Company, James Robertson Bruce, Lady Bay/ Warrnambool harbour, houses & horse racing.

For those of us who respond to research queries work continues at home and also for other volunteers on various projects, including preparations for the publication of the book on the 204 men who appear on the Pioneer Board. The winter edition of *Warnimble* is in the pipeline and we are all learning that it is possible to get a considerable amount of work done while working remotely, with limited resources. The consumption of fewer cups of tea and a reduction in the amount of social chat adds to our efficiency, however we do miss the day to day contact with the other regular volunteers and visitors.

The HeritageWorks committee which oversees the management and operation of our research centre has held a Zoom meeting to discuss our situation and plan for the future. We are unable to make any decisions on reopening as yet, and will be guided by government regulations, which may change after mid-May. We have begun to plot a course for a gradual reopening, and will continue to work towards this via electronic meetings. In the meantime, we can be reached by post, or email, Facebook or our website. (Refer to the bottom of this bulletin for relevant details).

We hope you enjoy the slideshow on page 2 – a selection from the ones recently arrived by post and email. The first four were taken in 1962. Slide 4 shows Raglan Parade east prior to the duplication which occurred in the 1970s.

Who can remember what was displayed in the concrete tourist information booth between the Town Hall and Post Office, shown in slide 5?



Janet Macdonald – President (0409 624059 or 5562 4059) janetmac7@bigpond.com
 Rosemary Isaac – Secretary (5562 8403) Email rosemaryisaac@icloud.com
 Committee: Marita Murphy (Vice President). Barbara McLeod (Treasurer) Mandy King,
 Joanne Laity, Glenys Phillpot, Pat Varley and Eric van der Wal.
 Elizabeth O'Callaghan - Librarian. HeritageWorks Phone 55610283
www.warrnamboolhistory.org.au For research: info@warrnamboolhistory.org.au