MT HORROCKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.



NEWSLETTER - WINTER 2023

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of MHHS was held on 5th June 2023 at the Watervale Bowling Club. There were 15 in attendance. President Wendy Spackman began proceedings by welcoming every one present. She then gave her President's Report which is attached to this Newsletter.





Treasurer, David Spackman then presented his Annual Financial Report, announcing that subscriptions would remain the same at \$20/person - \$30/family.

Member Graeme Ferguson was then asked to declare all positions vacant and accepted nominations from the floor. MHHS newly elected Committee Members can be found on the back page of your Newsletter. MHHS welcomed two new Committee Members; Eugenie Booth and Pam Datson.



After the election of the 'new' Committee, Meredith McInnis gave an interesting talk entitled "Searching for Tom" telling of her search for more information relating to her ancestor who fought and was killed in action in World War I.

SA History Festival 2023

MHHS once again held a successful event as part of The South Australian History Festival; "The Wonders of Watervale" which was very well attended. Visitors began at the Watervale Institute where they were treated to a warming cuppa with scones before embarking on a tour of some of Watervale's lovely old buildings. Visitors took in St Mary's Anglican Church, the Uniting Church, the Stanley Grammar School, Watervale Hall and lastly a guided tour of the Watervale cemetery.



President Wendy Spackman with committee member Meredith McInnis outside the Institute ready to receive visitors



Sue McKee and Darryl Rowett visited St Mary's Anglican Church, seen here with church member Jill Ackland

New Road Signs on Horrocks Highway



As Wendy Spackman mentioned in her President's Report, new directional signage has appeared on Horrocks Highway. One north and one south of Horrocks Cottage.





There is also another sign opposite the cottage with a directional arrow. MHHS is indebted to MP Geoff Brock for the instigation of the signage. It is hoped a 'monument' sign will be installed opposite the Horrocks Cairn north of the cottage at some stage.

Friends of St Mark's Cemetery



MHHS and the congregation of St Marks Church at Penwortham are somewhat concerned about the future of the cemetery at St Marks

Should it be decided to close the church due to lack of numbers attending services, what will happen to the cemetery? As the cemetery is not a council one, CGVC are not responsible for maintenance and upkeep. Approaches to the Anglican Church for assistance have been unsuccessful and the CGVC do not consider it a fire hazard at the present time. The church committee are in the process of establishing a 'Friends of St Marks Cemetery' group to address the situation. For further details of this proposal, please contact Church Secretary Linda Wells at linda.wells@hotmal.com 0402767949.





Watervale Primary School Visit

Mt Horrocks Society member Leonie Moore recently held a 'Walks and Talks' tour of historical sites in Watervale. Students, teachers, parents and community members attended.

Teacher Alison Burford stood on the veranda of her father's house and described its days as a Blacksmith's shop. Warwick Duthy showed the group through the Watervale Hotel and talked about the life of the local aboriginal people and how Watervale was used as a place for birth, food and reconnection. The students then inspected a MHHS photo album of school photos held in the Watervale Institute.

A few days later several students with their teacher Jo Tilley visited Horrocks Cottage. Wendy and David Spackman along with Gypsey Sandow entertained the group with the story of John Horrocks, his expedition, his life in Penwortham and the building of the cottage.





Golden North Ice Cream Centenary 1923 - 2023



In **1870** William Bowker and his family settled in Laura, 240 k north of Adelaide, and in **1880** started selling fresh milk and cream from their dairy.

1923 saw the first production of ice cream from the factory in Laura. In **1938** Golden North introduced pasturised milk to the mid-north of South Australia and in **1940** became the first manufacturer to introduce the half gallon (2 litre) container of ice cream.



During the **1960s**, Golden North had the longest milk run in the world. From the Barossa Valley to Tennant Creek – over 1200 miles (2,034 km).

In **1983** the Bowker family sold the concern to Farmers Union and in **2001** it was sold to a group of four SA business men.

In **2006**, Golden North became a SA '*Icon*" and in **2008** was sold to the current owners comprising five SA families. In **2012** the business became 'palm oil free'



After winning many awards; namely the 'Canstar Blue Award*' for Australia's favourite ice cream tub for five consecutive years, and in 2016 being inducted into the "SA Consumer Award – Legends for Life", as well as SA Royal Show and Dairy Industry awards, Golden North is still going strong and producing ice cream from their factory in Laura

*Canstar Blue's awards are designed to help consumers make more informed purchasing decisions. From the grocery aisle to the appliance showroom, energy and telecommunications markets, all the way through to the cutting edge of product and service innovation.

Watervale Community Newsletter

Occupational Therapy students Riley and Holly recently spent time at the Watervale School as part of their ongoing studies. They decided that their project would be to develop a

community newsletter.

With intensive research and interviews, the first newsletter was released to the delight of the community.

MHHS Publicity Officer Meredith McInnis contributed an article on the recent History Month event 'The Wonders of Watervale'. The society hopes to contribute regularly to the newsletter which will be published quarterly.



2023-2024 SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE

Members are reminded that subscriptions for the 2023-2024 financial year fell due on **July 1**st **2023**.

They remain set at \$20 Single and \$30 Family.

Pay by: Cheque, Money Order made out to "Mt Horrocks Historical Society Inc."

: Bank Transfer/Direct Debit: BSB No.105-030 Account No.140232440.

(Please use your name as reference)

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