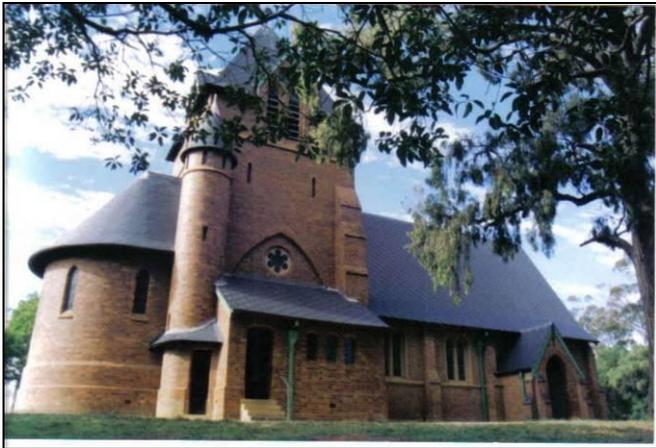


THE MENANGLE NEWS

VOL 22 NO 7

JULY 2012

St James – *the light on the hill*



Minister: Steve Davis
Enquiries: Ph. 4633 8594

SUNDAY Church Services

8.30am: Traditional Service
10am: Family Service and Sunday School
6.15pm: Evening Service

Kids Club: 4:30-5:30pm Fridays
[yrs 2-6]
At the Rectory – 5 Sulman Place

Youth Group: 6:30-8pm Fridays

WHAT'S ON AT ST JAMES

BELL RINGING PRACTICE

Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8 PM
New members welcome.

St James' Day (25th July)

Will be celebrated at all services on 22nd July

You can visit the church website to see a calendar of all events, listen to the weekly sermon, view photos, read the history and catch up with the latest news from our missionary families:

www.menangle.anglican.asn.au

GUESS WHICH MENANGLE RESIDENT IS
STANDING FOR LOCAL COUNCIL IN THE
SEPTEMBER ELECTIONS

St. Patrick's Church



Mass: 1st Sunday of each Month at 6pm.

BIRTHDAYS

2nd Ethan Taylor
9th Elizabeth Hobbs
15th Jason Maher
17th Peter Wright
19th Brodie Mealing
23rd Laura Burt
24th Dave Black
25th Elizabeth Cross
28th Brian Peacock
30th Rhiannon



ANNIVERSARY

11th James and Meredith Wilson

POET'S CORNER

*Autumn leaves,
rose red.
Jumping up and down when I walk
past.
Riding the wind
Golden like the glow of the sunrise.
Yellow, green, red, brown
colours all around.
Falling down like a graceful
butterfly who's flying to its friend.
Wicked rainbow
Green as grass.*

By Siobhan Burt

RAINBOW REFLECTIONS

I have only spotted a tiny fragment of a rainbow in recent weeks, even though we have had lots of clouds and rain. But it was still enough to lift my spirits – hope it did the same for you!

Light is a fascinating substance – one we depend upon in a multitude of ways, not least of which is to produce beautiful rainbows!

Of course the Earth has its own light – the sun – and physical life on the planet is sustained by that great light.

The World (mankind and all the operating systems of the cosmos) also has One who claims to be its light – Jesus.

Read the gospel of John – Jesus is quoted as saying “I am the light of the world. He who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Then, even more significantly, He says to Believers: “You are the light of the world!”

The light Jesus refers to is the radiance of the glory of God. Everything Jesus did, had only one purpose: to glorify Our Father in heaven.

Believers are called to follow His example and live to glorify our Father in Heaven.

Think of Mother Theresa’s life – a radiant light in the midst of the world’s most impoverished people. Think of William Wilberforce, a light in the midst of the evil of the slave trade. Think of William and Katherine Booth – lights of hope and help to many lost people.

Bringing it closer to home though – what does it mean for **us** to live our lives to glorify our Father in Heaven – to “Hallow” His name, as we say in our Lord’s Prayer.

Here are some suggestions from a favourite teacher of mine: Asher Intrater from Revive Israel*.

1. Admit when I do something wrong. (see Joshua 7:19)
2. Make the Holy Spirit happy in the way I talk to EVERYONE. (see Ephesians 4)
3. Give up my obsession with being “right” and arguing to prove it.
4. Refuse to analyse, blame or justify.
5. Simply and frequently ask myself the question “How can I glorify God in **my** response to this situation?”

Maybe one or two of his suggestions would help you shine your light!

God Bless,

Sue Peacock

*Go to this link to watch the full message “Living to Honor God” by Asher Intrater.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ReviveIsraelTV>

IN THE NEWS

Tree House Mystery



The elevated wooden structure on the side of the Hume Highway near Menangle Photo: Tim the Yowie Man

For over 30 years, almost every time I’ve driven along (or being driven) the Hume Highway near Campbelltown, I’ve remarked to my passengers about the large tree house type structure that looms large on the side of the highway near Menangle. I’ve never managed to discover its purpose.

Have you noticed it? It’s amongst some trees about 100-metres off the side of the road just after the odometer check starts, between the Nepean River Bridge and Moreton Park Road.

Earlier in the week, I thought it was finally time to get to the bottom of this mystery once and for all. So while driving back from Sydney I pulled off the highway, scrambled up the grass embankment, and snapped this photo in the hope that someone will know its origins.

...follow up story:



A treehouse near Menangle Bridge over the Nepean River.

Susan Parsons' 1984 sketch of the structure Photo: Susan Parsons

I have been absolutely besieged with correspondence about the elaborate tree house partially hidden among trees on the side of the Hume Highway near Menangle (“Tree House Mystery”). At the time of writing, I’ve received 137 emails from other travellers, who like me use the mystery wooden structure as a landmark on the drive from Sydney to Canberra. Incredibly, among this mountain of emails are almost as many different theories as to the origins of the elaborate tree house. To illustrate the variety of theories, I present them here, without judgment.

Internment Camp: “While travelling past the structure a bus driver once told me that during World War II there was an internment camp on that site for enemy aliens and that it was a guard tower for that camp,” writes Maurice Lynch, of Downer. “It is my understanding the vegetables and maybe fruit were grown at the site for use in the camp and for sale in Sydney. From our vantage point on the bus you could identify where the market gardens had been laid out.” Meredith Hinchcliffe, of O’Connor, agrees with Maurice’s explanation and adds, that there is (or was) a similar tower on the other side of the highway.

Theme park: “That tree house was part of an early theme park (with animals and hay rides) called ‘Adventureland’ or something similar,” writes Michael Kirby, of Chisholm. “Families (including mine) would spend the entire day there in the 1970s exploring and running around, then a picnic lunch and later play cowboys and indians with the tree house as the fort.”

Guard Tower: Kerry Burleigh, of Dickson, recalls that in the 1950s her family “drove past this place on our yearly trip to Wollongong from Forbes and my father said that he used to go to the dentist near there during the war. It was on an army base set up in wartime for training. It may not have been the dentist’s, but it does look like a guard house. My father was based there in the Light Horse (before it was disbanded) in 1940 or 1941. I often go past it now and think of my father talking about it as we made our way to Wollongong,” says Kerry.

In support of Kerry’s theory is Jerry Bishop who “was told that it was built for officers to observe, assess and control, field manoeuvres by troops.”

Leave it to Google: A number of readers turned to their trusty search engines in search of the truth. Jas Hugonnet stumbled upon www.redbubble.com, which claims that the timber structure was a sleeping quarters from the early days of working the land and was elevated in an attempt to ward off the mozzies. Meanwhile many, including Bill and Mary Crowle, who “have driven past it for over 40 years and wondered about its origins”, pointed to another website which says it was “a slaughterhouse on the old Gilbulla Estate”.

Tank stand: Sharon Loiterton, of Dunlop, believes it may have housed a water tank or was an old meat storage shed. “Before refrigeration was common this type of construct was used to hang meat and keep it cool. The open area was covered with an open weave hessian and kept damp from a water container on the roof. This structure would have been built sometime before World War II.”

Storage shed: Fellow Canberra Times columnist Susan Parsons recalls sketching the structure for an article she penned in 1984 on tree houses. In 1989, at nearby Mount Annan Botanic Gardens, Susan met a member of the family who, at the time, owned the property on which the wooden structure is built and recalls being told it was a storage shed or fire tower.

Summerhouse: Claire Hinton’s family has been wondering about the tree house since 1973 and recalls reading a book that claimed the structure was a summerhouse built for a French winemaker.

Survival hut: Being captivated by the structure after seeing it as a kid and thinking it would be “the best cubby house ever”, Ben Roberts, of Hawker, asked Sydney Catchment Authority several years ago if they knew anything about it. “They responded that they didn’t have a definitive answer, but believe it may have been survival hut/campsite for surveyors trying to find the best route to gravity feed water from the dams in the area.”

The verdict? I am on the cusp of solving this mystery and will reveal all next week, but in the meantime, given the extraordinary interest in this over-sized cubby, I’m half considering approaching its owners with a proposal to restore it and turn it into a roadside cafe.

I know at least 137 people who would stop just to get a close-up look.

Read more: <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/travel/blogs/yowie-man/imagine-if-this-was-your-cubby-20120630-21904.html#ixzz1zX77hTE3>

Free Trampoline

10ft in diameter, circular with “walls”

Needs new mats but frame & structure good

Located in Haines Place – if you can take it, it’s yours!

Ph Meredith 0425 260 133



This is a picture painted by Michael Fitzjames of Menangle Viaduct 2010-11. Below is Michael’s quote when I asked him why he painted Menangle Viaduct:

“I have a friend who takes me for walks the object of which is outstanding and uncelebrated Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian infrastructure; bridges, buildings etc. He took me to Menangle and we walked around the mini flood plain amongst the channels and rills of the river and in and out of the stands of trees and shrubs, native and introduced and I found the place enchanting...and then the magnificent pylons of the viaduct! A magical place.”

If you look at his brochure, he has painted all over the world and then you see a picture of Menangle! Perhaps you could include this as a story in the Menangle News and on the Menangle Website. Let me know what you think.

Cheerio

Kate

PS, The painting is sold!!! It was one of the first ones to go in this exhibition at the Royalston Street Gallery.

IN THE NEWS

Rescue plan for old Menangle School site

by Amanda Partridge



Menangle Community Association chairman Maurice Blackwood (left) and member Graham Noyes (right), with Wollondilly Councillor Benn Banasik (centre) are committed to protecting the old Menangle School site.

A PLAN to protect and acquire the old Menangle School site gained the support of Wollondilly Council. The school, steeped in 141 years of history, has been part of an ongoing battle as residents fight to have it returned to the community.

The council had proposed it sell unused land at Camden Rd (formerly Dowle St), Douglas Park, to the department for \$260,000. That money would be used to purchase the school site.

"Any shortfall between the amount we purchase the Menangle School for and the sale of the Douglas Park site gets paid interest free over 10 years," said Wollondilly Deputy Mayor Benn Banasik. "This is a great deal for the community."

The council also voted in favour of changing the Wollondilly Local Environment Plan to include the school as historically significant, pending approval by the Minister, Brad Hazzard.

Menangle Community Association chairman Maurice Blackwood welcomed the council's plans.

Other news...

Menangle Community Association Inc. now owns the School of Arts [Menangle Hall]. Wollondilly Council have paid \$25,000 into the Association's account to assist in renovations. The first step is to obtain a report on what needs doing and then we can prepare a plan of works.

In future editions we will let you know how you can help.

We need a volunteer to help clean out the hall and to take a few loads of rubbish to the tip from the hall.

Please call Maurice Blackwood 0417218462

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Phone 46338101 Fax 46338686

LIONS CLUB OF CAMDEN MARKETS

from 7:30am 3rd Saturday of each month
at Onslow Park

[next to Camden Showground]

Ph: 0417 230 418

ADVANCED COMPUTER TECHNICIAN

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advancedcomputertechician@gmail.com

CAMDEN AGLOW JULY MEETING

Wednesday 18th July meeting will be at the

Ironbark Room Narellan Library

\$10 cover charge All Welcome

Contact Sue Peacock 4633 8261

MACARTHUR LEARN TO SWIM

2/53 Cawdor Rd Camden

ph. 4655 7735

BABYSITTING

Laura Howard - Menangle Area

Hourly Rate: \$8; ph 46338543

References available

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You can also elect to receive a copy of the Menangle News by email.