

Lane Cove Historical Society Inc.

NOTICEBOARD

AUGUST 2021



Lane Cove Historical Society Inc

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Caretaker: Terry Eakin



A grant to support Oral History Research in Lane Cove

The Lane Cove Council has approved a small grant to support an oral history project devoted to *Lane Cove's Local Heroes*. Frances Christie, Vice President of the LCHS and Jenny Harper were awarded the grant on behalf of the LCHS. An oral history study explores aspects of people's lives, providing eyewitness accounts of the past, augmenting what is known in the written records, and quite often providing details that would otherwise be lost.

This study will be devoted to recording the memories and past lives of several notable Lane Cove senior citizens and it will provide a store of lively and useful information about them.

The various selected senior citizens will be interviewed, and the audio records will be stored in the LC library and in the Society's archives. In addition, written accounts of the people's lives will be written up in the Society's journal.

Unfortunately, the pandemic and associated lockdown will impede progress in working on the project, and Frances and Jenny cannot start recording the interviews until the lockdown is past. However, the preparatory work has started, including identifying the interviewees and undertaking some of the relevant research to support the interviews.



Upcoming Dates for your Diary Fingers Crossed!



Sept 18th & 19th Devonshire Tea Open
Weekend

Sept 26th **Cancelled** Spring Garden
Seminar

Sept 28th 'At the Podium' with
Mark Ferson

With all due respect to Patsy Cline and full credit to Kay Leiper:

Crazy or Covid?

Crazy

I'm crazy for feeling so lonely

I'm crazy

Crazy for feeling so bored

We knew

You'd lockdown as long as you
wanted

And now, Gladys,

You've left me feeling so blue

Worry

Why do we let ourselves worry?

All we want is

For full vaccination to hurry

Wondering

If hotspots will cool when we do

Oh, crazy

For thinking that I'd not need
shopping

I'm crazy for trying

To stop online buying

Now I'm crazy with Visa blues

Crazy

For thinking that we all would
follow

Rules that are trying

And just need applying

I'm just crazy for feeling blue

Meet Clover and Stella

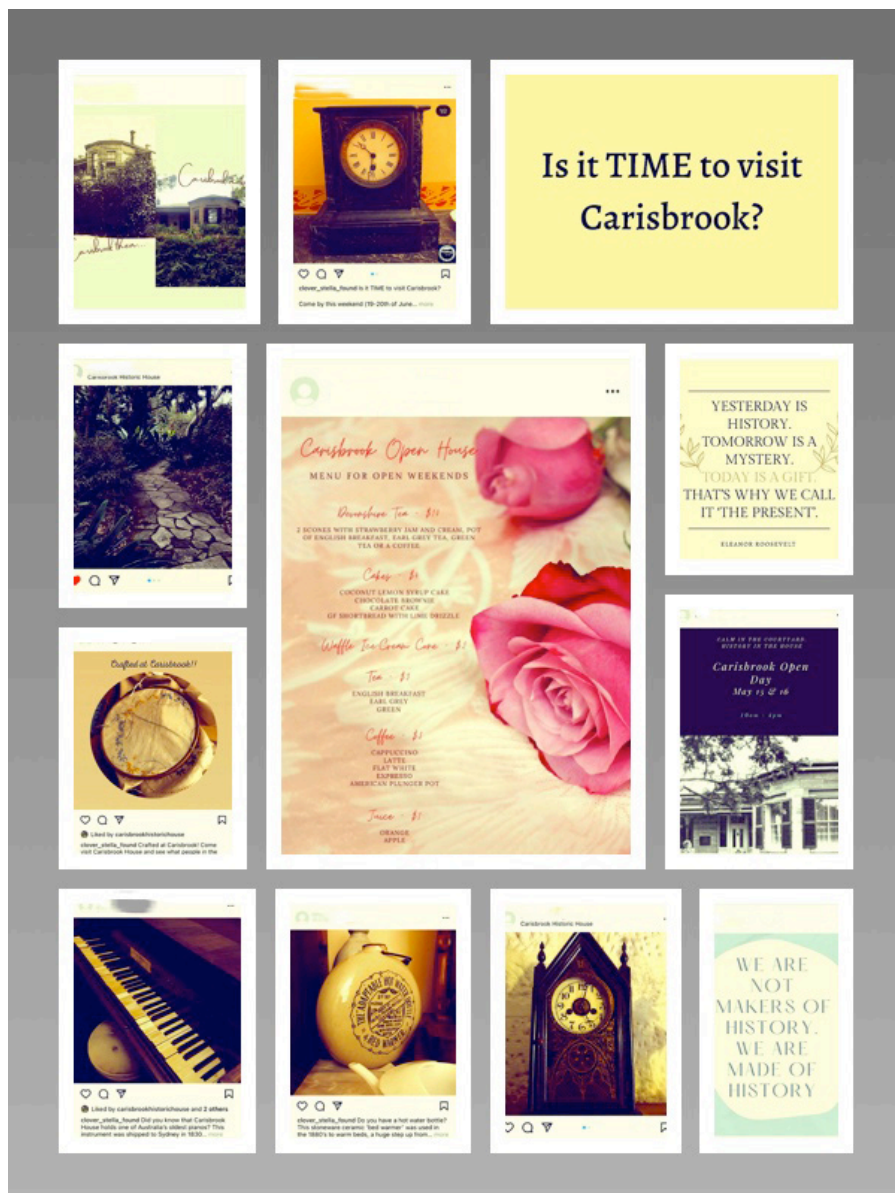
Clover Barnard and Stella Gottcent are two teenage girls that attend Riverside Girls High School in Gladesville. They enjoy crafting, baking and all things to do with history. They are currently working on their bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh awards, an internationally recognised program that gives opportunities for young people to participate in developing skills, being physically active and helping their community. At present we are lucky enough to have them volunteering at Carisbrook Historic House!

Over the past few months Stella and Clover have been helping with our social media posts. They have added a whole new creative dimension and fresh outlook to the possibilities social media has to offer. I look forward to every post they craft, so take a look at the Carisbrook and Lane Cove Historical Society's Instagram & Facebook pages and see if you can spot their work.

If you're not sure how to find us, just click on these links and you will be directed to Instagram and Facebook, once there simply like the page 🙌

www.instagram.com/carisbrookhistorichouse
www.facebook.com/carisbrookhistorichouse
www.instagram.com/lanecovehistorical
www.facebook.com/lanecovehistoricalsociety

We also appreciated Stella & Clover's help with the Devonshire Tea Weekends when we were able to open. Hopefully the September one will go ahead on the weekend of the 18th & 19th. Thankfully, lockdown hasn't stopped them from posting to social media!! These are some examples of their posts. Thank you, Stella and Clover...



#thankyouPat&Toni for the extra insight into Stella & Clover's posts (more next month!)

clover_stella_found
Carisbrook Historic House

... Square Piano



The square piano is a **type of piano that has horizontal strings arranged diagonally across the rectangular case above the hammers and with the keyboard set in the long side, with the sounding board above a cavity in the short side.**

Carisbrook's Square Grand Piano, numbered 9353, was manufactured by Thomas Tomkison in October 1830 in Soho London. Thomas Tomkison, was maker to His Majesties King George III and King George IV.

The Square piano is Mahogany & Rosewood with fluted legs. Each piece of wood in the piano is numbered as the piano was dismantled for shipping

and it needed to be reassembled on arriving in Sydney NSW. It was purchased by the Society in July 1970 for what now seems the bargain price of \$450 + \$25 cartage.

Garden Path Photo

In 1957 Carisbrook was purchased by James McDougall, a successful milliner. He and his twin brother Matthew restored the house and remodeled the grounds. Amalfi, an 1880's mansion in Longueville was being demolished at the time. They used a large quantity of the Amalfi stone to terrace the garden surrounding Carisbrook, giving many garden beds and winding paths down to the waterfront reserve.



Jigsaws and living with the lockdown

Have you ever wondered who invented jigsaw puzzles and how they got that name? The question is inspired here by the fact that in these days of the pandemic lockdown, playing jigsaw puzzles has become a frequent pastime. In fact, people are apparently ordering jigsaw puzzles online in some numbers, to pass the time at home. It turns out that a large variety is readily available.ⁱ



The first jigsaws were invented by a man called John Spilsbury in 1762. He was a cartographer and engraver and he mounted one of his maps onto wood and cut around the countries. These early puzzles were called *dissections* because they were dissected maps, used

to teach geography. Dissections became quite popular teaching resources and they were widely used by governesses and tutors to children in the 18th and 19th centuries in England. It was in the 19th century that the puzzles became known as “jigsaws”, which was a corruption of the term “fretsaw”, referring to the little tool that was then used to cut out the pieces. Even today, by the way, a person who likes to play with jigsaws is known as a “dissectologist”.

By the early years of the 20th century jigsaw puzzles became popular with adults, and they were no longer thought of as uniquely children’s items. Indeed, in the USA puzzles for adults became quite a craze. The first such puzzles in the USA were printed on coloured paper, and the paper could easily blow away so that completing them could be a challenge. Furthermore, no copy of the target picture was provided so that trying to complete it could be difficult. In time the pieces were printed on cheap cardboard, much as they are made today and the custom emerged of providing a copy of the image to be completed.

Jigsaw puzzles were widely used in the years of the Great Depression because they provided a cheap form of entertainment for people often at home and without work. Interest in jigsaws declined after the Second World War, as people developed other interests in often prosperous times. It seems that it is in times of adversity that people will turn to jigsaws. There was, for example, a renewed surge of interest in jigsaws during 2020, the year of the first pandemic lockdowns.ⁱⁱ It seems the craze is again upon us in the year of 2021.

Anyone interested in joining me for a game of jigsaw?

Frances Christie

i <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/piecing-together-the-history-of-jigsaw-puzzles/> (Retrieved 10/08/2021)

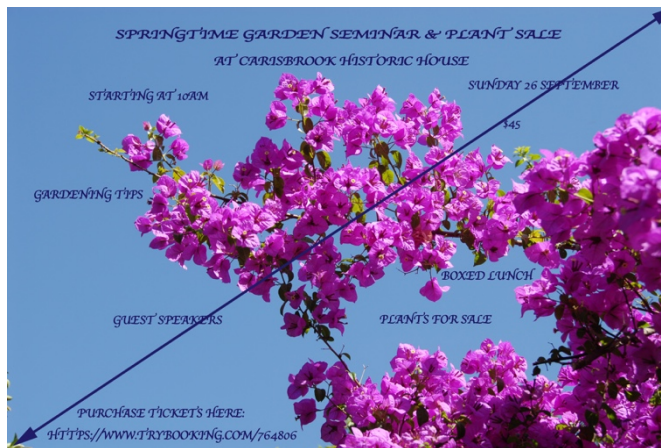
ii what's behind the pandemic puzzle craze? <https://daily.jstor.org/whats-behind-the-pandemic-puzzle-craze/> (Retrieved 10/08/2021)

Have you finished a jigsaw puzzle this lockdown? Send a photo for the



next edition of 'Noticeboard'. Here's mine from the current lockdown....

Proudly completed by Karen & Eric Aubrey



Postponement of the Garden Seminar

We must regretfully advise that the Garden Seminar Day we had planned for 26th September will need to be postponed for this year, because of the pandemic and the associated lockdown. This is very disappointing, because the spring gardens at Carisbrook are already

starting to bloom and, in another month, they will provide a lovely display. We look forward to planning the Garden Seminar in September 2022.

Postponement of The Lane Cove History Prize

Entries to the Lane Cove History Prize would normally be due at the end of August. However, in view of the lockdown and our continuing uncertainty about when it will be over, we have decided not to award the Prize this year. This is very disappointing, and we warmly encourage anyone interested to submit an entry to hold it over till next year's History Prize.

Photo courtesy of Jenny Quirke ~ “Colourful Carisbrook”



“After the rain comes the rainbow” ~ Photo by Karen Aubrey



Until next time:

~

Stay Safe & Take Care

~

Karen Aubrey