

The Annual report for 2010-2011.
Albury & District Historical Society.

The Society has had a very full year with the energetic contribution of members engaged in local history publications, historical research, and excellent participation in our community events. We also have a number of our members active in the AlburyCity LibraryMuseum Volunteer program.

On a reflective note the Society lost esteemed past committee members Tom Jelbart OAM who passed away last October and also Roddy Davies in December 2010.

Community activities: June Shanahan again had a very successful valuation day. (9 October) - we are very grateful to the volunteers who continue to assist June on this day. We had a successful Murray Riverfront walk as part of Heritage Week in April and more recently a talk to the members of Age Concern at St Luke's Parish Hall in Guinea Street and on (4 June) a community presentation in the Chinese section of the Pioneer Cemetery with Pauline Harbick.

Also earlier this year we had a great local exhibition on Albury Base Hospital at the Library Museum. Special thanks to the team who catalogued the ABH collection - Doug Hunter, John Craig, Ann Brennan, Helen Livsey and Margaret Royal. Bridget Guthrie and her team did a fantastic job in a very well attended exhibition.

Helen Livsey again has done a great community service for us as our Research Officer in fielding many requests for assistance on historic locations and facts, family history.

I am also pleased to report that the Society has had a very successful affiliation with AlburyCity LibraryMuseum the over the last 12 months.

A special thank you to Carina Clement, the Libraries and Museum team leader and her staff (including our own Carole and Bridget) for the provision of their support and use of the Museum and library meeting rooms. All the LibMus staff have been extremely helpful to myself and our members.

The Society started the 2010 - 2011 year with a talk by Dot Hennessy and Henry Livermore on the Wodonga Place - Adelyn Clothing Factory.

Over the year there was a broad spectrum of topics ranging from the September History week 'Faces in the Street' program - Stories of Five women in Albury (which was a great success at the Library Museum.) to the equally interesting History of the Albury Fire Brigade presented by Mark Trebley. The society finished the extended year with an excellent presentation by John Domenie from Florida in the United States - on the donation to AlburyCity of the family 'Uiver' memorabilia.

Our guests during the year included Frank O'Rourke, Henry Livermore and as previously mentioned John and Douglas Domenie. There were a great variety of member speakers without whose enthusiasm and research capability we would not be the society we are today. Our active speaking members included talks on Rail motors, Stately Homes, Builders, Tulips, Russell Drysdale and Walla Walla life and the Albury Surveyor T.S.Townsend.

Our members who presented talks included Dr Bruce Pennay, Edward Dale, Dot Hennessy, Roma Freeman, Geoff Hamilton, Noel Jackling, Pauline Harbick, Carole Whitbourn, Ann Brennan, Jan Hunter, Joe Wooding, Ray Gear, Doug Hunter, Mary Anderson, Doug Royal, Marion Taylor, Howard Jones, Patricia Strachan, Jean Whitla, Arthur Newnham, Michael Browne and Chris McQuellin.

Membership has remained almost stable but we were able to welcome a few more new members, including just recently Pam Browne and Jane Ford - Welcome.

It is pleasing to report that our web site has become increasingly popular with nearly 18,500 individual enquiries to date. There has been a modest financial cost to the society with this new technology.

The A&DHS web site has some recurring maintenance and monthly costs which has had some impact on the financial position in our working account. The treasurer will give you a breakdown of our working account income and costs in his report. The Society Investment Account remains unaffected and stable.

The Society attracted some grant money for its participation in the Murray River waterfront heritage program and we used this income to support two of our largest expenses this year. The major project this year has been to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the A&DHS with the restoration project of the Hume Monument in the AlburyCity Botanic Gardens. This work was completed by Brosolo Monumental Masons in late May for a cost of \$3080.00. We (A&DHS) have also contributed to the part funding of an airfare to allow John Domenie to come to Albury from the USA to give his family 'Uiver' collection to AlburyCity.

Special Thanks also goes to those members who volunteered their time and expertise and artefacts for the current ArtDeco presentation at the ArtGallery and Library Museum.

The A&DHS Committee has been again working consistently to bring informative guest speakers to our meetings and also to encourage member participation in historical research for the educational enhancement and of all our members. Special thanks to Doug Hunter the A&DHS Bulletin editor in keeping us all well informed and to Ray Gear for his great work in getting the Bulletin to us with regular mail and e Bulletins during the year.

The new committee for 2011-2012 is to be formalised tonight. I hope that the coming year will allow for an informative and energetic program to be developed, and thank all of you for your support of the team during the year.

Chris McQuellin June 2011