



Collecting, preserving and promoting local history

Nomination of Anne Kilpatrick for an RHSV Award of Merit

Anne joined the Glen Eira Historical Society in 2011 and has held the positions of Treasurer, President, Vice-President and is currently our Secretary. Anne has carried out all roles in a most diligent, responsible manner. She is very committed to local history.

We are nominating Anne for her outstanding heritage protection work. Her dedication to a number of local heritage campaigns, involving hundreds of extra hours of complex, detailed and careful work over the past five years is impressive.

1. In 2019 the Society heard of plans by Woolworths to build two towers of 10 and 14 storeys in Selwyn Street, a small street running off Glen Huntly Road in Elsternwick. These towers were to rise up above the 1890s heritage listed shops on Glen Huntly Road and completely dominate the shops and the State Heritage Register listed Former Elsternwick Fire Station.

Our main objection was the excessive height and bulk of these towers and their dominance over the local heritage precinct and Former Fire Station. Anne attended weeks of VCAT hearings, which turned into a second VCAT hearing in 2021. For the second hearing Anne arranged for a heritage consultant to be our expert witness. From the start Anne was committed, attending every day of hearings and joining site visits. Her knowledge of planning and heritage issues grew and her understanding of the intricacies of the case was evident when she updated volunteers at our regular morning tea meetings.

Unfortunately a planning permit was issued for Selwyn St, albeit with some height reductions. Anne's work was not in vain; her representation of our Society and her follow through and commitment to this long running case have certainly raised our profile with local resident groups, local council and others.

2. In early 2022 Anne's heritage knowledge and skills were again on display. She noticed the removal of trees and heritage buildings at the Caulfield Racecourse and decided to take action. As a result our Society was able to halt works at the Racecourse with Heritage Victoria issuing an Interim Protection Order for the site. Next was to nominate the Caulfield Racecourse for inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Register. Anne worked hard on GEHS's nomination, consulting with many including racing people and heritage experts, one of whom we engaged for the Heritage Council hearing. We had a big win - in 2023 the Caulfield Racecourse was placed on the Victorian Heritage Register. Anne continues to keep abreast of developments at the Caulfield Racecourse.
3. Additionally, Anne encouraged Glen Eira Council to more formally consult with the community on heritage issues. A Heritage Advisory Group was established May 2022: our Society and another history group now meet quarterly with Council staff from Strategic Planning and History and Heritage.

Regards,

Barbara Hoad
President
6 April 2024