



NEWSLETTER – July 2017

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Museum and Gallery address: 3328 Huon Hwy, FRANKLIN Tas 7113
OPENING HOURS: 10:00am – 5:00pm
P.O. BOX 243, FRANKLIN 7113 Tas

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 19th July 2017 - 7:00 pm, FHG Room at the Evaporators

SUBSCRIPTIONS FALL DUE FOR FHG MEMBERS ON 1ST JULY

Members of Franklin History group are reminded that subscriptions fall due on July 1, but must be paid by the AGM which will be held on Wednesday 20th September.

Subscription is \$20 and can be paid by cheque, or cash to the Treasurer, or posted to the PO Box address at the head of this newsletter.

Alternatively, subscriptions can be paid via direct deposit to the bank account, which is also listed at the head of this newsletter. If paying via this method, be sure to note your name, so we know from whom the payment has come.

HISTORIC WALKWAY PROGRESS

On the morning of Sunday 25th June a number of FHG members met to determine which aspects and buildings of Franklin should be acknowledged with plaques.

Although the weather wasn't all that inviting, there was a long enough break between showers for the group to venture out to do a street walk to assist in determining which buildings are best suited for plaques. A speedy retreat was followed by tea and coffee and more discussion.

FHG JOINS THE FRANKLIN WEBSITE

Along with other community groups and businesses in Franklin, FHG has a presence as part of a website set up by the Franklin Progress Association. It was agreed that the well known 1905 photo, below, of Franklin from the water was the most suitable as the 'headline' photo for FHG. Another eight photos will also appear on our section of the site.



RESOURCE CENTRE GROWS

The FHG library and resource centre is growing rapidly, thanks to numerous sizeable donations of books and papers from a large number members and friends of FHG.

Members and friends are encouraged to drop in between 10.00 and 12.00 noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Many people will be aware that Greg Guy is going through a rough patch, health-wise. Greg, who is a past president of the Franklin Working Waterfront Association has donated a large number of sea-faring historical texts to our library. He has also generously donated two lounge chairs, which will add to the comfort of our office/workroom. Thank you, Greg, and we all wish you the very best regarding your illness.



Harry and Judy admiring items from the FHG library and resource centre. They seem very happy with the set-up.
(Photo: A. Cato)

VISIT FROM ROB LINNELL

Rob Linnell is a member the Linnell family which has played an important role in many aspects of the Huon's history. Edward Isaac Linnell (pictured) was involved in the arrest of the crew of the German trader *Oberhausen* which was in port at Port Huon early during World War One. The Linnell family were also early operators of the Evaporating factory at Franklin.



Unlike Rob, who lives on the mainland, many members of the Linnell family still reside in the Huon. Rob has been very generous in providing historic photographs which we have been able to use in our various publications.

PRICE'S CREEK POWER PLANT CLARIFICATION

It was Rob who alerted FHG to the location of the hydro power station located on Price's Creek. Unfortunately, we misread the map Rob supplied to locate the plant. We had our doubts as we had to scramble to the site we photographed for the last newsletter as it would have been extremely difficult to transport heavy equipment to that site. Logic also dictated that the water storage for the system would have to be much more elevated. FHG member Keith Reeve, whose family lived in the area of Price's Creek also emailed that he believed the water storage would have been further up the hill.

It appears the power generating plant itself was located much closer to the Franklin township, just above the primary school - a site where access for heavy equipment would have been much easier, and providing a much greater fall for the water. A potential field day for FHG members might be to locate and identify the weir and foundations of the generating plant under the ivy - subject to approval by property owners.



(Photo: A. Cato)

This is the site where the power generating plant is believed to have been located. Rob Linnell says that the ivy hides concrete foundations which supported the shed pictured in the last newsletter, and which is now located at Mitre 10 at Huonville. Internal photographs of the building (then and now) appear later in this newsletter.

Below: More views of the exterior of the shed which housed the power plant. The windows appear identical to, and align with those in the interior photo over the page.



(Photos: A. Cato)



This writer understands that the shed may be due for demolition. Hopefully this fate can be avoided, as once it is gone, a unique piece of history will have disappeared forever. It's highly likely that the management of Mitre 10 appreciate the historic value of the building, and would prefer it to be re-used.

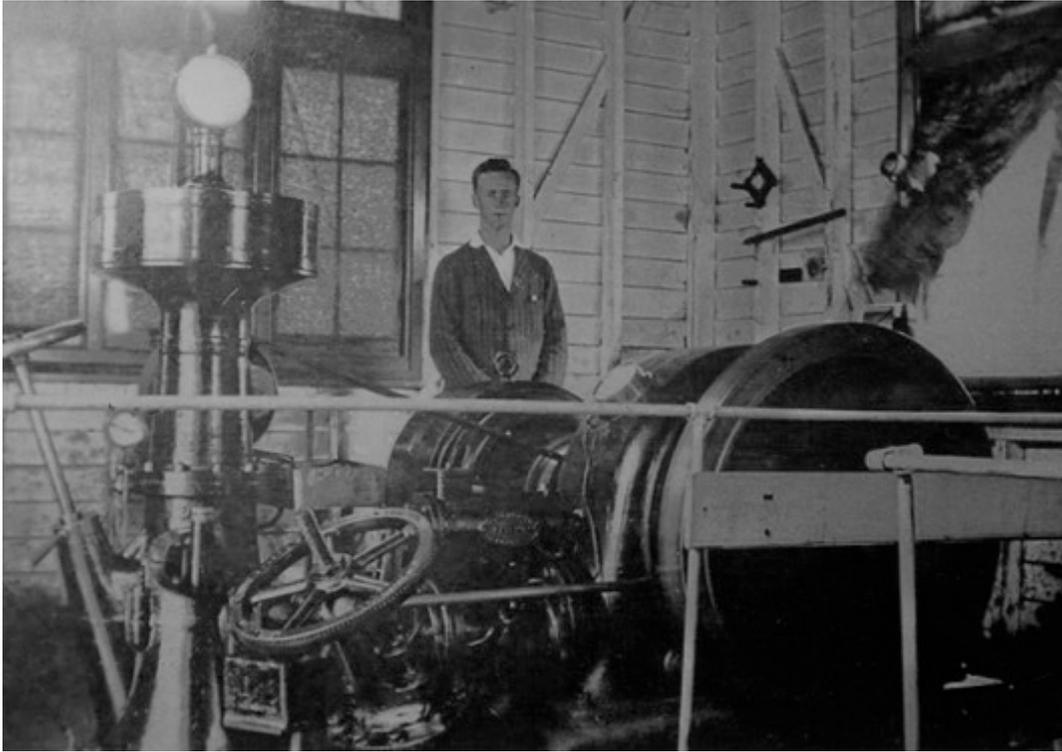
THE ALABAMA INN, SHIPWRIGHT'S POINT, TASMANIA

Rob Linnell has also done a considerable amount of research on the Alabama Inn at Shipwright's Point. There is a copy of his research in our library.

THEN AND NOW

Over the page there are two photographs of the interior of the power generating plant – the first as it was when in operation. The gentleman in the photo is Owen "Skipper" Linnell.

The second shows the interior of the shed as it is today. It appears that there has been additional lining installed. Windows are in the correct position and correspond.



(Photo; Courtesy Rob Linnell)



The same interior as it is today
(Photo: A. Cato)