



The Dry Stone Walls Association of Australia (Inc)

*****NOTICE TO MEMBERS*****

2015 Annual General Meeting and Dinner

including a dry stone wall construction and repair demonstration
and self-guided tours of dry stone walls in the area

WHERE: Camperdown, Victoria

DATE: Saturday 22 August 2015, commencing at 12noon, with the AGM
at 5.00pm and Dinner at 6.00pm

ACTIVITIES:

- Wall demonstration: 12noon - 4.30pm, Camperdown Showgrounds
- Self-drive tour of the Corangamite Dry Stone Walls Driving Trail
- Self-drive tour of the Hawks Nest Road precinct
- **Annual General Meeting: 5.00pm - 6.00pm**
- Dinner: 6.00pm - 9.00pm

WALL CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR DEMONSTRATION

Time: 12.00noon - 4.30pm

Venue: Camperdown Showgrounds (see map below)

Two of Australia's pre-eminent professional dry stone wallers, Alistair Tune and David Long, will demonstrate and describe the technique of dry stone construction, with **advice on how walls can be repaired and maintained.**

Alistair and David were part of the team that won the 'Best in Show' medal at London's iconic Chelsea Flower Show in 2013, where a dry stone wall was a feature of the Australian Garden.

This will be a very informative and interesting demonstration of the waller's skill, and a rare opportunity to see these two expert wallers at work together. It will be of particular interest to farmers and others who have dry stone walls on their properties.

An **instruction leaflet** will be available to assist wall owners in the maintenance of their dry stone walls.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DINNER

Time: AGM: 5.00pm - 6.00pm. Dinner: 6.00pm - 9.00pm
Venue: Function Room, Commercial Hotel, Manifold Street, Camperdown
Agenda of the AGM: The Agenda will include:

- Presentation of the Minutes of the 2014 AGM
- Reports from the Executive and Presentation of the Financial Accounts for 2014 -15
- General business.

Speakers at the Dinner are:

Sera Jane Peters

City of Melton Heritage Advisor, Shire of Mount Alexander Heritage Advisor. Sera Jane will speak on the topic of the Melton Dry Stone Walls Study and the current process to formally protect the best of the Melton's walls in the Melton Planning Scheme.

Allan Willingham (Vice-President DSWAA)

Allan will discuss his recent research into the John Greenshields statue of Robert Burns in Camperdown, with some surprising revelations.

Cost

Cost to attend the AGM and the Dinner: Members: \$40, Non-members: \$45. Drinks at bar prices.

Bookings Numbers are limited and bookings will close on Friday 14 August.

Bookings for the **AGM and Dinner** can be made any one of these three methods:

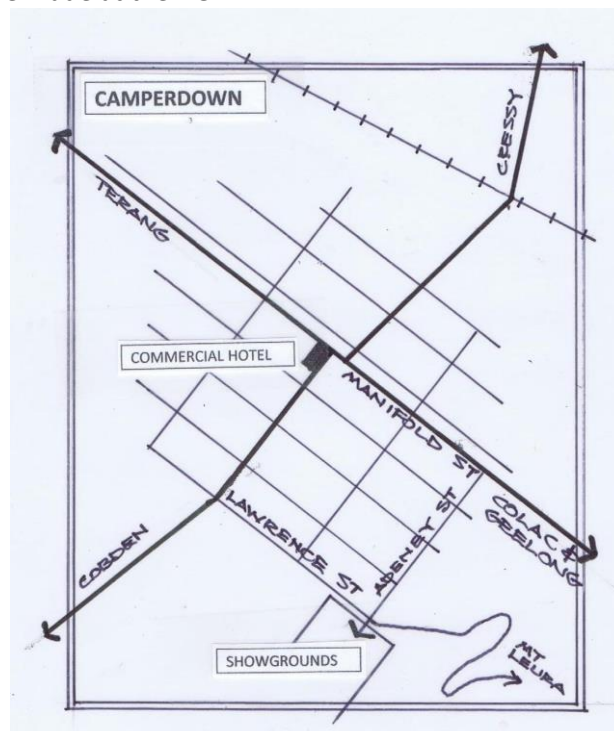
1. Deposit to Association's account: Bank: ANZ BSB: 013-274 Account no: 4997 47356
Please confirm payment by email to: jim@planningcollaborative.com.au including amount paid, date paid and names of people for whom the booking is made.

OR

2. Posting a cheque to DSWAA c/- 93 Pickles Street, Port Melbourne 3207, including names of people for whom the booking is made.

OR

3. By email to: jim@planningcollaborative.com.au with names of people for whom the booking is made. Payment can be made at the AGM.



SELF-DRIVE TOURS

During the day, or on your way to Camperdown, you may like to take one of these tours.

Maps and details will be sent to you when you register for the AGM and Dinner.

1. CORANGAMITE DRY STONE WALLS HERITAGE TRAIL

The most impressive and extensive network of dry stone walls in Australia is found in the Western District of Victoria. The Corangamite Dry Stone Walls Heritage Trail established by Corangamite Arts includes some of the most significant walls in the region, particularly at Pomorneit in the Stony Rises east of Camperdown.

The western plains of Victoria are among the world's greatest basalt plains. The volcanic activity over millions of years has shaped the landscape which is generally flat except for the volcanic cones. These volcanic cones, some time in the past, spouted out the lava which then formed the stones covering the plains. The youngest eruption points are less than 10,000 years old. The volcanic cones most visible around Camperdown are Mounts Porndon, Leura, Noorat and Shadwell.

Although most of the existing walls were built after the gold rush and after the introduction of the rabbit, there is evidence of dry stone walls in the western district from the late 1840s. From the 1870s many pastoralists began to rebuild earlier walls in an attempt to make their properties rabbit-proof.

Several construction devices were used: overhanging copestones; wooden slats projecting under the copestones; wire stretching out from the top of the wall; trenches about a metre into the clay base, plugging of holes in the wall to prevent the rabbits colonising the walls; and even asymmetrical walls with stepping stones up one side and a sheer wall on the other with overhanging copestones to prevent them coming back.

The rabbit wall built by the Manifold brothers at Purumbete in the 1880s is perhaps the most significant wall in the district standing up to two metres high. It originally ran continuously from Lake Corangamite to Lake Purumbete.

2. HAWKS NEST ROAD PRECINCT

Hawks Nest Road crosses the stony rises between Pirron Yallock and Pomorneit. The irregular rocky topography has defied the passage of time and stands of remnant basalt plains woodland remain. Hawks Nest Road is an undulating gravel road distinguished by the many the many lava flows along its 17 kilometre length.

The wider farming landscape has changed little since it was originally subdivided in the 1860s and is highlighted by some excellent dry stone walls. The road traverses lava flows between Mount Porndon and the southern shoreline of Lake Corangamite.

The Corangamite Heritage Study identified Hawks Nest Road as a place that is significance *"for its association with the settlement of the Stony Rises and in particular with Pomorneit East. Whereas other roads in the area were straightened with the aid of modern earth-moving equipment Hawks Nest Road has survived, still with the irregular profile of an early farm track. Hawks Nest Road is aesthetically significant as a linear landscape providing access through and views across the Stony Rises".*