

Winter Edition 2, 2023

Falls Creek Museum



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FCHS COMMITTEE

Karen Smythe - Chair
Lisa Logan - Vice Chair
Nyree Fiddes - Secretary
Sam Salmon-Treasurer

Roger Kilby, Ken Bell, Diana Patterson Deb Howie, Lindy Allen, and Leigh Botfield - Committee



DIGITISATION WORKSHOP

We had a great day with our digitisation officer Vicki who showed us how to use the Victorian Collections platform to store our valuable Falls Creek collection online. We had several members of the committee pop by as well as Phil Rookes who was really interested in the process and was a gun at it by the end of the day. Phil has a Facebook page called Falls Creek Lost Histories if you are interested in even more Falls Creek memories.

<https://www.facebook.com/fallscreeklosthistory>

The digitisation workshop not only included Victorian Collection Management system tips but we also got to use the photography lightbox and take very professional photographs as well as used the time to record some new donated items.

Vicki is going to be one very busy person over the Winter.

Check out the listings so far at [:https://victoriancollections.net.au/organisations/falls-creek-historical-society](https://victoriancollections.net.au/organisations/falls-creek-historical-society)

COLLECTION POLICY

Ever wondered how we get our items and how we choose what goes in the museum and what doesn't.

Key Themes for the Falls Creek Collection include;

- Items that have a direct relationship to the falls Creek Region and village.
- The stories of Falls Creek Pioneers,
- Items that relate to the history of the village,
- The establishment of the businesses within the village,
- The history of the lodges
- The history of the Bogong High Plains,
- The flora and fauna,
- The indigenous history and
- The history of the cattlemen.

Physical Items that we collect include;

- Books
- Maps
- Document
- Photographs
- Equipment
- Clothing

When it comes to collecting items there are certain things that we need to take into consideration and these include:

- Relevance
- Significance
- Provenance and documentation
- Condition intactness and integrity
- Interpretive potential
- Rarity
- Representativeness
- Duplications and
- Legal Requirements

Once we do accept an item into our collection, we then have to document it via a catalogue number and sheet which outlines;

- Who donated the item,
- When it was donated,
- What is the story behind the donation,
- Are there any conditions around the donation,
- Where the item is stored

So as you can see, there is a lot that goes into a collection.

RECENT DONATIONS

We just love it when the unexpected comes into the museum as a donation. Michael Baratholomew, a former volunteer at the museum, worked with guest services for 10 years and famously wore these glasses to brighten up visitors day. Michael retired from this position recently and felt that the museum might be the place for the glasses. We agree. Thank you Michael.



LIBRARY COLLECTION

Our book collection is growing all the time so if you just need a quiet, warm location to do some research, feel free to drop into the museum.

VOLUNTEERS ARE EVERYTHING.

LEO



1. What brings you to Falls Creek during the Winter?

We were never regular skiers but started here after a doctor found out I was retiring from full time work as a GP Anaesthetist and in Emergency in my previous home town, Kempsey. I worked as the Clinic's winter locum for the next eight years. My wife has continued to work as a Tutor at the Falls academy, this being her thirteenth year. So, I am now turning up every year as she loves her job.

2. Where is home normally?

Was Kempsey but now Albury.

3 How many years have you been coming here? I

have been coming to Falls with my wife Ellen for 14 years.

4. Do you volunteer anywhere else? I

have joined Guest Services for something to do and to save some money.

5 What is your favourite thing about Falls Creek?

6. What is your favourite item, story, picture in the museum?

I do enjoy the history video but also the books.

7. Why do you like volunteering in the museum?

I feel I now have a good idea of the broad sweep of the history of this place and enjoy relating that to the visitors.

1. What brings you to Falls Creek during the Winter?

As a member of Chorki Ski Club, I've been coming up to Falls Creek since I was a baby. My husband has also skied since he was little so we've enjoyed many winters both up here and at other places in Australia and around the world. My girls have skied with the Falls Creek Race Club since they were small. The main thing we want for them is to be confident and technically good skiers who enjoy the sport and can then ski and have fun wherever they choose as adults.

2. Where is home normally?

Our home base is Melbourne.

3 How many years have you been coming here?

Since I was a baby - my parents were original members of Chorki Ski Lodge so they helped build the lodge and later as a single parent my mum took us up for a week every year no matter what. I think she enjoyed Harvey Hour more than anything else!

4. Do you volunteer anywhere else?

I help out at my daughter's school when I can and a member of the Falls Creek Environmental Interest Group.

5 What is your favourite thing about Falls Creek?

It's a little further away so you don't get the crowds, and it's a wonderfully safe place for your kids to become more independent. They have their Falls Creek buddies who they hang out with and take risks with and who I'm sure will become lifelong friends. It's also more spontaneous - you don't have to schedule nights out months in advance.

6. What is your favourite item, story, picture in the museum?

I love the old 80s era Yamaha snowmobile - I have a great photo of me with my girls on it from years ago!

7. Why do you like volunteering in the museum?

Now that I have kids I like learning about the history of Falls Creek and the early pioneers of skiing and the passion they had for the sport. It wasn't always this easy, and it's important that people know that it took guts and hard work to create this place that we can now all enjoy.

AMY



SAM



1.. What brings you to Falls Creek during the Winter?
We have built our life around snowboarding and enjoying the Mountains all year round. Falls Creek is a special place that allows us to do that seamlessly.

2. Where is home normally?
Falls Creek has been home for the last 6 years year round. Often you come for the Winter and stay for the Summer. We didn't know what to expect when we got here, no plans to leave for now.

3 How many years have you been coming here?
6 so far...

4. Do you volunteer anywhere else?
I'm a volunteer with the local CFA.

5 What is your favourite thing about Falls Creek?
Hmm this is a tough one. I think it'd have to be being able to walk everywhere and have spectacular snowboarding, food and an entire community in close proximity to your house.

6.What is your favourite item, story, picture in the museum?
For me I love the old maps of the high plains, they're gorgeous to look at and very special!

7. Why do you like volunteering in the museum.
Every time I'm in there I see something new. I love sharing these items with people who then share their stories, I learn so much about people and Falls Creek each time I'm there.

NOT JUST A WINTER PLAYGROUND

Falls Creek is a winter wonderland but for the other 7 months of the year there is so much to do. Cycling, hiking, sailing, swimming and it turns out, even flying small planes. Some of the photos attached give us an insight into a little bit more history of the area. The cup is a great example. It is the winners cup for a regatta held at Falls Creek in 1986, courtesy of David Osborn. Whilst the trophy is fantastic, it arrived with a great story typed out which gives it even more provenance. Below is a photo from the recently acquired collection of photo from Julian Newton Brown and shows the small pleasures of flying planes off the road going up to Mt McKay. Other interesting photos in our collection show the Australian Olympic Rowing team and Steve Moneghetti (photo courtesy of George Shirling Collection) doing some Altitude training and, of course, photos of the fabulous McKayos downhill bike race.

