

RAAF POINT COOK MUSEUM AND HOMESTEAD TRIP, Thursday 5th August 2010.

We set off on a dull and drizzly day. After a slight detour through the Point Cook Coastal Park (wrong turning), we arrived at the homestead in more settled weather. Jackie, our delightful guide, met us after our morning tea and gave us the history of the area. The homestead is a bay side heritage property on 25 acres with fabulous country and city views. It was built by Thomas Chirnside in 1857. He had a successful pastoral empire and bred race horses including winners of the Melbourne and Caulfield Cups. We visited the large bluestone stable and the homestead before wandering around the grounds taking in the view of Melbourne from the beach. Before lunch, we discovered that our bus was bogged. Unperturbed, we sat down to a delicious beef casserole and Devonshire Tea while the drama was going on outside. Then, our men, with full stomachs, decided action was needed. Urged on by the ladies, they helped push the bus back on drier land, and away we went in the nick of time for our 1 o'clock appointment for the flying display. A Tiger Moth enthralled us with loops, barrel rolls and figures of eight with a running commentary by Gary, our pilot. On landing, he answered a variety of questions in an entertaining manner. The museum galleries had large collections of artefacts from the First World War onwards. The hangars had a wonderful display of vintage planes and our tour guides were a wealth of information and anecdotes. I think everyone enjoyed our day out.

Photos and comments by Barbara Mathews & Jean Lacey.



With our guide Jackie, at the stables.



At the Homestead with Jackie.



The Homestead and grounds.



Our bogged Bus.



Our men put their backs into it.



With great effect it's moving!



Tiger Moth with Gary our pilot.



Tiger Moth in the hangar.