

McCrae Homestead, Mornington Markets & Lintons Gardens Trip Wednesday 2nd March 2011.

Our day trip departed at 9.00 am at the Wheelers Hill Shopping Centre Car Park and travelled down EastLink and the Mornington Peninsula Freeway and stopped for morning tea at McCrae in a small park by the beach. We ambled along the soft loose sandy path to the beach before quickly returning out of the cool breeze to a hot cuppa and piece of cake by the coach.

After morning tea it was back on the coach and up the hill below Arthurs Seat to the National Trust's historic McCrae Homestead, built in 1844 by Andrew and Georgiana McCrae. The property originally comprised a very large acreage but has been subdivided off over the last century and a half leaving just the small plot of land and buildings which is now managed by the National Trust. The Homestead is one of Victoria's oldest and is a physical reminder of the early pioneering life of our settler forebears. The buildings contain a rare and beautiful collection of the 19th century family's heirlooms. After a formal welcome to the property we were split into three groups and conducted around by folks in period costume.

We then reboarded our coach and drove along the Nepean Highway to Mornington, stopping in the Reserve above Schnapper Point for a scrumptious deli lunch. After this short break we walked through the main shopping street checking out the local market stalls and shops. Then it was back into the coach and off to Lintons Garden and Nursery for a coffee and walk around the garden displays. We arrived back at Wheelers Hill at 5.00 pm. Thank you Barbara for organising another terrific outing.

By Robin Bray, Barbara Matthews & Ellen Stokes



Heading off to the beach.



Nadia, Pauline, Gabrielle and Rosemary.



Norma, Val Margaret and Val.



Jean and Sandra trying out the `swings` .



Morning tea at McCrae.



Queuing up for a cuppa.



Lindsay and Peter.



The morning tea break.



Janet washing her cup.



Lorraine doing her duty too!



Arrival at McCrae Homestead.



Welcome and introduction to the Homestead .



The Homestead.



The Homestead Kitchen.



Jean, Lyn, Nadia, Gabrielle and Pauline in the Kitchen.



In front of the Homestead.



Listening to stories of the Homestead and the families who settled and lived there.



In the gardens of McCrae Homestead.



`Bedroom stories` of the Homestead.



Rosemary and Jean reading stories from the 19th century newspapers stuck to the wall.



Sandra questions the guide.



All enjoying our delicious packed deli lunches provided by U.S. Bus lines in the park in Mornington village.



Our driver, Dorothy, Ros, Val and Geoff.



Val, Norma, Val, Margaret and Margaret.



Rosemary, Val, Ellen and Ros in Lintons Garden.



Algy and Heather in the Nursery Gardens.