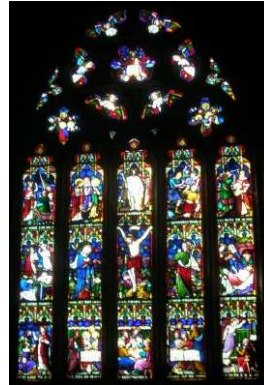
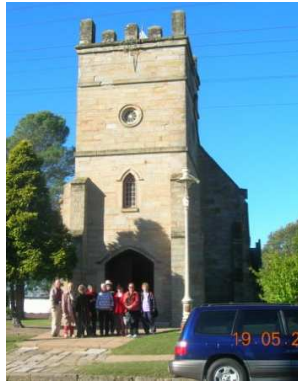


Outing to Historic Morpeth Monday 19th May, 2008

Ten members gathered at 10.30am outside **St. James Anglican Church Morpeth** to begin our walking tour through this historic village. Our Secretary, Beth Brooker, was our most enthusiastic local Tour Guide.



(Photos courtesy of Bruce Donaldson)

We were privileged to be able to wander through this lovely sandstone church which was built to fulfil a vow made by Lieutenant Edward Close. He promised God that if he survived the Spanish Peninsular War he would build a church as an act of thanksgiving. The church was completed in 1840 and consecrated in December of that year by William Broughton, the first Church of England Bishop of Australia.

As we wandered along the streets admiring the many old cottages and lovely buildings Beth commented on their history, many of which were constructed when Morpeth was a thriving Port in the late 19th century. Many homes and public buildings have been restored to their original glory while others remain a “renovator’s delight”. We enjoyed lunch together overlooking the Hunter River and the historic wooden bridge.

Many thanks to Beth for sharing her knowledge of this area gained while living in Morpeth for several years.

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