

Humber Car Club Visit to Werribee Park and Mansion

What a beautiful sunny day we had for our visit to Werribee Park. Colin and Anne Anderson and Merv and Maree Sherlock enjoyed the driving their Humbers to the venue. The cars attracted quite a lot of attention too. It was great to see Fred and Sylvia Pieterse had managed to come. Fred was looking very well again after his recent bout of ill-health.



First, we all had a good look around the 60 room Italianate Mansion that dates from the late 1870's. A number of the rooms have been beautifully restored. My favourite rooms were the Morning Room with the table set for a very elegant breakfast and the formal dining room with an enormously long table that could comfortably seat 18 for dinner. Some of the rooms held exhibits showing life as it would have been in the 19th century and how the careful restoration and repair was being undertaken.

Secondly we gathered together for lunch at the café and after John and I had generous and delicious plate of pasta we ventured out to the large bluestone laundry house and met May, an enthusiastic laundry maid who gave us a detailed insight into her work keeping up with the wash. What drudgery it would have been!



Some of us decided it was time to do the Sculpture Walk down and around to the Werribee River. Most of the 26 pieces of contemporary Sculpture on display had us puzzled but I did find the sound sculptures - Meta-Diva and Swarm intriguing. From the river we went back through the heritage orchard to the original rustic farm buildings - the stables, blacksmith's, men's hut, ration house and farmstead. This farmyard was the working heart of the extensive Werribee Estate



By this time, we had to say goodbye and leave the State Rose garden, the Parterre garden and exploring the lake for our next visit. We had enjoyed this visit to Werribee and were sorry to go. For those that didn't manage to get to this outing you missed a delightful day.

Report submitted by Judy Lewis & John Washbourne