



THE PORT FAIRY VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE EDUCATION PROGRAM – PFVICEP

OUR MOTTO: "Don't just visit Port Fairy, visit Port Fairy's history!"

ATTENTION TEACHERS! **LOOKING FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE LEARNING EXPERIENCE?**

If you are a teacher looking for a unique school excursion for your students that provides **BOTH** a learning opportunity about Victoria's early history **AND** an exciting experience for your students they will never forget, **AND** is also one that brings the classroom curriculum alive in a novel setting then read on ...

The PFVICEP offers teachers and students a fun way of learning about a unique town by role-playing the central characters in Port Fairy's history, helping them to discover how these characters changed the landscape of the region and shaped the town's destiny.

OUR SCHOOL EDUCATION PROGRAM:

- costs \$100 minimum per tour (up to 25 students)
- provides access to Port Fairy's famous Courthouse Museum, Mills and Motts cottages and Lifeboat House – additional costs apply
- is suitable for students in Years 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10
- accommodates student groups between 10 and 25
- provides tour times to suit individual schools – tours can take between 60 and 120 minutes depending on the type of tour and places visited
- provides school discounts for two or more tours
- provides non role-playing coach tours around the town
- provides free access to online student activities suitable for the classroom or home

Port Fairy is steeped in history and, in some respects, is unlike any other town in Victoria. The Gunditjmara Indigenous People were living in the southwest of Victoria for thousands of years prior to European settlement in the region by the Hentys and other sealers and whalers who settled in Portland and Griffiths Island, Port Fairy. Squatters claimed land, and the Government auctioned land, taken from the Gunditjmara. However, Port Fairy had a unique way in which land was distributed to Europeans which had a profound effect on the way the town developed. In 1843 a wealthy Irishman, James Atkinson, purchased 5,120 acres of land from the Governor of New South Wales, Sir George Gipps, under the short-lived Special Survey scheme. He then planned and created the township of Belfast, later known as Port Fairy. And the rest, as they say, is history.

A. AIMS OF THE PFVICEP

The aims of the PFVICEP are to:

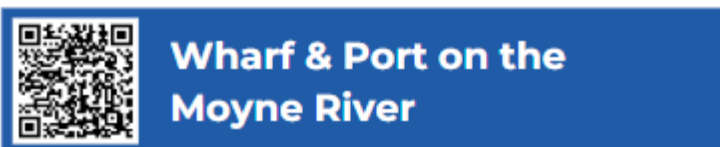
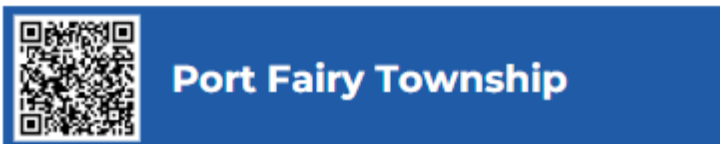
1. Promote the history of Port Fairy and surrounding regions and the education services of the Port Fairy Visitor Information Centre.
2. Provide advice to schools about the range of educational activities offered through the program.
3. In discussion with teachers identify activities that would support their students' curriculum.
4. Arrange group bookings for students to participate in walking and/or coach tours.
5. Provide support material for teachers and students.

B. PFVICEP ACTIVITIES

There are three types of activities:

1. Guided walking tours or coach tours of Port Fairy.
2. Virtual tours of Port Fairy in the classroom.
3. Free access to **online** student activities:

3.1 Virtual tours of Port Fairy – access via the QR codes shown below.



3.2 Role play activities set in colonial times in Melbourne (1835 & 1837) and the southwest coastal towns of Portland (1843), Belfast/Port Fairy (1851) and Warrnambool (1856).

Access via the QR code shown below.



C. TEACHING STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

Guided walking tours or coach tours of Port Fairy can be included in a school's PD program. PFVICEP:

1. caters for teachers new to the Moyne Shire who would like to learn about the history of the region and Port Fairy in particular;
2. provides teachers who are already working in the region with the opportunity to improve their knowledge of local history; and
3. provides teachers in Victorian schools with the opportunity to include local history in their curriculum.

D. CONVENOR OF PFVICEP ACTIVITIES

Glen Foster, M.Sc (Oxon), B.Sc, Dip.Ed (Monash), is a retired secondary school teacher with forty-five years' teaching experience in schools in Melbourne, Somerset (England), Ballarat and sessional times in primary schools in Port Fairy and Warrnambool. He is currently registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching.

Glen is a volunteer at the Port Fairy Visitor Information Centre and the Port Fairy Historical Society. He is an experienced tour guide who regularly conducts walking and coach tours in Port Fairy with adults and students.

Glen can be contacted at the Port Fairy Visitor Information Centre to discuss the PFVICEP.