



History NEWS

Issue No. 268 April/May 2007

Royal Historical Society of Victoria

NOTICE of 2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All members are advised that the 97th Annual General Meeting of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria Inc. will be held as follows:

Date: Tuesday 8 May 2007

Time: 5.00pm

Place: 239 A'Beckett Street, Melbourne

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm the minutes of the 96th Annual General Meeting.
2. To receive the Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2006.
3. To receive and consider the Financial Statement for the year ended 31 December 2006.
4. To appoint the Hon. Auditor for 2007.
5. To elect Office-bearers and Members of Council.
6. To receive expressions of interest for History Victoria Support Group.
7. To elect any member or members who have been nominated for election as Fellows.
8. To announce Awards of Merit recipients.
9. To transact any special business of which notice has been given in accordance with the Rules of the Society.

The AGM will be followed by a lecture on Miners' Cottages by Tony Dingle, Associate Dean Education, Monash University.

CALL for NOMINATIONS

Six positions are available for election at the AGM. Nominations for Members of the Council and office-bearers of the Association will close on Tuesday 1 May 2007.

Nomination forms are available from the Executive Officer.

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Affiliated societies are encouraged to provide expressions of interest for membership on the RHSV's History Victoria Support Group. These should be forwarded to Executive Officer by 1 May 2007.

Kate Prinsley
Executive Officer
26 March, 2007

Eminent Persons panel launched

Council of the RHSV has established a panel of Eminent Persons to advise Council in three areas - raising the profile of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria Society, its programs and collections, and to spread awareness of it to the wider community, and to guide us towards our Centenary.

Councilors introduced the panel to the Society in March with an orientation through our collections and 1856 exhibition which provided a basis upon which to learn of the wide scope of activities at the RHSV.

The panel is chaired by Justice John Phillips AC QC with members being Stephen Shelmerdine AM, Gordon Moffatt AM KSI, Fay Marles AM, Honourable John Cain, Diana Gribble and Rabbi Dr. John Levi, AM DD

Community gallery opens

The RHSV has created a community gallery. Approximately 11.5 meters has been made available for historical societies and individuals to hold exhibitions at the RHSV. Essentially it is seen as an opportunity for exhibitions that have been popular throughout the State to have a city showing.

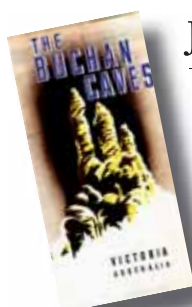
For exhibition criteria, to make a booking or to find out more please call the Executive Officer.

Local history officer

Following the success of the History Victoria Support Group [HVSG], established in 2004, the RHSV has recognized the importance of this work by creating the position of Local History Officer. Vicki Court has taken up this position and her work will include supporting the activities of the HVSG with special emphasis on cataloguing, IT and developing the potential for historical societies to obtain and share information through networks such as MC2.

How to build & maintain your membership brochure launch

At the Seminar Day held in Wodonga in March, Joan Hunt, Convenor HVSG, launched the first of the Group's technical brochures. This brochure contains some thoughts and ideas about how to build and maintain membership. Historical Societies will have already received this brochure. It is available to the wider community by contacting the RHSV office.



Join us at the Buchan Caves lecture

Buchan Caves celebrates 100 years this year and the RHSV hosts a joint lecture with the Royal Society of Victoria on 26 April; see details on Page 3. The accompanying image is from a promotional brochure issued by The Victorian Railways Commissioners in conjunction with the Buchan Caves Committee, c. 1934; RHSV Collection, VF 1926.

Jungle, Desert, Ice

This is the graphic title of Sue Blackwood's recent successfully completed Deakin PhD thesis about the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia Victorian Branch that amalgamated with the Historical Society of Victoria in 1920. The Geographical Society's extensive records are held by the RHSV and Sue has worked on these since she first came to the RHSV to do a history internship under Richard Barnden's direction in 2001. Some of the results of that work were published in the *Victorian Historical Journal* vol.73 no.1, April 2002. She also spoke as a 'new historian' to members at an August meeting about her later work.

The Geographical Society in Victoria was founded in 1884 and enjoyed widespread and influential support for the next thirty years. It was one of the earliest scientific organisations in Australia and its actions reflected the imperial ambitions of nationalists who supported Australasian interest in the islands of the southwest Pacific, the development and defence of the Australian continent itself, and Antarctica. The thesis title derives from these interests. For the society, geography was paramount for Australia's development and for the discovery and exploitation of new products for world commerce. Exploration was thus an essential ingredient and the society sponsored and encouraged expeditions to New Guinea, central and northern Australia, and to Antarctica especially in the late 19th century. The papers delivered to the society reflect these interests and the membership, mostly men from a spectrum ranging from scientists and engineers and others with some scientific training and experience (e.g. Ferdinand von Mueller was an early leader) to those with no professional scientific training but with strong interests in Australian development (e.g. Alexander Cameron Macdonald was the prime initiator of the society, a business man with diverse interests, and mainstay of the society as secretary, treasurer, librarian and editor until his death in 1915).

Sue's thesis highlights the significance of our Geographical Society material; it makes a major contribution to our knowledge of our antecedent scientific organization; it sheds much light on the connections between the aims and activities of its members and the development of national identity; and it tells us more about the development of an interest in Australia's past within the broad reaches of geography.

Congratulations Sue!

BOOK SALE 2007

The date of the RHSV Giant Book Sale is Sunday, July 29th - note it in your diaries. Fiction and books on any subject are now being accepted. Please bring them into the RHSV or 'phone the office on 9326 9288 to arrange for collection. Please support one of the major fund-raisers of the year.

RHSV receives funding for significance survey

The RHSV has received funding in the second round of Victoria's Heritage Grants to undertake a Significance Survey of its photographic collection.

A significance assessment is a process by which collections are objectively assessed for their historic, aesthetic, scientific, research or technical and social and spiritual significance. The importance of such a survey is it assists with resource allocation in terms of collections management, it can justify accessioning and de-accessioning of material, it can identify material of national, state and local significance and most importantly it can assist with the exhibition of material.

In terms of the RHSV the Significance Survey will assist in prioritizing material for digitization.

Recently received

Never a week goes by than one or more of the RHSV's collections is enriched by a donation of material from a member, an affiliated historical society, a member of the public or a public institution. This is how the Society's collections - book, manuscript, pamphlet and ephemera, journals, photographs, art-works and maps - have grown since the Society's inception. Generally speaking we bring to members, through *History News*, details of large donations. The single items which add to and/or complement our collections receive less publicity. So the 'serendipity factor' of historical research means that the wise researcher, when tackling a new subject, always takes a fresh look at our holdings as shown on our website or make contact with one of our volunteer librarians (between 10:00 and 4:00 weekdays). Just recently we received eight glass negatives (one actually a positive) relating to shipping.

Very old and not in great order, they were treated with respect, printed and an analysis of their content made. Some are from Lindt's studio, others intrigue us, offering hints as to their content. The photo below is a detail from the positive: four gentlemen reclining on the deck of what we take as the *Orizaba* (zaba is observable on the life belt). We look forward to hearing from readers who have extra information or alternative hypotheses.



STUDY GRANTS SCHEME

The History of the University Unit welcomes applications for its Study Grants Scheme for 2007. The scheme is directed at stimulating research into, and promotion of, the history of the University of Melbourne and its contribution to the wider community. The grants provide up to \$1000 and are available to researchers from both inside and outside the University. The final date for submissions is 20 April 2007. More information and application forms may be found at <http://www.history.unimelb.edu.au/huu/research/grants.html>. Please email hUU-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au if you have any further questions.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Are you interested in old photographs?

Following a successful grant from the Ian Potter Foundation, we are about to embark on digitizing our photographic collection.

If you are interested in working close to glass plate negatives, early albumen prints and other rare and fragile photographs then we need you.

Project planning is underway and we need help to implement digitization.

Skills gained will be in handling and scanning photographs, databases, and the opportunity to contribute to one of the RHSV's most significant projects.

Do you like detail?

RHSV is seeking a Membership Secretary.

Tasks will include updating our records, handling inquiries from potential members, encouraging new members, and helping to identify strategies to increase membership numbers.

It's a wonderful opportunity to get "your teeth into a project" and would be very valued by the RHSV.

Do you enjoy helping researchers?

The RHSV is always in need of extra help in the library. Library volunteers will be trained in cataloguing, in library systems and in assisting researchers. Helping in the library is a fantastic opportunity to get first hand experience in the depth and richness of our collection - a feast for the mind as well as being greatly valued by us all at the RHSV.

Time commitment for all volunteer positions:

one morning/afternoon a week, or more

For further information please phone Kate Prinsley, Executive Officer 9326 9288

LECTURES

Delving into the Buchan Caves

Date: Thurs 26 April 2007
Time: Supper 6.15 Lecture 7.00
Cost: \$15.00
Place: The Royal Historical Society of Victoria,
 239 A' Beckett Street Melbourne

Bookings essential: 9326 9288 or 9663 5259

The first historical record of the Buchan caves in East Gippsland dates from 1840. To celebrate the centenary of Frank Moon's discovery of the glittering Fairy Cave in 1907, a session of four illustrated talks will provide insights into the formation of the caves, and their significance in the lives of the original Kurnai people, and all the generations since. Over the past century, the Caves and their well-planned park reserve have been managed by Parks Victoria and its antecedents as a spectacular Victorian tourist attraction. The first Caves manager, Frederick Wilson, was recruited from the Jenolan Caves in New South Wales.

The Royal Society of Victoria and the RHSV, with generous support from Parks Victoria, have joined forces to organize this event. The four speakers have that broad range of scientific and human interests, which now so readily coalesce in the field of environmental science. They all enjoy a passion for the natural world, including caving. This evening we can share their adventures vicariously and thrill to the insights gained from their research and their passion. Personal memories of the caves will be welcome. All this good food for thought will be complemented by a delicious supper which will begin the evening.

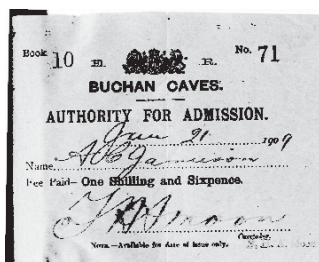
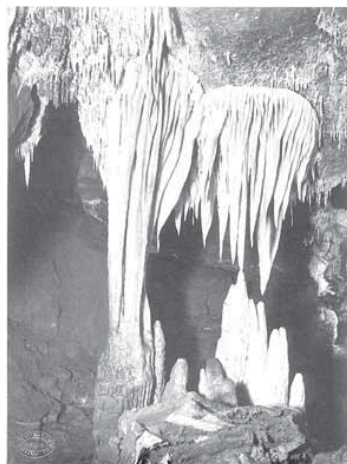
INTRODUCING THE PANEL OF SPEAKERS:

John Webb is Associate Professor of Environmental Geoscience and coordinates the Environmental Science degree at La Trobe University.

Mark Ellaway gained a PhD in 1992 with a study of the groundwater hydrology of the Buchan area and since 1994 has been a School Manager in Anthropology and Environmental Studies at the University of Melbourne.

Brian Finlayson is Associate Professor and Reader in the School of Social and Environmental Enquiry at the University of Melbourne. During three decades of an academic career, he has had numerous publications. A notable one, and the first book to be published on the topic, is *Beneath the Surface: A Natural History of Australian Caves* (UNSW Press, 2003) jointly edited with the fourth speaker for the evening.

Elerly Hamilton-Smith is Professor of Environmental Studies at Albury's Charles Sturt University. His 50 years of caving and interest in the Buchan Caves led him into a comprehensive historical study of the area, with a strong focus on people.



Miners' Cottages

Speaker: Tony Dingle, Associate Dean Education Department of Economics, Monash University

When: Tuesday 8 May

Time: 5.45 pm following the Annual General Meeting

Cost: Members: free;
 Non-members: \$5.50

This paper stems from an interest in the history of housing and especially of housing shortages and how they are overcome. In the nineteenth century the need to house a factory or mining workforce in areas without a substantial existing housing stock posed considerable difficulties. Accommodation needed to be provided rapidly and in large quantities and at a cost that would allow workers to pay for them either through purchase or rental. Typically mine or factory owners provided accommodation for the workforce they needed, or other sources of capital were mobilised by private landlords to provide shelter of some kind.

On the Victorian goldfields a different approach was adopted. Miners financed and built their own accommodation in the form of small wooden cottages. These are still a major component of the built landscape of the goldfield towns and constitute one of the few examples of an Australian indigenous architecture. The paper seeks to explain the circumstances under which small towns of property owning miners emerged on the geographical periphery of the capitalist world in the mid nineteenth century. The keys to this achievement were access to land on which to build at minimal cost, combined with a cheap and easily erected cottage design.

Tony Dingle is Associate Dean Education in the Faculty of Business and Economics at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. He is an economic and urban historian and has researched and published extensively in Australian and British economic, social, urban and environmental history. He has written or edited ten books as well as many journal articles. His current projects include studies of the growth of consumerism in Australia, urban transformations in old inner city industrial areas, the evolution of miner's houses and a history of the relationship between Melbourne and the River Yarra.

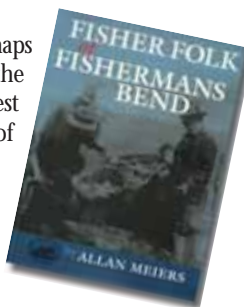
EXHIBITIONS

In about 1856 and Fisher Folk of Fishermans Bend

These two exhibitions will continue until May.

In about 1856 highlights the strength of the RHSV collection. Early maps of Melbourne, books and photographs are all brought together to show the City developing socially, culturally and architecturally. Of particular interest are the Jane Cannan illustrations and the Walter Woodbury Panorama of Melbourne in 1855.

Fisher Folk of Fishermans Bend is a comprehensive exhibition of rare photographs, maps and other documents about early fishing families in Fishermans Bend. The exhibition is on loan from the Port Melbourne Historical and Preservation Society.



Thank you

Two National Trust properties – Labassa and Beleura (an associate property) were venues of recent RHSV activities. We thank Elizabeth Anya-Petrivna, Curator, Collections Team (Labassa) and Anthony Knight (Director, Beleura) for expertise, hospitality and generosity.

EXCURSIONS

Collingwood Flat Walk

Saturday 28 April 2007

John Young, author of the forthcoming history of Collingwood College 1882-2007, will lead a walk through old Collingwood. It takes in malthouses, churches, schools and Stephanie Alexander's kitchen garden. Morning tea will be served at the College, and historic notes will be provided.

Booking is essential, as numbers are limited by the narrowness of the streets. Payment should be with the Society by Thursday 26 April.

Cost: \$10 incl. morning tea

Meet: 9.45am sharp at south west cnr of Stanley & Cambridge Streets, a short walk down Stanley Street from the No 18 tram stop in Smith Street on Route 86. (Parking in the area is limited to one hour).

Contemporary fashion collection reflected in George's windows

Laurie Carew was chief window dresser at Melbourne's most elegant store Georges and this year was awarded the OAM for his commitment to visual design.

Laurie will lead us through his Georges Windows from 1954 to 1983 when he retired. He created the 'feeling that was once Georges'. The windows were the last of the arcaded windows with two island glass display boxes in the centre. Through his eyes he will recreate an era of fashion, insights into Melbourne's retail history and of course - the Paris end of Collins Street.



Contrasted against this will be an opportunity to see a contemporary fashion collection. Helen Manuell, founder of Manuell and Moore has won Gown of the Year 2004 and Contemporary Bridal Designer of the Year 2005 and 2006. She is a couture designer and conveys her ideas onto mannequins rather than using patterns. Her garments are directional and futuristic.

This is an opportunity to contrast Melbourne's fashion history with the work and collections of a contemporary fashion designer.

Where: Manuell & Moore
1 Station Street, Malvern

When: Wednesday 23 May

Time: 10.30 - 12.00

Cost: Members \$10.00
Non Members \$ 20.00

Booking Essential: Numbers Strictly Limited 9326 9288

Conserving Victoria's heritage for future generations

Since it was founded in 1956, the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) has been classifying places of cultural and natural heritage significance from across the State, accumulating an extensive bank of knowledge in the process.

When Victoria's first heritage legislation was introduced in 1974, the National Trust Register was the source of the first entries on the Victorian Heritage Register, and was again the source for local heritage overlays following the changes to the planning scheme in 1995.

To date, the National Trust has classified approximately 6,000 places considered worthy of preservation. These include buildings, public art, industrial sites, organs, historic precincts, cemeteries, landscapes, historic gardens, trees and urban parklands. The organisation also holds files on a further 2,000 places of heritage value to Victoria.

Recent classifications include:

- the 1937 former military drill hall in Victoria Street, Melbourne;
- an 1870 warehouse building in A'Beckett Street, Melbourne, still with its original hydraulic goods lift powered by mains pressure water;
- the Pennyweight Flat Cemetery, dating from the gold-mining era, and the surrounding precinct, near Castlemaine;
- the manually operated railway gates, originally built in 1883, but probably altered in 1902, in New Street, Brighton;
- the Spencer Street Power Station, which operated from 1894 until 1981;
- a 1957 house by David Chancellor in Wells Road, Beaumaris; and
- a rare mature Mexican Cypress (*Cupressus lusitanica*) in Yarck cemetery.

Priority for classification is given to places that have no other heritage protection and might be under threat.

Classifications are done at five levels of significance: International, National, State, Regional and Local. Nominations are assessed by the National Trust's volunteer expert committees and then endorsed by the Board.

If you are interested in nominating a place for classification, nomination forms are available for download from the National Trust website. The website contains guidelines to follow when nominating as well as some potential sources. Also featured is a separate nomination form for Significant Trees.

Before nominating, it is worthwhile conducting a search to see if the place is already protected by other organisations. It may be listed by Heritage Victoria, in which case listings are available at www.heritage.vic.gov.au. Alternatively it may have a local heritage overlay - enquiries can be made with the planning departments of local councils or online at <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/planningschemes/>.

There is no fee to search the Trust's online register, which details the Statement of Significance for Classified sites. If additional information is required, the files located at the National Trust's head office may be searched for a small fee. An appointment must be made with the Information Services Officer on (03) 9656 9818 and 24 hours notice is required.

Unfortunately the National Trust has no statutory authority over classified places, and legal protection is only given to places on either state government or local council heritage lists.

Search the National Trust Register today at www.natstrust.com.au.

Community Heritage Grants 2007

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 8 JUNE



Community Heritage Grants of up to \$15 000 are available to assist in preserving locally held nationally significant cultural heritage collections.

Not-for-profit community organisations such as historical societies, museums, public libraries, archives, Indigenous and migrant groups are eligible to apply for funding.

Applications close Friday 8 June

Application forms and guidelines can be downloaded from: www.nla.gov.au/chg

Printed copies of the form are available from:
Coordinator, Community Heritage Grants
National Library of Australia
Canberra ACT 2600
Email: chg@nla.gov.au
Phone: (02) 6262 1147

The 2007 Community Heritage Grants program is funded by the Australian Government through the National Library of Australia; the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts; the National Archives of Australia; the National Film and Sound Archive; and the National Museum of Australia.



Lessons to be learned from the fire at Yackandandah

A fire on December 21 2006, gutted our main building of the Bank of Victoria Museum at Yackandandah - an 1860 building with many of its original banking fixtures and fittings. A classic 19th century bank – flush with the street-front, dark, high ceilings, smallish rooms, dark timbers, front rooms the business rooms, back two rooms the parlour and dining room, it was also used by the banker’s family who lived in the cottage behind.

At the time it was our main entrance, our research area, our activities area, and our only spaces for temporary display – also at the time hosting ‘But that’s another story...’, a Murray Arts travelling display. The objects in that display, the banking furnishings and the fittings, and some banking artefacts, were the principal original or archival objects lost. Most photographs on display were copies, most files created, and many small objects were similar to objects stored in the back building – itself unharmed. A lot of new items were lost – a dvd and screen, the created panels and boxes for the display, new administrative furnishings, computers and equipment.

But I remember saying to the many that first day – “of course we will rebuild. There is no other option.”

The next few days were spent assuring the media, the community and the members that salvage was possible and recovery was do-able.

Recovery actually began probably about 7 am on that same morning.

But way back, as far back as 1984, we started to make that decision. In 1984, we entered the Westpac Bank Museum of the Year Awards. We won Category C – for small community museums. That process was an exceptionally steep learning curve, which could not be reversed. From then we entered and won a temporary display award in the 1988 Museum of the Year Awards, joined Museums Australia, began looking at our operations, finding out, learning. Two of us did qualifications in the museum industry. In 1994 we were among the first Victorian museums to register with the new Museum Accreditation Program. That process although difficult, resulted in being accredited in 2001. Our survival of that process brought with higher standards, a greatly improved knowledge base, a solid group, and a Disaster Plan.

The Disaster plan was one of the most difficult parts of accreditation. There was a lot of research, collaboration with other community organizations, thinking about our own processes and place, and linking the disaster plan with other operations.

The local Fire Brigade was a key part of that plan – they hold our key, our contacts, an understanding of our collection and buildings, and an understanding about the possibilities of recovery. During the fire they kept me informed

on-site. They retrieved articles, and accompanied me to retrieve essential items when the heat had died down.

I cannot stress enough the knowledge base that is part of all this. We need to learn about our own organization, and about museums and collections. We need to be serious about working together, respecting each other’s skills and positions, and respecting the policies, processes and procedures developed. Every member needs to be part of the disaster planning process. And we need to work together professionally – whether paid or unpaid.

Our choice for recovery on December 21 2006 was based on years of work. It was based on pride in the organization and a sense of responsibility towards it. It was based on grief and determination and an anger that this had happened. It was also a choice based on the fact that the group accepted the leadership chain of command as set out in the Disaster Plan.

So began our recovery - immediately. Not Christmas, nor New Year nor public holidays counted. We had wet, damaged, rusting and vulnerable items to deal with – delay meant further deterioration. We had to clear salvageable items from further damage by falling timbers and iron. We had to be safe, - us, the building and collection. We had to store countless damaged objects, papers, documents, furnishings and fittings somewhere else safe. We had to assess what was worth keeping for future decisions and what could be thrown out now. We had to check that anything retrievable was retrieved as soon as possible because of the chance of looting. We had to deal with insurers, funding agencies, grieving community, assessors, the shire, the media and ourselves. Our members, all volunteers, have worked approximately 760 hours on-site since December 21, - hot, dirty, without power - many more hours off-site on home phones and computers and administrative tasks. The museum is not open to the public, and won’t be for some time, so we have no income. The cottage, though largely undamaged, is still



closed. The site is still hazardous and uncleared. We still have security fencing and only recently had the power reconnected to one building.

Insurance, contents and building, is essential – even if only to replace the structure, chairs, filing cabinets and paper – no amount of money will replace the historic items lost, but at least we can have furnished premises.

We have to look to the positives, to the opportunities, to the future. Our grief, frustration, exhaustion in the relentless and all-consuming task had to be tempered with our belief that recovery could be achieved.

And it will.

Susan Reynolds

President

Yackandandah and District Historical Society Inc

INSURANCE for FIXTURES and FITTINGS

Following the lessons learned from the Yackandandah fire the RHSV is investigating a joint insurance scheme to cover Historical Society fixtures and fittings. We will keep affiliated societies informed of developments.

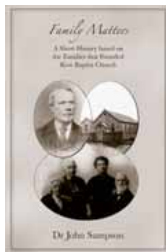
BOOKS RECEIVED:

We note below relevant items sent to the Society. Interested groups or authors are invited to contribute to this valuable service to members in the *News* and through deposit in the library. Some items may later be reviewed in the *Journal*.

Dirk H R Spennemann, *Buses up and down the Murray, the Murray Valley Coach Company of Albury*, Heritage Futures International, Albury, 2006, pp. vi + 154. ISBN 978 1 921220 03 6. Covering the period from 1934 until the company's demise in 1959, this well-illustrated book highlights the regional importance of a company that ran buses, principally in the Murray Valley, which linked settlements served by the rail networks that radiated from the capital cities. It deals with the impact on the company of war and of continuing government controls and restrictions on routes; the state of the roads and the adaptation of buses; the links with tourism in the period before the coming of the family car and caravan; and competition with Ansett and Pioneer Coaches. There is also much technical detail about the buses and their timetables.



John Sampson. *Family matters, a short history based on the families that founded Kew Baptist Church*, Mono Unlimited, PO Box 324, Ashburton, VIC 3147, 2006, pp. x + 416, \$59-95. ISBN 0 9775518 1 4. Despite the sub-title this is not a short history. However, it is an assiduous presentation of material about people who founded the church in the 1850s. The families of some of them continue to be members. Genealogists will find some rich pickings in family histories and will understand the difficulties of source interpretation that the author describes but maybe these could have been more usefully conveyed as research details on a website. Those looking for the analysis that might really tell the history of the church and shed light on the history of the suburb may well be disappointed.



Don Gibb & Stuart Warmington, *Visions of a village, Canterbury shops and shopping 1880s-1890s and beyond*, Canterbury History Group, 142 Canterbury Road, Canterbury, 3126, 2007, Second edition (revised), pp. vi + 74, \$24 (plus \$3-50 postage). ISBN 0 646 46984 3. Originally published in 1995, this book focuses on the shopping and service centre of Canterbury and Maling Roads in the middle-class suburb of Canterbury from the 1880s to the present. Stuart Warmington's streetscapes and Don Gibb's brief lives of each of the premises provide a historical guide to the present centre. The accompanying text and substantial visual material describe and analyse the changing forms of shops and shopping and contribute to understanding the wider world of changing patterns of supply and consumption of goods and services.

Merle Pole (compiler), *Who were they? the naming of Ouyen's streets and parks*, Local History Resource Centre, PO Box 131, Ouyen, 3490, 2006, pp. 120, \$25 (plus \$5 postage). Ouyen's streets have been named in honour of European settlers from the early 20th Century. This enables the production of a book that tells much about life in Ouyen using excellent photographs of people and places, oral recollections, and a range of contemporary records. It is also a tasty sample of the History Centre's holdings and diligent compilation.



Mary Kenealy, *The high way to heaven, a story of Marysville and District*, Marysville and District Historical Society, 2006, pp. 132. ISBN 0 646 46290 3. The variety of chapters mix narrative with themes like recreation and sport, churches and clubs, tourism and attractions, as well as biographies of early and later residents. There are also many photographs and maps and extracts from papers and directories. In fact, there's a mine of information for anyone with an interest in the area.

Rita Hull (compiler), *Origins of Bendigo street names Book 1*, The Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies, Bendigo Area, PO Box 145, Bendigo, 3552, 2006, pp. 61. Street names

and changes to them can tell us about past values and perceptions as well as naming practices. It is often not easy to be precise about origins but the compiler has managed to link many of the more than 300 street-names to individual settlers and officials as well as to topical events and people. Arranged alphabetically, this is a useful tool for Bendigo researchers.

Joan E. Hunt, *Come back to Scarsdale, Scarsdale Old Boys reunion centenary history*, Woody Yaloak Historical Society, Jim Crow Press, PO Box 276, Daylesford, 3460, 2006, pp. x + 86. ISBN 0 9750224 3 1. The Scarsdale Old Boys Reunions began in 1906. The name and the reunions have continued, usually at Scarsdale, ever since. For much of the time, the Old Girls have been linked but separate! This book tells us much about Scarsdale's history as well as the very strong attachments that Scarsdale students maintained with their school as a special place of pilgrimage. It shows very well how a very specific local institutional history can illuminate our social history.



Needlework samplers

Do you have an heirloom needlework sampler? If so, Peg Fraser would like to hear from you.

Peg is a Master's student in the History Department at Melbourne University and is writing her thesis on Australian samplers – those pieces of embroidery worked by girls in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is the first academic study of Australian samplers.

If you have a piece of embroidery hanging on the wall or stowed in a cupboard that you think may have been made in Australia and would like to provide information about it and/or the person who made it, please contact: Peg Fraser, 5 Lower Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe, Victoria 3079; 03-9497-2176; fraserme@bigpond.net.au; mfraser@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au. All personal information will be held in strict confidence.

Maxus Collections

The software for museums, galleries and historical societies

<p>Powerful and easy to use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find any item in your collection in seconds. Display images of colour or black & white photographs, paintings or original documents. Data entry sheets match standard cataloguing worksheets. 	<p>Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear screen layouts and menu • Data entry forms tailored for objects, images, books and papers • Records can be sorted, displayed and printed in a range of reports
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Contact Maxus for free demonstration software or further information.

PO Box 727 South Melbourne
Victoria 3205 Australia
maxus@maxus.net.au
www.maxus.net.au
(03) 9646 1988

150th Anniversary of the Buckland Valley Riot 1857-2007

On July 4th, 2007, it will be 150 years since the riot in the Buckland Valley occurred when thousands of Chinese miners were attacked and driven from the goldfields. This significant event has been compared to the Eureka Stockade uprising in size and intensity. Over 750 miners' tents were destroyed, stores belonging to the Chinese were burnt down and looted and the newly erected Chinese Temple ('Joss House') was reduced to ashes. Many details are still debated.

To commemorate this important historical event a celebration of Chinese culture and history in the Ovens Valley will be held over the weekend of June 29th - 1 July 2007. It will encourage local people, Chinese descendants and those interested in history to visit Bright and the surrounding areas, to tour significant places and to celebrate the presence and culture of the Chinese and their skills in mining. Venues include: Buckland Valley Cemetery; Bright Cemetery, Museum and Art Gallery, Harrierville Museum; Wandiligong; and Germantown.

For further information: Joy Kitch (Bright and District Historical Society) joynev@westnet.com.au; Diann Talbot c/o P.O. Box Wandiligong 3744; Libby Bain (Alpine Shire Council) (053 5755 0520 or libbyb@alpineshire.vic.gov.au

AROUND THE SOCIETIES

This column is compiled by Joan Hunt on behalf of History Victoria Support Group using information provided by Societies either directly or contained in their newsletters. For next issue please send details of forthcoming events by 10 May to joanhunt@ncable.net.au

BALLARAT: At 7.30pm on Tuesday 10 April Dr Anne Beggs Sunter will speak on the Ballarat Heritage Watch, and about Henry Sutton, at the Gold Museum in Bradshaw Street. In coming months the "Capture the Vision" exhibition of photographs will be displayed at the Gold Museum, when visitors will be encouraged to bring their photos for copying. Phone 5341 2405 or see www.ballarathistoricalsociety.com.

BELLARINE: The Public Record Office Victoria travelling display entitled "Lucy", about the records used in family history research, will be on show at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11 April, at the Old Courthouse Museum, High Street, Drysdale. The Museum is open to visitors every Sunday to the end of April, admission \$2.20. Phone 5253 1715 or email willey@netspace.net.au.

BOX HILL: On Thursday 19 April Graham Gould will speak on "House Names of Australia", explaining the tradition and history of naming houses, with practical advice on researching the name of your home and locating historical sources. And if you want to name your house, Graham has many hundreds of names and their meanings from which you can choose. On Thursday 17 May John Zigouras, whose parents were among the first Greek residents of Box Hill, will tell stories of growing up in Box Hill as a member of the Greek community. Meetings are held at Strabane Chapel Hall, Strabane Avenue, Mont Albert North. Enquiries to 9285 4808 or see <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~bhhs/index.html>.

BRIGHT: Forward notice of a very special event to be held 29 June to 1 July in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of Riot on the Buckland Valley Gold Field in 1857. Set the weekend aside to come and see the street parade in Bright with Chinese Golden Dragon, Lion Dancers and Chinese Dancers, floats, decorations, drummers, displays, film, Chinese pottery collection display, historical books, tours to sites of Chinese graves, temple, Wandiligong bridge, museums and art galleries. Email joynev@westnet.com.au

BRUNSWICK: From 1.30 to 4.00pm on Saturday 7 April a Show and Tell for Heritage Week, entitled "Brunswick Chat Room" will be held at Brunswick Town Hall. Phone Francesca on 9387 1194.

CASTLEMAINE: Prof. Jeff Brownrigg will speak on "Dame Nellie Melba - Her Friends, Rivals and Reputation" as part of 'In Castlemaine Tonight' for the Victoria State Festival on Tuesday 3 April. Price is \$15, to be booked through the Capitol Theatre.

COBURG: Pat Hogan, Principal 1972-1986, will speak on "Coburg Technical School" on Wednesday 18 April at 8.00pm at Coburg Library Meeting Room. The Society shares the 'Moreland History News' newsletter with Brunswick and Broadmeadows historical societies, with support from Moreland and Hume City Councils. Phone Secretary Robert on 9384 1025.

DONCASTER-TEMPLESTOWE: A Gala Dinner to celebrate the Society's 40th birthday will be held at the Eastern Golf Club, 473 Doncaster Rd, Doncaster at 7pm on Wednesday 18 April at \$40 per person. Bookings enquiries 9844 2392. On Wednesday 2 May Arthur Tonkin will speak on "The Paddle Wheels of Yesterday", about the Murray Darling paddle steamer trade. Phone secretary Val on 9439 7577 or see www.vicnet.net.au/~dthsoc/

DROMANA: The AGM to be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 17 April in the Old Shire Office, 359 Nepean Highway, Dromana, will mark the Society's 20th birthday. The current display in the Museum marks the 60th Anniversary of the death of Howard Ratcliff Lawson, builder and entrepreneur, at Dromana in 1946. Lawson had the foresight to see the tourist potential in Arthurs Seat and built an extravagant complex of buildings on the summit including swimming pool, ballroom and viewing area with a camera obscura. Nearby he built several houses but his untimely death put an end to the project. Lawson also was a prolific builder of flats in the South Yarra and Dandenong Road areas. See <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dromana/>

ELTHAM: A heritage walk will be held at 2pm on Saturday 5 May, and at 8pm on Wednesday 9 May Kristin Otto will speak on "Yarra River History". For further details contact Russell on 9439 9717 or Harry on 9439 1175.

HASTINGS-WESTERNPORT: A recent successful book launch by the Mayor of Mornington Peninsula Shire, Cr Brian Stahl took place at the historic Hastings hall in the presence of 100 people. The book is *Hastings People & Places Vol. II* and is available for sale for \$30 (phone 03 9781 1141). Sales for this and also Vol I are excellent. The popular Morning Coffees are continuing with the next one to be on Wednesday 28 February at 10.15 am at the Hastings Museum. Cost \$5. The Hastings Museum had an exhibition of photos of Hastings, Tyabb, Somerville, Bittern and French Island on Australia Day. New aerial photographs have been mounted and are on display in the Museum. The

Society had a special display for the Western Port Festival as well as an entry in the Hastings Day Street Parade on 24th February. The Hastings Yacht Club is 50 years old in March and the Society will hold an exhibition there to celebrate this anniversary.

HAWTHORN: On Wednesday 16 May and Wednesday 23 May, starting at 10.00am, there will be a tour of the Victorian Telecommunications Museum, 375 Burwood Road, Hawthorn (red brick building opposite Hawthorn Town Hall). Phone Secretary Aileen on 9278 4666

HEIDELBERG: On Tuesday 10 April at 8pm Terrace Lane will speak on 'Streeton, Roberts and Condor - two summers at Eaglemont 1888-1890', at the Uniting Church Community Centre, Seddon St, Ivanhoe (enter from car park at rear). A celebratory luncheon with guest speaker will be held at The Centre, Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe on Sunday 29 April starting at 12 noon, to celebrate the Society's 40th anniversary, at a cost of \$40 per person. Phone 9455 2130 or email history@heidelberg.50webs.com

HORSHAM: Alan Finch will be the speaker at 8pm on Wednesday 4 April at 33 Pynsent Street, Horsham. Alterations have started at the Historic Society Rooms, to include a kitchen and extra storage rooms. A digital camera has been purchased and the Society will record changes in the CBD. See www.vicnet.net.au/~hhs.

HOTHAM: At 8pm on Tuesday 24 April Gary Presland will speak about the area now known as North and West Melbourne, at the North Melbourne Library, 66 Errol St, North Melbourne. Gary is an archaeologist and historian who has published widely about pre-European Aboriginal life in the Melbourne Area, such as his "Land of the Kulin". Phone 9297 3280 or see hothamhistory.org.au

INTERNATIONAL SETTLERS: On Saturday 19 May at 1.00pm, Danny Daniliuc will speak on "The Capture and Saving of the Royal Italian Flag", in the GSV Meeting Room, Level B1, 257 Collins Street, Melbourne. Contact Yvonne on 9899 8136 or email yvon@alphalink.com.au.

KILMORE: Kevin Butler will enthral the meeting with his recollections of life at Kilmore East on Tuesday 3 April, at 8pm in the Kilmore Courthouse, 4 Powlett Street. Barry Love will recall his working life at the Kilmore Butter Factory on Tuesday 1 May. The Research Centre is open Tuesdays 10am till 3pm at the Courthouse. Email: kilmorehistory@nl.com.au

LEONGATHA: On Tuesday 15 May Alan Risely will speak on the Riseley family history, at the Mechanics' Institute. The rooms are open to the public every Thursday and Friday from 12 noon to 4pm, or by appointment. Phone at those times on 5662 2492, or to Secretary Lyn on 5668 6304.

MALMSBURY: On 5-6 May from 10am-4pm an Open Weekend will be held with a display on the Coliban Water Supply System, and early records will be available for private research by family historians. Ring secretary Susan on 5423 9383 or email ianthomas@myoffice.net.au

MIDLANDS-MARYBOROUGH: The Society has received \$110,000 from the Small Towns Development Fund towards the extension to the resource centre, and \$2000 has been granted by Bendigo Bank towards a new computer. The annual dinner will be held at the Goldfields Restaurant at 6.30pm on Wednesday 18 April. Contact Secretary Betty on 5461 2800 or see www.vocmet/met/ai/~mbhs.

MORNINGTON: At 10.30am on Tuesday 10 April at the Old Primary School, Wooralla Drive, Mt Eliza, Robin Cooper, recently retired from State Parliament, will speak on "Twenty-One Years an MP", before which he was 13 years on the old Mornington Shire Council. On Tuesday 8 May at the Old Post Office, Jim Tart, who was a footman in the household of Lord and Lady Forrester of Willey Hall, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, England, will speak on "The Lord of the Manor's New Footman". Phone Secretary Val on 5975 2958 or see www.vicnet.net.au/~mornhsc

MORTLAKE: Caleb Collyer's paper on the early days in the Western District was read before members of the RHSV in 1914 and is referred to in a recent newsletter of the Society. Contact secretary Craig on 5250 2045 or see <http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/home/mdhs/web/index.html>.

OUYEN: The Local History Research Centre has produced 'Who Were They?....Naming Ouyen's Streets and Parks', available for \$25 plus \$5 p&p, to PO Box 131, Ouyen 3490. A Local History Grant has been applied for to enable a Heritage Study of the Southern Sector of the Mildura Rural City Council. See www.vicnet.net.au/~ouyenlhc.

OAKLEIGH: The AGM will be held on Sunday 22 April at the Local History Room, Monash Federation Centre, Warrabee Park, Oakleigh, and Local History Seminars are planned. Contact 9563 2823 or see www.monlib.vic.gov.au/odhs/oakhist.html

POLICE: The *Journal of Police History* has been republished to a very high standard, and the Valour Database is nearly complete. Check the Gallantry database on www.vicpolhistory.org.au and the Roll of Honour on www.policeblueribbon.com.au for those who died in the line of duty. Contact secretary Gary on 9890 9288 or email hdh1@ozemail.com.au

PORT FAIRY: A Pioneer Dinner at \$28 pp will be held at 6.30pm on Saturday 28 April at the Surf Club, Port Fairy, when Ruth Pihl will speak on "Early Settlement of the Mt Rouse District". Phone secretary Benia on 5568 2492 or see www.historicalociety.port-fairy.com

PORT MELBOURNE: At 7.30pm on Monday 23 April at the Port Melbourne Bowling Club a 'Get Acquainted with the Beacon Cove Residents Association' will be held. The following month, 29 May, Barbara Boyd-Anderson will show her film on her wharfie father. Phone secretary Pat on 9645 2324 or see www.vicnet.net.au/~pmhps

RICHMOND & BURNLEY: A Swan Street History Walk will be held on Sunday 13 May, including the Richmond Coffee Palace, Dimmeys, Ball's Corner Store, Maples, Rubenstein's and the shopping precinct. Digitising the Society's collection will go ahead with assistance from Melbourne University. Phone secretary David on 9427 1800 or see <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~rbhs>

ROMSEY & LANCEFIELD: At 7.30pm on Tuesday 24 April those present will have an opportunity to respond to the topic of "How Did You Get Here?" (to this district), at Seymour Cottage, Romsey. On Wednesday 2 May at 2.30pm Judy and Gordon Cope-Williams have invited the Society to visit their private garden, when autumn colours should be at their best. Enter via Ochiltrees Road entrance. Contact the Society at PO Box 11, Romsey, 3434.

ST KILDA: 2007 is the 150th anniversary of the creation of the Municipal District of St Kilda. At 2pm on Sunday 15 April a joint event is planned with the St Kilda Historical Society, the Friends of St Kilda Cemetery, and the City of Port Phillip. At least 30 former St Kilda mayors are buried in the cemetery, so a tour is included after a short play, and followed by refreshments. Bookings are essential - ring 9531 6832. Howard Nathan will explore the historic events before and after colonial settlement in his talk "The Koories of Port Phillip" on Sunday 22 April in the Community Room at the St Kilda Library located in Carlisle St, opposite the Town Hall. Phone Meyer on 9690 9584 or see www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk.

ST KILDA CEMETERY: The Friends of St Kilda Cemetery will hold a guided tour of the graves of judges, police and lawyers, including those associated with famous cases such as the trials of Ned Kelly, the Eureka rebels and the notorious Frederick Deeming, at 2.00pm on Sunday 20 May, called "Barristers, Bobbies and Beaks". Bookings are essential - phone 9531 6832.

SURREY HILLS: The AGM will be held at 8pm on Monday 16 April, when Mr Ray Peace, President of the Knox Historical Society will talk about his latest book "Eliza's Vision and the History of Wattle Park", which was funded by Prahran Mechanics' Institute. Eliza Welch was the original landowner of Wattle Park and the farms on the site in the 1800s. On Monday 21 May member John Dew, a mining engineer, will speak on some strange but intriguing experiences on aircraft flights over Australia and internationally. Enquiries to President Robin Kelly on 0407 548116.

WILLIAMSTOWN: The Australian Friends of SS Great Britain Inc are holding an excursion to Melbourne's first port, Williamstown, where we will tour Fort Gellibrand, the historic Port precinct, and the 1858 house of Captain Matthews (master of the 'Great Britain' on its inaugural voyage to Australia) on Sunday 22 April. Participants will meet at the entrance to the Fort, Morris Street, Williamstown at 10.25am. There is no charge. For further details, contact Tony Scott on 5439 6312 or email ssgbmc2@hotmail.com.

WARRACKNABEAL: The 40th Annual Vintage Machinery Rally will be held at Easter, 7-9 April. This year will feature Ford/Fordson tractors, which coincides with the 90th anniversary of the Fordson tractor. The vintage tractor pull will begin on Saturday afternoon and continue into the evening. Prizes are offered for various sections. A variety of craft/market stalls will be attending and more are always welcome. The engine displays are increasing each year. Catering is available. To enter the tractor pull, bring exhibits, or have a stall contact Jean on 5398 1901.

WAVERLEY: On Sunday 15 April the annual bus trip will visit Sunbury, where the Sunbury History and Heritage Society will host an interesting event. At 8pm on Thursday 26 April Ross McMullin, author of a substantial book about this senior WWI officer, business and politician who was born at West Charlton in 1879. This is a special ANZAC meeting. Ring Secretary Norma on 9802 9332 or see www.vicnet.net.au/~whsvic.

WOODY YALOOK: The Piggoreet Walk will take place on Monday 15 April. At 1.30pm on Sunday 22 April, Di Campbell will speak about her research into solicitors of the Woody Yalook goldfields townships, at the Court House, 64 Brooke Street, Smythesdale. Laurel Sharp will speak on the Smythesdale branch of the Country Women's Association at 1.30pm on Sunday 20 May. Phone on Wednesdays 5342 8754 or see <http://wyhs.ballarat.vic.au>

YACKANDANDAH: President Susan Reynolds has been invited to speak to many groups about the subject of disaster recovery and the importance of a Disaster Plan, following on the devastating fire in the main street of Yackandandah which destroyed the interior and contents of the old bank which is the Society's home. The archive collection, housed in a purpose-built building at the rear, is safe. Many groups, organisations and government bodies have contributed financially to help with the restoration. From 6 to 10 April from 10am to 4pm see "Art from the Ashes" at the Java Café, 10 High Street, Yackandandah. Email: ykbankmuseum@yahoo.com

History

NEWS



ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.
239 A'BECKETT STREET MELBOURNE 3000

Phone: 9326 9288

Fax: 9326 9477

website: <http://www.historyvictoria.org.au>

email: office@historyvictoria.org.au

ABN 36 520 675 471

Registration No. A2529

Office Hours: Monday to Friday
9am to 5pm

Library Hours: Monday to Friday
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President	Prof Bill Russell
Executive Officer	Kate Prinsley
Administrative Officer	Gerardine Horgan
IT Manager	Vicki Court

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