



## Warrandyte Historical Society Nomination of Valerie Polley OAM for RHSV Award of Merit

**Nominee:** Valerie Polley

**Nominated by:** Margaret Kelly, President Warrandyte Historical Society

**Supported by:** Warrandyte Historical Society Committee members and other society members

I would like to nominate Valerie Polley OAM as an extremely worthy recipient of a RHSV Award of Merit, supported by the committee and other members of the society. I have been honoured to have worked with Valerie for over 20 years and have seen her undertake many roles over this time. Some of these include:

- Secretary for 9 years completing a phenomenal job – some tasks have included liaison with Council and other external bodies, responding to enquiries, maintaining files, preparing agendas, and organising AGMs, to name only a few.
- She has curated, researched and completed a number of displays for the Museum (including but not limited to: A new interpretation of our Gold room at the Museum, and temporary exhibits including Stars of Warrandyte, the Streets Where We Live, Celebrating Warrandyte's Talent, War and Warrandyte 1914-18, Robin Boyd: The Warrandyte Connection)
- Val has developed and run tours of Warrandyte's History, including Buried Treasures Cemetery Tours and Tour of Warrandyte Township
- Created and delivered the program of events for the Society's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations in 2016
- Authored books for the Society including the highly successful *Wonderful Warrandyte – A Portrait* and *War and Warrandyte 1914-18*
- Been a regular archivist, managing a group of volunteers on a weekly basis
- Responds to requests for information from the general public on history matters relating to Warrandyte and has a vast knowledge of local history
- Diligent in monitoring and responding to Heritage and history issues within the community.
- Applied for and successfully received numerous grants for the Society.
- Participated in school and other visits
- Presented talks to other Societies and at the AOEHS Conference on behalf of the Society
- Assisted in the organisation and delivery of a series of talks for members and the community (including Three Bonza Blokes, Three Old Chooks, Two Pott(er)y People, Early Days of Warrandyte Diary)
- Produces, collates, edits and writes articles for the Society's regular newsletter
- Writes regular history articles for the local newspaper, *The Warrandyte Diary*
- Been a regular at working bees
- Been awarded Life Membership of the Warrandyte Historical Society and an OAM which was for her services to Warrandyte, including her service to the Historical Society.

Val has been instrumental in furthering the development of the Warrandyte Historical Society for many years and I would be very happy to provide further information for this application for a RHSV Award of Merit if required.

Yours sincerely,  
Margaret Kelly

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of COUNTRY

Warrandyte Historical Society acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as traditional custodians of the land on which Warrandyte resides and of the river Birrarung on which it is centred. It pays its respects to all Aboriginal Elders, past, present and emerging, recognising that Indigenous people never ceded sovereignty of this country and remain strong in their enduring connection to land and culture.



#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of COUNTRY

Warrandyte Historical Society acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as traditional custodians of the land on which Warrandyte resides and of the river Birrarung on which it is centred. It pays its respects to all Aboriginal Elders, past, present and emerging, recognising that Indigenous people never ceded sovereignty of this country and remain strong in their enduring connection to land and culture.