

ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

AWARD OF MERIT NOMINATION

**Mrs Vi Stuchbery –
Treasurer of the Yarrambat Historical Society Inc. 1997-2022
Committee member of the Yarrambat Historical Society Inc. 1990-2022**

At the 1997 AGM of the Yarrambat Historical Society, Committee member Mrs Violet Stuchbery accepted nomination for the position of Treasurer.

Her acceptance of the Treasurer's position was greatly appreciated as Mrs Vi Stuchbery had many decades of accountancy experience with a number of years being employed as an auditor.

Mrs Stuchbery, together with her husband Walter (deceased 2001) had been outstanding contributors to local Yarrambat community life for many decades, both having lived in the area all their lives.

Walter had always lived at Yarrambat with his education at Yarrambat Primary School commencing in 1944. He had been a very well-known local identity for many decades, especially through his work with Australia Post plus involvement and leadership with the local CFA.

Walter also became a well-known Australia-wide identity through his work in bringing the famous "Flying Scotsman" to Australia in 1988 as part of "Aus.Steam 88" - during Australia's national bi-centenary celebrations. The culmination of this national achievement was a credit to the Stuchbery family with all members playing an important, integral part.

Following 1988 Vi and her husband Walter set up their home in Yarrambat to display an extremely wide range of model trains and "Flying Scotsman" memorabilia which soon became a "compulsory visit" for people of all ages.

Vi and Walter were also paramount in the concept of setting up a Heritage Museum where negotiations with Shire representatives resulted in an area of land in Yarrambat Park being acquired for the Yarrambat Heritage Museum.

Following Walter's death in 2001 Vi has continued to provide an outstanding, ongoing and effective contribution to numerous community groups such as her church, Yarrambat Historical Society, Yarrambat Heritage Museum, Probus and ongoing links with the CFA and associated community groups.

The success of the Yarrambat Heritage Museum and activities of the Yarrambat Historical Society Inc. are largely due to the influence and commitment of people such as Vi who has been a most effective Treasurer and valuable Committee member for all these years.