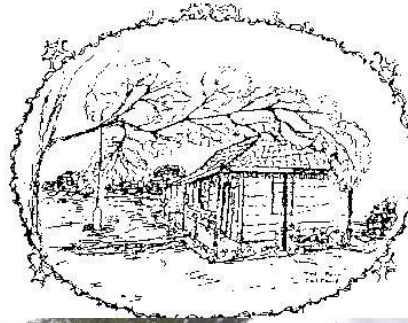


City of Moorabbin Historical Society

"Box Cottage" Museum
Joyce Park, Ormond

PRESIDENT: Jim Dale
Telephone: 0395553320

REG. No. A0020547



April 2014



Hello again. This is the second News letter for 2014. We are now heading into Autumn and soon Winter, hopefully we will have a few more beautiful days before it gets wet and cold.

Open Days February and March.

The February open day was well attended by the public and we were happy to see Jeff Marriott who dropped in a new caption card for the photo. Jeff was very interested in the Bentleigh RSL book and reminisced about those relatives and friends he remembered.

Our March meeting was a much quieter event. A wedding was conducted in the park Rotunda later in the afternoon and a number of guests were able to visit the cottage. We also welcomed a new member. Open day this month is on the 27th of April, next month will be the 25th of May.

Centenary of Military Aviation Air Show- Point Cook.

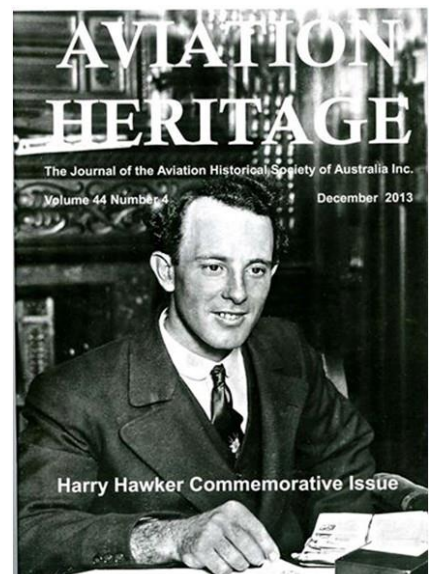


Chris and Judy Hawker, relatives of early aviator Harry Hawker have worked tirelessly for many years to have Harry recognised for his role in early Australian Aviation. In recognition of this work they were presented to Her Excellency, the Governor General of Australia, Quentin Bryce during the Centenary of Military Aviation Air Show, held at Point Cook on 1st and 2nd of March. As a representative of the Moorabbin Historical Society I was privileged to be in attendance for this memorable occasion.

The Aviation Historical Society of Australia has produced a commemorative Harry Hawker Issue of their quarterly publication "Aviation Heritage" which is now available through the society and the Hawker family. It can be purchased for **\$15 plus \$5 postage**. The publication has been well received by the AHSA members and my contribution to its pages acknowledged. One reader told me "It gave a lot of insight into Harry Hawker's early life in South Brighton."

Moorabbin Primary School

On the 3rd of March CMHS was invited to the presentation of the Leadership group at Moorabbin Primary School. The ten minute talk was of course on Harry Hawker. Then I was asked to present the leadership badges and awards. During morning tea I found there was a lot of interest in Harry Hawker and that many people were not aware of him.



Moorabbin Primary School Fete.

The CMHS was invited to the Moorabbin Primary School fete on Saturday the 22nd March. Unfortunately I was unable to attend during the morning, however Valma and Anne were able to fill in for me until I arrived and I wish to thank them very much for this assistance. A thankyou to the Principal of Moorabbin Primary School for giving CMHS the opportunity to be present at their fete.

Commemoration of 100th year of ANZAC day and World War 1.

We have been asked by the Glen Eira and Kingston Councils to be involved in projects and displays over the next few years. The first project is the naming of places in the Glen Eira municipality that have a relationship to the First World War. There are a few we will be starting with, Monash St, Chauvel St, and Birdwood St in East Bentleigh, then Mitchell St and Robert St in Bentleigh. There is a connection also with Burgess St, Brady Rd, Smith St, and Lees St that can be followed up later.



Jim & Cr Paul Peulich Mayor of Kingston

BULLOCK, Harriet	31.05.1849	6 days	FOOT
BURGE, Joe	14.06.1854	12 yrs	POST
BURGESS, Lucy	07.03.1854	51 yrs	POST
BUTLER, Eliza	20.01.1854	15 mths	POST
BUTLER, John	- .02.1849	3 mths	POST
BUTLER, Mary Ann	04.02.1855	14 wks	FREN
BUTLER, Samuel	12.02.1855	7 mths	FRYA
CAFFREY, Catherine	16.08.1852	90 yrs	GALL
CALCOT, Thomas	16.10.1846	36 yrs	GARD
CAMERON, Ann	01.05.1846	34 yrs	GARD
CAMERON, John	01.05.1846	6 mths	GARR
CAMPBELL, William	29.05.1854	7 yrs	GELLE
CARDEN, James	07.07.1853	3 wks	GIDDE
CARDEN, Mary Vaughan	30.08.1854	5 yrs	GOSLE
CARPENTER, Catherine	06.06.1853	12 yrs	GRAY,

Plaque at the rear of St Andrews Brighton

The story of Thomas Calcutt

This work was done by Leslie Schumer, and excerpts of this story were used in the Moorabbin Notables Pamphlet on Harry Hawker:

Thomas Calcutt (1809 - 1845) was the only great-great-grandfather (Calcutt family) to emigrate, probably the earliest relative to arrive, the first immigrant to die here and one of three known to be the subject of an inquest.

He was born at Stonesfield, 5 km west of Woodstock and north-west of Oxford, in 1809. A brother, David, was born there, and father was William Calcutt (1765 - circ 1840) a baker in stone field until 1812, then in Combe until 1817 and a labourer there until 1832. He was probably the William who died at all Wolvercote just north of Oxford, 18 December 1840. His parents Charles (1740 - 1809) and Elizabeth (1742—1802) and grandparents Wien (1690 - 1781) and Mary 1706 - 1772), are all buried at North Leigh.

Collis was the second child of 9 to Mary, who was Wien's second wife and died at Combe. His first wife, Elizabeth (1805) and Wien had 8 children. At 27, Thomas Calcutt, Shepherd, married Lenore Harris in Milton Keynes, Bucks, 20th October 1836. She was then a servant at Apsley Guise, Bedfordshire that was only 6 miles from her birthplace in the nearby Newport Bucks. The Harris family returned to Combe, Oxfordshire about 1836 and it seems likely Thomas and Eleanor had been teenagers together in Combe.

The general depression in the wool industry that was the worst in 40 years, may have affected the Calcutt's badly, and led Thomas to accept the free passage to the Colony of New South Wales, then being offered by the Government that at that time, had no regulated immigration.

.Henry Dendy had to sell farmland in Surrey, Sussex, England, to buy twenty square kilometres land for £5120, at Brighton, Victoria. (1841 Dendy's Special Survey). He took up the Entitlement offered by the Government, of free freight and labourers for every £20 of the land purchase price.

Two ship loads arrived 1842 in Melbourne, - one was the Earl of Durham Sailing Ship.

The pastoralist Henry Dendy's List for Employment had Thomas Calcutt Shepherd Oxfordshire aged 33 years and Eleanor, stated apparently correctly to be 27 years, with George aged 3 years and Rosanna aged 1 year. All the Melbourne emigrants were on Dendy's List. When asked, Thomas had no complaints about conditions or treatment en route.

It is possible that the Calcutt's were originally destined for Sydney and that they had become friends with, and attached themselves to, the Dendy Group. Through a clerical error this could have occurred. However, Henry Dendy was embarrassed at not being able to accommodate all those he had bought out. It could be that he had decided, on advice of his 1841 friend and later agent, Jonathan Binns Were to subdivide rather than farm. After exchanges with Governor Latrobe, he divided the responsibility for all emigrants, other than those from his Home Counties.

It must have been disheartening for the Calcutts and several other families. However, Thomas elected to walk to Brighton and take his chances of Public Work that was on offer for a month during the negotiations. Then two months work at Shelford and he then found work with others in St. Kilda / Brighton area.

George and Rosanna attended a Church of England School, Brighton 1844 - 1846. This was apparent in 1844/5. The attendance record shows that they left school two days before Eleanor's second Marriage 1846.

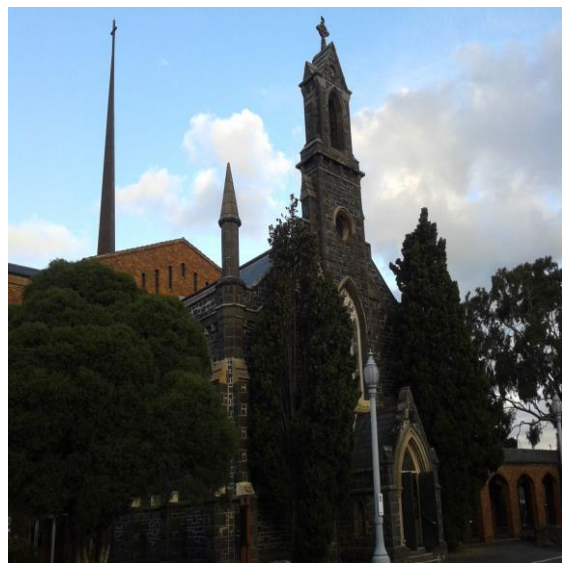
In 1845, Thomas was working for a Mr Jackson of St Kilda, a 6 km walk from where they were thought to have lived, in Lindsay Street, Brighton.

Jackson was an architect who had come from Tasmania with John Pascoe Fawkner. Jackson's 'Week of Summary' shows the names from his property include a "Well of Durham vibrancy to choose about one third of Brighton's population"

Around this time Henry Calcutt was born in Brighton in 1844.

During September and October 1845, Thomas Calcutt had been feeling poorly especially on Monday, 3rd October and complained of stomach pain. Mrs. Jackson was apparently the last to see Thomas alive. Seeing how he was, she tried to persuade him to remain at the Jackson house overnight. However, after 2 cups of tea, he left work and would not stay. He did not arrive home.

A search by 20 neighbours took place that day and Wednesday. He was found lying face down in the bush between two roads leading to Melbourne St Andrews / New St, Brighton and New Street / Brighton Road (now Nepean Highway) without the axe and saw he had carried to and from work for clearing. They were abandoned somewhere along the track.



St Andrews, New St , Brighton.

The inquest was held St Thomas, Church of England School house. Some of the jurors later served at Bell Gordon's inquest. The place of death was 'fully in the Gardenvale area' because his body was apparently found only a kilometre from the half acre two houses Little Brighton – (what size property they bought for five pounds in 1843 !!). It is now St Andrews between Black St. and Lindsay St. Local doctor, W B Wilmot JP signed the inquest finding- "death by a visitation of God, in a natural way, and not otherwise." This was the usual verdict when the precise cause of death was probably not superficially discernible. No post-mortem examination was mentioned because perhaps Thomas had previously been a patient of the doctor. He was buried Friday 17th October 1845 by Rev A C Thompson in the St Andrew's churchyard, Brighton. The grave was not permanently identified, but was later found.

A Memorial Plaque, placed there by Culcutt descendants in the year 1981, can be found beside the lawn.

Jim Dale President CMHS
April 2014