

2016 DIARY

City of Moorabbin Historical Society Inc
 Box Cottage Museum, Joyce Park, Ormond 3204
 PO Box 4028, McKinnon VIC 3204 E.moorabbinhs@gmail.com

MUSEUM OPEN DAYS 2016

Last Sundays February – November

Trial 2nd Sundays March – November

1-2pm members coffee-&-history

2-4PM barn & cottage open to public

e. moorabbinhs@gmail.com for bookings/confirmation

*This newsletter was produced by Frances Bader & Valma Sharp.
 It was reproduced by the office of the Hon Andrew Robb AO MP,
 Minister for Trade & Investment, Federal Member for Goldstein,
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DISPLAYS & EVENTS 2016

2-4PM SECOND & LAST SUNDAYS MAR-NOV

28 FEB & MAR: 'WHITE NIGHTIES' & SAD IRONS

APR & MAY: WW1 COMMEMORATION

JUNE & JULY: TBA FROM CMHS COLLECTION

AUGUST: PRE-WATTLE DAY SOCIAL EVENT

SEPT & OCT: LOCAL MARKET GARDENERS

NOV: PICNIC & AUST POETRY READINGS

MORE DETAILS OR CONFIRMATION: EMAIL moorabbinhs@gmail.com

<https://victoriancollections.net.au/organisations/box-cottage-museum>



FEBRUARY 2016 ISSUE 5

WELCOME

Welcome to the February 2016 issue of the *Moorabbin Mirror*. Many thanks to CMHS members and friends for your input during 2015 and for your suggestions. Keep them coming. We need your continuing involvement during 2016. Also email advance notices and short articles to moorabbinhs@gmail.com.

INSIDE

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Box Cottage Museum team of volunteers enjoying their well-earned end-year break-up lunch at the East Boundary Hotel, Bentleigh East — on the outskirts of (former) Dendy's 1841 Brighton Survey, Parish of Moorabbin, County of Bourke, Westemport District.

BOX COTTAGE MUSEUM (BCM) OPERATED BY CITY OF MOORABBIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CMHS)

CONTACT DETAILS

Email moorabbinhs@gmail.com

TEAM 2016

V Sharp, C. Poole, J Moore, F Bader, D Moore, H Bader, D Poole.

COFFEE –N–CHAT

From 1pm prior to museum openings (2-4pm Feb-Nov), CMHS members gather informally in the Grace Lewis Room to chat about local history, heritage and CMHS events.

CMHS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee meetings for 2016 are held in the Grace Lewis Room every 2nd month, Feb, April, June, Sept, AGM 1pm last Sun in Oct. All financial members are welcome to attend. Contact moorabbinhs@gmail.com to confirm dates and times.

Should any financial member wish to raise an issue make a suggestion or submit a proposal for consideration please contact the secretary by emailing moorabbinhs@gmail.com or phone 9557 9465. This will enable your issue/proposal to be included on the agenda and time allocated for discussion of same.

VALE

The Moorabbin Mirror extends its sincere condolences to our CMHS President Valma Sharp whose husband Ron passed away peacefully on 15 January.

HERITAGE QUERIES

TOVAN AKAS

Please email us if you know the origin, derivation or meaning of the name TOVAN AKAS Avenue?

MIRKA MORA

Does anyone remember or know about Mirka's brief residency in Ellindale Avenue during 1954?

MIRALIGHT IMAGING

On Sat 12 Dec 2015, Mario from Miralight Imaging and the Caulfield Camera Club kindly shared his expertise and time to photograph several items in our collection for uploading to the MAVic Victorian Collections website: <https://victoriancollections.net.au/organisations/box-cottage-museum>. To view Mario's other photographic works, visit www.miralightimaging.com

NEW TOILET

Members will be relieved to read that Box Cottage Museum's brand new toilet facility is now operational. Well done GECC design team led by Very Lim for harmonizing the new amenity with the existing buildings



limage
H Bader Feb 2016

MOORLEIGH U3A

CMHS member Jim Dale gave an informative and well-received presentation on Moorabbin boy, later Sopwith aviator, Harry Hawker at Moorleigh U3A's Summer School on Fri 15 Jan.

WEDDING

Committee members were on hand during Mon 25th Jan at Box Cottage Museum while the grounds were used as background for wedding photos.

FEBRUARY & MARCH

White Nighties & Sad Irons

If you missed out on viewing the *Unmentionables* last year, do come along on 28 Feb or 13 March Open Days to see our revamped display of home-crafted night-dresses, sewing notions, treadles and irons.

MARCH

Pet-Party in Allnutt Park

10am–4pm, Sunday 20 March 2016
Includes CMHS & GEHS History Tent. Shows include *Hoot and Hootabelle* and *Spot the Dog*, roving acts, storytelling and face painting, wildlife education programs, free rides and art and craft activities, demonstrations and exhibitions, animal displays/information and pet related products for sale.

APRIL OPEN DAY

WW1 Commemoration

For our ANZAC Day Commemoration on 24 April 2016, the Museum Team hope to feature a compact themed display focussing on aspects of Moorabbin's contributions to WW1. CMHS members who have WW1 memorabilia or items that could be included in the display please contact moorabbinhs@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS

Members and friends interested in helping with any one of the upcoming displays/events, please contact moorabbinhs@gmail.com

And do let us know if you have additional information or images relating to any one of the displays .

CMHS EVENTS 2016

JUNE

GECC Story Telling Festival

The 2016 *Glen Eira Storytelling Festival* is to be held from 18 June to 3 July. The Box Cottage Team will take and talk about objects from the CMHS Collection.

AUGUST

Melbourne Wattle Day

For our Spring Open Day, last Sunday of August 2016, CMHS committee is considering a Pre-Wattle Day social event in conjunction with the ANA Fellowship Group. CMHS members & friends are invited to email their interest, ideas and suggestions.

NOVEMBER

Annexe Glen Eira T-Hall Gallery

During November 2016, the Box Cottage Museum Team will collaborate with Brighton Cemeterians and Glen Eira Historical Society to present a display in the Gallery Annexe of the Glen Eira Town Hall.

The combined display will compliment a major exhibition put on in the main gallery by GECC Arts and Culture.

The focus of the exhibition will be on the role played by the Caulfield Repatriation Hospital in the local area during and after WW1.

WALKS & TALKS

2015-2016 Committee are looking for support from CMHS members in developing a series of informal Local History Walks/Local Heritage Tours of our precinct.

It is envisaged that such walks would :-

- provide accurate and colourful insights into the role our area played and still plays in Melbourne's history
- assist the community to appreciate the distinctiveness and diversity of our local history and heritage including its indigenous significance
- highlight our architectural heritage
- strengthen a sense of local character and place
- heighten awareness of our ecological heritage

CMHS members with ideas, suggestions or feasible proposals please contact moorabbinhs@gmail.com or write to PO Box 4028, McKinnon 3204.

REMINDER

Just in case you have forgotten—our annual Membership Subscriptions are now due.

Please pay by bank transfer, by cheque or bring cash to an open day. (See separate attachment for renewal details.)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES BOX COTTAGE 2016

**-on-the-job training provided-
some options**

ADMINISTRATION
CATALOGUING
BARN EXHIBITS
MUSEUM DISPLAYS
LIBRARY MANAGEMENT
NEWSLETTER
PUBLICITY & PROMOTION
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HERITAGE QUERIES
FUNCTIONS/EVENTS

For further details, please email moorabbinhs@gmail.com and a committee member will contact you

CMHS AIMS

According to our redrafted 2012 Constitution, CMHS aims are: "to preserve the history and heritage of the area of the former City of Moorabbin which applied prior to 15 December 1994.

This area generally encompasses the areas known as Bentleigh, Bentleigh East, Cheltenham, Heatherton, Highett, McKinnon, Moorabbin and Ormond.

Bentleigh, Bentleigh East, McKinnon and Ormond are amalgamated into the City of Glen Eira. Cheltenham, Heatherton, Highett and Moorabbin are integrated into the Cities of Kingston and Bayside.

NEW CMHS LIFE MEMBER



Mrs Lorna Thatcher
Image: C. Poole Nov

Mrs Lorna Thatcher (left) accepting CMHS Life Membership at our end-year event held 29 Nov 2015. The ceremony was held in conjunction with the Henry Lawson Literary Society and ANA Fellowship Group~Australian Unity where she is also a valuable member. Lorna

is a much loved CMHS volunteer and has put in many years working front of house and behind the scenes for our society.

2ND SUNDAY OPEN DAY

CMHS are now trialling an extra Open Day from 2-4pm on the 2nd Sunday of each month from March to November.

Please let us know if you can help out, even if only occasionally, or in an emergency.

On-site training provided.

THANKS

CMHS is grateful to the office of Nick Staikos, Bentleigh MLA, for photocopying flyers publicizing Box Cottage Museum in the local area

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

To kick-off 2016 and help raise much needed funds for CMHS Joan organised a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Moorabbin on Saturday, 2 Jan 2016.

Many thanks to our sponsors:- Jason Pettigrew, Stall 39 Victoria Market; IGA North Rd Ormond, IGA Patterson Rd, Coles Bentleigh, Brumby's Bentleigh. Thanks also go to CMHS members who donated supplies and gave up their holiday time to help make the day such a success.

BCM~CMHS MATTERS

ROVING CURATOR

Museums Australia Vic (MAVic) announced in December 2015 that Box Cottage Museum, home of City of Moorabbin Historical Society, was one of only four Victorian recipients — selected from a record number of applicants—of their 2016 Roving Curator Program.

The MAVic program provides invaluable on-site advice and assistance from a professional curator as well as follow-up support to help CMHS develop dynamic exhibitions that enhances community engagement with our historical and cultural heritage.

1917-2017

A CMHS proposed project, scheduled for 2017, will mark the centenary of the arrival of sculptor and carver August Rietman, and his wife Frieda, in the former City of Moorabbin during 1917.

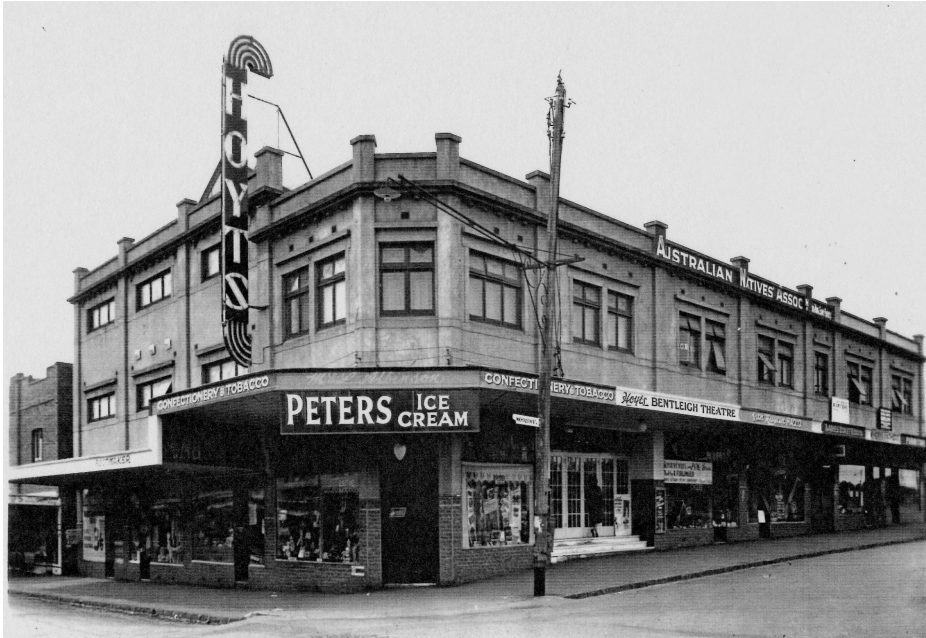
The Rietman couple were the second occupants and later owners of the Box Cottage and "Big House" (demolished) from 1917-1970 when it was purchased by Lewis Timber Pty Ltd.

CALL FOR RIETMAN WORKS

To mark the couple's arrival, the committee proposes to mount an exhibition highlighting the monuments and other sculptures carved by August Rietman after WW1 and let the community know of his works.

CMHS asks members and friends to kindly let us know if you have any information, anecdotes, memories, photos or own any of August Rietman's carvings, sculptures, artefacts, gardenware, landscape products or other. Please ring Fran 9557 9465 or Joan 9557 4642 or email moorabbinhs@gmail.com.

LOCAL REFLECTIONS (ctd p5)



Former Hoyts Theatre Bentleigh 1926-1984 (ANA Offices 1st flr on right)
both images: kindness CATHS (Cinema & Theatre Historical Society)



ANNIVERSARIES 2016

Moorabbin City Pipe Band

CMHS congratulate the MCPB on reaching their 50th birthday.

Bentleigh-Moorabbin Rotary

Bentleigh Moorabbin Rotary turns 21 this year. Most of us would be familiar with their main fundraising activity at the Bentleigh Sunday Market.

Moorabbin Lawn Bowling Club

Belated best wishes to the Moorabbin Bowling Club who celebrated their 60th birthday during 2014. Located at 426 South Rd, the iconic club takes great pride in being a vital part of Moorabbin's history and heritage.

Moorabbin Airport

In 1946, with minimal community consultation, the Cwlth Labour Gov (PM Ben Chifley) announced that market gardening land would be compulsorily acquired for a second airport. By 1966 several runways & taxiways were already asphalted.

Westall 'X Files'

Half a century ago, a mysterious flying object was claimed to have been sighted above Westall around 11am on 6 April 1966.

For about 20 minutes, more than 200 students and teachers at Westall High School witnessed an unexplained object hovering in the sky — which they said descended 'into a nearby open field'. It's still unknown if this aerial phenomenon had any connection to the Moorabbin Airport only a few kilometres away. If someone recalls the incident or has photos please contact moorabbinhs@gmail.com.

MOORABBIN MEMORIES

Village Drive-In

off Keys Rd nr Coca Cola Plant. Capacity 890 cars. Closed 1980.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

PARTY IN ALLNUTT PARK 2016

GECC's annual Party in the Park will be held from 10am-4pm on Sunday 20 March. CMHS joins with GEHS (Glen Eira Historical Society) in manning a Local History & Heritage marquee. Let us know if you have two hours available to help out on the day. E:moorabbinhs@gmail.com.

RETURN TO LABASSA

Glen Eira Historical Society presents *Return to Labassa Project: The 20th century social history of Labassa Mansion* with guest speaker Vicki Shuttleworth 7.30 pm Wed 23rd of March 2016 Boyd Room, Carnegie Library. GEHS General meeting followed by the guest speaker. Proudly sponsored by Glen Eira City Council Community Grants.

BRIGHTON CEMETORIANS

Walks in Brighton Cemetery

Pre Federation Walk

March 13th at 2pm

Angels of Mercy WW1

April 17th at 2pm

Guided Tours:

Non-members: \$10, Members: \$8

Bookings: Ph 9558 4248

E. info@brightoncemetorians.

TODAY IS TOMORROW'S HISTORY

Do contact moorabbinhs@gmail.com when/if a significant or notable event — such as the passing away of a well known local resident, or if a major change happens in your street or neighbourhood. e.g. demolition of a Victorian, Edwardian, Art Deco home or other. If possible please take before and after photos and kindly email with details to moorabbinhs@gmail.com

HIGHETT

mostly transcribed from
KCC Historical Website

Until WWII, Highett was a market gardening district. It got its name from Highett's Road, called after William Highett, MLC 1858-80, who owned land in the locality.

Wm Highett bought Lots 10 and 17 in the Parish of Moorabbin in 1852 and added 180 acres to his land holdings. Lot 10 was to the north of Josiah Holloway's Gipsy Village subdivision in an area that would later be part of the Shire of Moorabbin. The track known as Highett's Road ran on this land. The other lot, further to the north was in today's Bluff Road. Highett also purchased Lot 6, with J Cowie.

By the late 1870s Wm Highett held 6117 acres in the Parish of Moorabbin and operated a cattle station.

When the Caulfield to Mordialloc railway opened in 1881 the local station was named Highett's Road but shortened to Highett in 1887.

Decades later, in the 1920s, local market gardeners built a community hall and reserved land for recreational purposes. Highett PO opened Nov 1924.

During World War II the Cwlth Government operated an aircraft manufacturing plant in Highett. Post war, it became the site of a Gas & Fuel Corporation Gasworks and the CSIRO¹ (Cwlth Scientific & Industrial Research Org plant

During the 1950s the population² of Highett grew when the Vic Government building homes and community facilities.

¹ According to wp.csiro.au/highettworks, the CSIRO plant is currently being marketed for residential development (SCA) with a portion reserved for public space.

² On 28/03/2013, ABS reported a population of 20,263 & 4408 private dwellings in Highett.

HIGHETT HISTORY

Main Sources: KCC Historical Website
Article Cat. People Article Ref. 236
ADB Aust Dict. Biog.

WILLIAM HIGHETT

William Highett (1807-1880), banker, businessman, landowner, politician, was born at Weymouth, Dorset Eng. He and his brother, John arrived at Hobart (Feb 1830) and acquired 500 acres (202ha). While John managed their property, William became accountant of the new Launceston branch of Van Diemen's Land Bank in 1832. When it closed three years later he joined the Tamar Banking Co.

By 1838 Wm Highett was the first Melb manager of the Union Bank of Australia and in 1841, managing director. It was Highett who arranged the now infamous Union Bank loan and terms to land speculator Wm Rucker (a former Union Bank director). Rucker's loan was guaranteed by the so-called *Twelve Apostles*¹. Among them, J.B.Were who asked Henry Dendy Esq to guarantee his debt.

Under the terms of the loan, *The Twelve* committed themselves both jointly and individually to guarantee Rucker's loan. When Highett resigned to go overseas in 1842, the new director, Thomas Elder Boyd (1802-1860) "called in" Rucker's loan. Most of the *Twelve* were unable to repay and had to declare themselves insolvent as would H. Dendy, the guarantor of J.B.Were's² debt.

On returning in 1845, Highett was reinstated as director of the Union Bank. He went on to become a founder & director of the Bank of Victoria, the Melbourne Banking Corporation Ltd and the Vic Fire & Marine Insurance Co... Wm Highett also helped found the Melb Mechanics' Institute and was an early member and trustee of the Melbourne Club.

¹ Names of *The Twelve Apostles* in CMHS files

² J.B.Were was saved by his brother Nicholas



LOCAL REFLECTIONS (ctd from p4)

images on p4 kindly provided by
CINEMA & THEATRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CATHS)
website: www.caths.org.au

if you are interested in
— movies and their history, movie theatres and their architecture—
E: caths@caths.org.au; or write to PO Box 476, Bentleigh 3204

REFLECTIONS WANTED

The former City of Moorabbin has a unique identity and culture as well as a diverse heritage and history.

CMHS is always on the lookout for local images that reflect that character and community. Please look thru your family albums and let us know if you have photos/slides that bring back memories of family members or local residents, events and occasions, dwellings and buildings:- e.g. former Hoyts Bentleigh, kindly provided by CATHS.

CMHS would love to add them to our Image Collection for future generations, students, historians and genealogists.

CMHS is happy to scan and return the original(s) to you and will acknowledge your contribution in our historic records. The criteria are that you are able to identify the people, location and date of the photo/slide and that it was taken in the former City* of Moorabbin.

* Bentleigh, Bentleigh East, Cheltenham, Heatherton, Highett, McKinnon, Moorabbin and Ormond."



altered spaces: former Hoyts Theatre —current Hodges Real Estate Offices

image FBader 2016

LOCAL HERITAGE LISTINGS

text & images transcribed and reproduced from Vic Heritage Database
vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/

The Vic Heritage Register is reserved for places and objects considered important to Victoria as a whole. Places of purely local significance are more appropriately identified through heritage overlays to the local planning scheme.

If you believe a place is mainly important in the context of its local area, you should contact the relevant local council for further assistance. Should you wish to nominate a place or object for the Victorian Heritage Register, you **must** use the Application to nominate a place or object for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register form (DOC 966.5 KB)



22 Brady St, Eastleigh

The house at 22 Brady Road, East Benteigh was built for Moorabbin Shire councillor and president, William George Leary, in 1889. It is historically significant (Criterion A) as an early market gardener's house and recalls the earliest phase in the occupation of land at East Benteigh when the market gardens were served by plateways and the East Benteigh Hall, of which Leary was the secretary for a period, was the principal public building in this isolated settlement.

<http://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/35452>



East Brighton (later East Benteigh) Public Hall

The former East Brighton (later East Benteigh) Public Hall is situated at 675 Centre Road, E Benteigh and was built in 1895-96 by L.R. Phillips, councillor at the Caulfield Shire, to a design by Melb architects, Blackwell and Dalton.

It is historically important (Criterion A) as the oldest surviving community owned public facility in the district, having served initially as a public hall with additions since demolished presumably accommodating a library.

Its ownership and usage show that it functioned in a manner of a Mechanics Institute, this place being a focal point for social activities and public meetings from its inception until the post war era. In this respect it directly recalls a now distant time when East Benteigh was a community made up primarily of market gardeners.

As an early surviving nineteenth century public building in the area, it is unique (Criterion B). This importance is demonstrated by the surviving hall and porch, now encompassed by later additions and which in themselves demonstrate the growth of the district sustained during the early post war period when the building continued as a community facility in its intended role. -

<http://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/43534>



9 Vickery Street

The late Victorian villa at 9 Vickery Street [undated] is important in Benteigh as an early surviving house demonstrating the commencement of its settlement late last century. This importance is enhanced by its intact state, the house being representative of its period.

<http://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/35277>



162 McKinnon Road

"Yaralla" at 162 McKinnon Road was built in 1917, its comparatively early date in the area also recalling the first stages in the acceptance of the Californian Bungalow as a suburban house type in contrast to the then popular Federation villa. "Yaralla" is locally noteworthy as an early and distinctive example of a Californian Bungalow.

vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/42414

LOCAL HERITAGE LISTINGS

text & images from Vic Heritage Database
vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/



133 Tucker Rd
 Nat Trust B3323
 more details welcome



118 Jasper Road

"Glen Eira" at 118 Jasper Road [undated] is important in Benteigh as one of its finest Californian Bungalows and as the home of one of the area's most successful market gardening families, the Marriotts, who arrived in East Benteigh as early as 1878.

<http://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/35590>