

MOORABBIN CITY BAND: As told by well-known Cheltenham identity G. Sanders. It is not generally known that the band was first formed at Cheltenham. For many years it was called The Cheltenham Town Band and gave valuable service to the community. It was commonly known as Judd's Band owing to the number of Judds within its ranks. Practice used to be held in the rooms of the Cheltenham rifle range at the rear of shops in Charman Road, but they at a later date moved to a small room still standing at the corner of Park Rd., and Hall Street.

Cr. Le Page was the drummer in those days, with Lance Judd and Os Judd. As Moorabbin progressed it was felt that the band should move its headquarters to a more central position. In about 1929 the Moorabbin band was formed, progress was made with Cr. Wishart as the driving force. A junior band was then formed, but became a separate identity and this band became very efficient, until the war, when practically all members joined the forces and the band was disbanded. The old band has strived for many years to uphold its reputation, and now with a good committee it has built its own band hall, and also has classes for young players. The band welcomes new members and invites new residents who are interested to contact the secretary, Mr. Lambert or Mr. Ian Sheehy, phone XF 1134.

- Mr. George Sanders of the Cheltenham Progress Association, who wrote this item was himself a member of the band in the days of Cr. Le Page. -

THE STORY OF THE TUCK FAMILY.

By one of our research officers.

Miss Daisy Tuck has kindly given the following information about her family to the Moorabbin Historical Society.

Stephen Tuck, grandfather of Miss Tuck and her sister Ivy came to Moorabbin in 1866. He and his wife Catherine had previously lived in Wahgunyah on the Murray. Catherine had come to Australia from Wiltshire in 1848 as a maid in the suite of Bishop Perry, the first Bishop of Melbourne. Stephen and Catherine decided that they could not put up with the hot summer of Northern Victoria and with their young son and daughter they came South and settled in Cheltenham. At that time there were still aborigines in the district. Stephen bought forty acres of land between the Highway and Charman Road. It was then covered with scrub. Here he built a house of home made bricks and made a market garden, taking his vegetables to the Victoria Market by horse and cart.

There was a spring on his property where he watered his horses and cows. To make sure of a further supply of water he built an underground tank. Stephen, like many another, speculated in buying land in the 1890's and lost money when the land boom burst. His son William inherited the property and continued his work as a market gardener. The Melbourne - Frankston railway which came through in 1881 ran beside one of the Tuck paddocks, where in spring many beautiful wild flowers always caught the attention of the train travellers.

The Tuck family are members of St. Mathew's Church of England, Cheltenham. They were the first family to rent a pew there, for which they paid £1-1-0 per year. (This system of paying pew rent was later replaced by the envelope system.) Miss Tuck has some interesting old Sunday School prizes of her father's, dated in the seventies. St. Mathew's held Sunday School in both morning and afternoon. For their annual picnic the children and their teachers travelled to Mordialloc Beach in horse-drawn market garden wagons. Each wagon had eighteen or twenty seats along its sides. Stephen Tuck's two brothers, Charles and William also settled in Moorabbin. Charles built the two-storied house opposite William's and MacIntosh on the Highway. It is now Healey's Nursery.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR SOCIETY, OR IF YOU REQUIRE SOME OF OUR EARLIER NEWSLETTERS PLEASE CONTACT THE PRESIDENT, T.A. SHEEHY, XF 1134.

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