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CITY OF MOORABBIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Affiliated with the Royal Historical Society of Victoria
and the Cheltenham Arts and Crafts Society.

President
Mrs. N. Blackman
93-6232

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N E W S L E T T E R

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The Society meets at the State School, Charman Road, Cheltenham on the third Thursday in each month. Next meeting Thursday May 16th.

Exhibition - S. T. GILL IN VICTORIA - at the La Trobe Library

The "Argus" of 21st June, 1853 in commenting on S.T.Gill's sketches said that "one dash of his pencil" could convey "a better estimate of the realities of the gold colony than all the tedious efforts of us poor grovellers of the quill". Well, the grovellers of the quill didn't do so badly as many of the written records of the period show, but the present exhibition at the Latrobe Library does speak well for the artist. It consists of nine show cases displaying lithographs, engravings, drawings and water-colours, together with published material relative to Gill's work, as well as eighty-eight framed pictures on display screens. Here is Victoria in its most colourful period: the lusty young cities of Melbourne and Geelong, life in the bush - drovers, splitters, overlanders, stockmen - and life on the diggings - fossicking, cradling, marking the claim, paying the licence fee, the police, the sly grog shanty, the miners' night camp and all the rest. There are some human touches among the latter: vivid sketches of "diggers of high degree", "diggers of low degree"; "the lucky digger that returned" being welcomed joyfully by his wife and family, "the unlucky digger that never returned" - a skeleton in the bush.

The Exhibition is open till May 10th - hours are Mondays 2-10 pm; Tuesday - Fridays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SOUTH-EASTERN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Eighteen members representing four historical societies - Mornington, Chelsea, Mordialloc and Moorabbin - were present at the last meeting of the South-Eastern Historical Association held at the Cheltenham Library on March 17th. The President, Mrs. Moorhead was in the chair. The chief business of the meeting was a discussion of the "Discoverer" Weekend held at Mornington on Labour Day weekend. It was

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