

Banyule Heritage Study 2020 Nominations

Buildings - Greensborough

	Name	Origin/Reason	Melway Ref.
1.	Stubley building, 96-104 Main St Greensborough	Built by Purcell Stubley in 1935 in Art Deco style	20 K2
2.	Genista House, 23 Grimshaw St Greensborough	Original hospital, boarding house and home of Butterworth family	20 K2
3.	Diamond Valley Community Hospital 25 Grimshaw St	Community Hospital	20 K2
4.	Lobbs' Cottage, opposite corner Diamond Creek and St Helena Rd Greensborough	Originally Lobbs' tea rooms / Greensborough Tea Rooms now Diamond Valley Learning Centre	20 K1
5.	Old Baptist church, corner Hobson and Old Greensborough Rd	Former place of worship, now a Medical centre	20 G2
6.	Railway Electrical Buildings	Built in early 1920's as a necessary part of the electrification of the railway line.	20 K2
7.	Greensborough Swimming Pool in Plenty River	Constructed in Plenty River 1937. Is HV listed but not showing on BCC Heritage overlay map.	20 J1

Nomination contact details

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1. Stubley Building: 96 – 104 Main St Greensborough

Built by William Black around 1935 in Art Deco style. The building was leased to Purcell Stubley who operated it as a Hay and Grain store. The building is now divided into three separate shops and has had many uses since. Some of these have been as chemist shops, sewing machine shop, sports goods store, gem shop, stationery shop and pawn brokers.



Stubley Building Photo: Greensborough Historical Society



Stubley Building - Photo by Google Capture 2019

2. Genista House, 23 Grimshaw St Greensborough

Built by Mr Rouch in 1924. Original home of Fred Butterworth and family and operated as a boarding house. From May 1934 - 1941 it operated as Genista House private maternity and medical hospital.

The private hospital closed in June 1941 and Genista reverted to a boarding house run by Butterworth family, until it was sold in 1950s to Dr Ted Cordner & dentist Ian Hansen who used it as a medical centre.

This Centre is still in use today by Dorovitch Pathology. (Oral History by Faye Fort Partington, Greensborough Historical Society)

Advertiser (Hurstbridge, Vic. : 1922 - 1939), Friday 4 May 1934, page 2

GENISTA HOUSE PRIVATE HOSPITAL IS NOW OPEN for midwifery and medical attention. SISTER C. AVERY. R.V.T.N.A. is in charge. GRIMSHAW ST., GREENSBOROUGH

Eltham and Whittlesea Shires Advertiser (Vic. : 1940 - 1942), Friday 28 March 1941, page 3

GENISTA.TO CLOSE The only existing hospital in the Diamond Valley, "Genista", Greensborough, will definitely close at the end of June, according to a recent report. The Organising Committee of the Community Hospital must be encouraged to start building at once, otherwise an already acute problem will become 'a shame on the district.



Genista House – photo by Google Capture 2019

3. Diamond Valley Community Hospital - 25 Grimshaw St Greensborough (now Banyule Community Health Pauline Toner Centre, Melbourne Pathology, I-Med Radiology, Breast Screen & Grace Villa Aged Care)

The Diamond Valley Community Hospital (DVCH) opened 10 January 1942 in Grimshaw Street Greensborough. Prior to the hospital, health services had been limited.

Previously, there was a small midwifery hospital, Genista House at 23 Grimshaw St Greensborough, which was situated adjacent to the DVCH site. When Genista House closed, there was no hospital in the area prior to DVCH opening.

The establishment of DVCH was brought about by a group of local identities, including Dr E Cordner, A.K. Lines, J.L. Ryan, A.H. Ryan, A.H. Price, J.C. Jessop and A Iredale. Money was raised by public subscription and through a loan from the James Trust.

Initially the hospital had seven beds, two nursing sisters, one milking cow and one hundred community subscribers. As well as providing midwifery services, the hospital also went on to provide a range of other acute health care facilities.

The new hospital was started in 1950 and the original old 'hospital' was demolished to make way for it. It operated from 1954 and following a number of extensions was the largest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere.

In the hospital's first year of operation, 159 births were recorded there. During the late nineties, up to 500 births per year were taking place at the hospital.

Due to financial circumstances, the hospital closed in 2000. The building remains, and provides a host of care services including Banyule Community Health Pauline Toner Centre, Melbourne Pathology, I-Med Radiology, Breast screen and Grace Villa Aged Care.

Sources: Wikinorthia; Edwards D, P166, the Diamond Valley Storey; and oral history by Faye Fort Partington <https://victoriancollections.net.au/items/50f226052162ef0f1c14497d>

A history of the DVCH is available from the GHS when Resource Centre reopens - *Boards, beds and buildings: the history and development of the Diamond Valley Community Hospital, 1941-1971* / by Dr Donald Cordner. <https://victoriancollections.net.au/items/53f836bf2162f11310862df1>



Photo: Original 1942 Diamond Valley Community Hospital
from *The Diamond Valley Story* by Dianne E. Edwards (1979) p 168
"The hospital was started in this home in 1942."

Eltham and Whittlesea Shires Advertiser (Vic. : 1940 - 1942), Friday 9 August 1940, page 1

DIAMOND VALLEY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL £4000 Loan Offered By James Trust
CONTRIBUTORS TO SCHEME WANTED AFTER some weeks of organising and investigation the proposal to erect a Diamond Valley Community Hospital appears likely to take place in the very near future. Representatives of the committee which was formed recently at a meeting at the home of Dr. E. R. Cordner waited on the trustees of the James Trust last week and was later informed that the trust would be willing to loan up to £4,000 on the proposal. At a meeting held last night it was decided to form local committees in various centres throughout the territory concerned for the purpose of making contact with all residents and interesting them in the proposal. - It was pointed out that subscribe is to, the hospital would receive a reduction of £2/2/- per week in the fees charged in the event of them requiring hospital treatment.

Eltham and Whittlesea Shires Advertiser (Vic. : 1940 - 1942), Friday 5 September 1941, page 1

DIAMOND -VALLEY HOSPITAL In view of the refusal of the Federal Treasurer to sanction the Diamond Valley Community Hospital Committee's proposal to erect a new hospital to serve the Diamond Valley district, the committee, in conjunction with the James-Trust, has taken out an option for the purchase of two adjoining houses near the site of the proposed building: One-of the houses will be used as a hospital to accommodate seven or eight beds and the other as nurses quarters. It is anticipated that a definite decision will be reached next week, and if the purchase is made immediate steps will be taken to equip the 'hospital with a temporary surgery and operating theatre. Since "Genista" closed in June the necessity for a hospital in the district has been very apparent.

Eltham and Whittlesea Shires Advertiser (Vic. : 1940 - 1942), Friday 26 September 1941, page 1

Greensborough Community Hospital. A suitable building has now been purchased by the Hospital Trust for the Diamond Valley Community Hospital, and work is to proceed immediately with the slight alterations necessary and the erection of an operating theatre. It is confidently expected that the hospital will be open before Christmas.

Eltham and Whittlesea Shires Advertiser (Vic. : 1940 - 1942), Friday 16 January 1942, page 1

Greensborough Community Hospital Opened 200 RESIDENTS ATTEND FIUNCTION After 18 months work by the organising committee, the Diamond Valley Community Hospital was opened at Greensborough last Saturday afternoon by the Mayor of Heidelberg (Councillor WV. A. Santon) in the pres. once of about 200 residents



Photo: The Diamond Valley Community Hospital in the 1970's – Greensborough Historical Society

4. Lobbs Cottage / Greensborough Park Tea Rooms, cnr Diamond Creek and St Helena Rd Greensborough

The weatherboard building that forms the Diamond Valley Learning Centre is the former Greensborough Park Tea Rooms or Lobb's Cottage, built in the 1920s.

During World War 2 air raid wardens were trained here, it was also used by the peace corp. Later, in the 1960s, due to its proximity to the Greensborough Park Sports oval, the building was used as change rooms for football players.

The building has been renovated and extended a number of times for the DV Learning Centre. Each room is named after a woman who played a significant role in the Centre's development. Source: Wikinorthia.



Greensborough Park Tea Rooms Date: uncertain



Photo: 1978 Yarra Plenty Regional Library – Reflections of Diamond Valley



Photo 2013 – from Greensborough Park at rear, showing extensions for DV Learning Centre

5. Old Baptist Church, corner Hobson St & Greensborough Rd - 520 Greensborough Rd, Greensborough)

This red brick building was originally the Greensborough Baptist Church and built in the 1950's. In 1985 the Baptists moved to their new home near the corner of Yan Yean and Diamond Creeks Rds.

The building is now the Greensborough Road Surgery.



Photo: 2020 Greensborough Baptist Church - Greensborough Historical Society

6. Railway Electrical Buildings

These concrete structures located in Poulter Ave Greensborough were built in the early 1920's and still serve the railway today. Their function is to reduce high voltage electricity received from the Latrobe Valley power stations to a more suitable current for the operation of the electric train system In the Greensborough area.



A Rose Series postcard from 1930's showing the location.

Greensborough Swimming Pool, diving board and wading pool in the Plenty River 20 J1

There is a HV listing on the old Greensborough Plenty River swimming pool area in the Plenty River behind Greensborough RSL in Greensborough Park. H7922 0100.

However there is no heritage planning overlay apparant on the BCC map for this site.

Opened in 1937, the remnants of this pool can be seen today, including the concrete walls and blocks that supported the diving board. A little further downstream is the 'wading pool'

A River bank stabilisation project along the Plenty River at Greensborough was conducted by Melbourne Water in 2015, including removal of old dangerous Radiata pine trees



Swimming Pool in the Plenty river near the Theotts 1952?

Photo 1952 : Local children in Plenty River Swimming Pool, courtesy Gary Partington GHS



2017 Plenty River Swimming Pool by Marilyn Smith GHS