

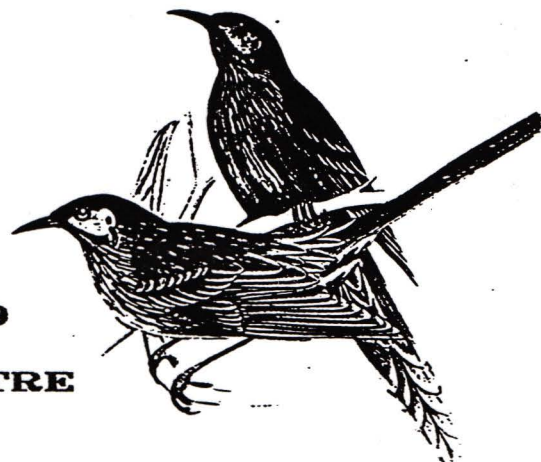
Shire of Eltham Historical Society

INCORPORATED

P.O. BOX 137 ELTHAM VICTORIA 3095

NEWSLETTER

NO. 67 JULY 1989



NEXT MEETING

8 PM WEDNESDAY 12 JULY, 1989

ELTHAM SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTRE

MAIN ROAD, ELTHAM

(ENTER FROM SHIRE OFFICE DRIVEWAY)

GUEST SPEAKER: MARGO KROYER-PEDERSEN

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON LOCAL FAUNA

Local resident Margo Kroyer-Pedersen is well known as one of Australia's leading wildlife artists. Her sensitive water colours of Australian birds are particularly sought after. Her illustrations in the Gould League books, *Birds of Victoria* are in everyday use by not-so-expert observers wishing to identify a particular species.

Another side of Margo's love for Australian fauna is evident in her wildlife shelter. Injured birds and animals are referred to her by the R.S.P.C.A. and local residents. She nurses them until they are well enough to again be released into the bush.

Margo has been involved in these two fields of activity for many years and has built up a wealth of expertise on our local fauna. She is happy to share it with us, but is worried that a prepared talk will not cover the points which most interest members. She has therefore proposed that this be largely a question and answer evening. Questions could range from general comments on particular birds or animals to details of care of various species, to queries about the painting of her different subjects. Perhaps you have one of Margo's paintings that you could bring along to illustrate your question.

This meeting is another in our theme for this year of local subjects. Natural history topics always prove popular at our meetings and this should be no exception.

Supper will be served at the end of the meeting. As usual visitors and new members are most welcome.

RETURN TO RESEARCH-SATURDAY 19 AUGUST 1989

It's Return to Research Day on the afternoon of Saturday 19 August, to celebrate the centenary of Research Primary School, No. 2959. The school—originally called Research Gully State School—was opened exactly one hundred years ago, on 19 August 1889, by Mr. Joseph Mankey as the first Head Teacher.

Everyone is welcome to attend the open afternoon at the school—past and present pupils and residents of Research, and indeed all with an interest in the history of Eltham. The programme of events is still not finalised, but there will be a series of classroom displays which will focus on different periods of life in Research and Eltham district over the past century. The highlight of the afternoon will be the official opening of the large new multi-purpose gymnasium. Mr. Max McDonald, MLA for Whittlesea, has been asked to perform this ceremony. There will be afternoon tea available for all, and a slice of our special centenary birthday cake.

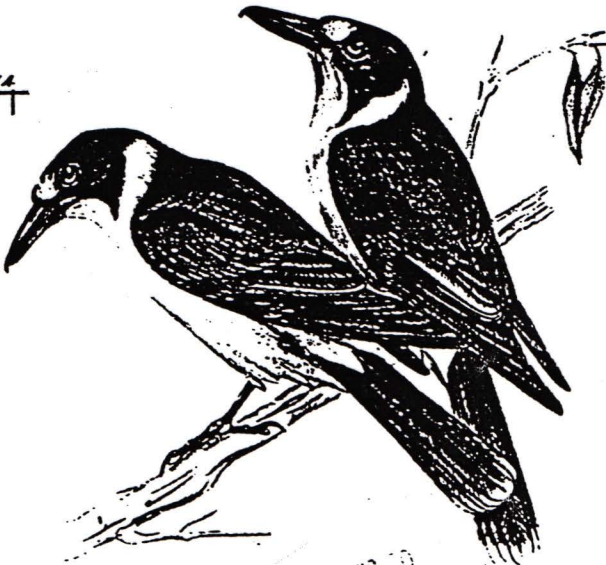
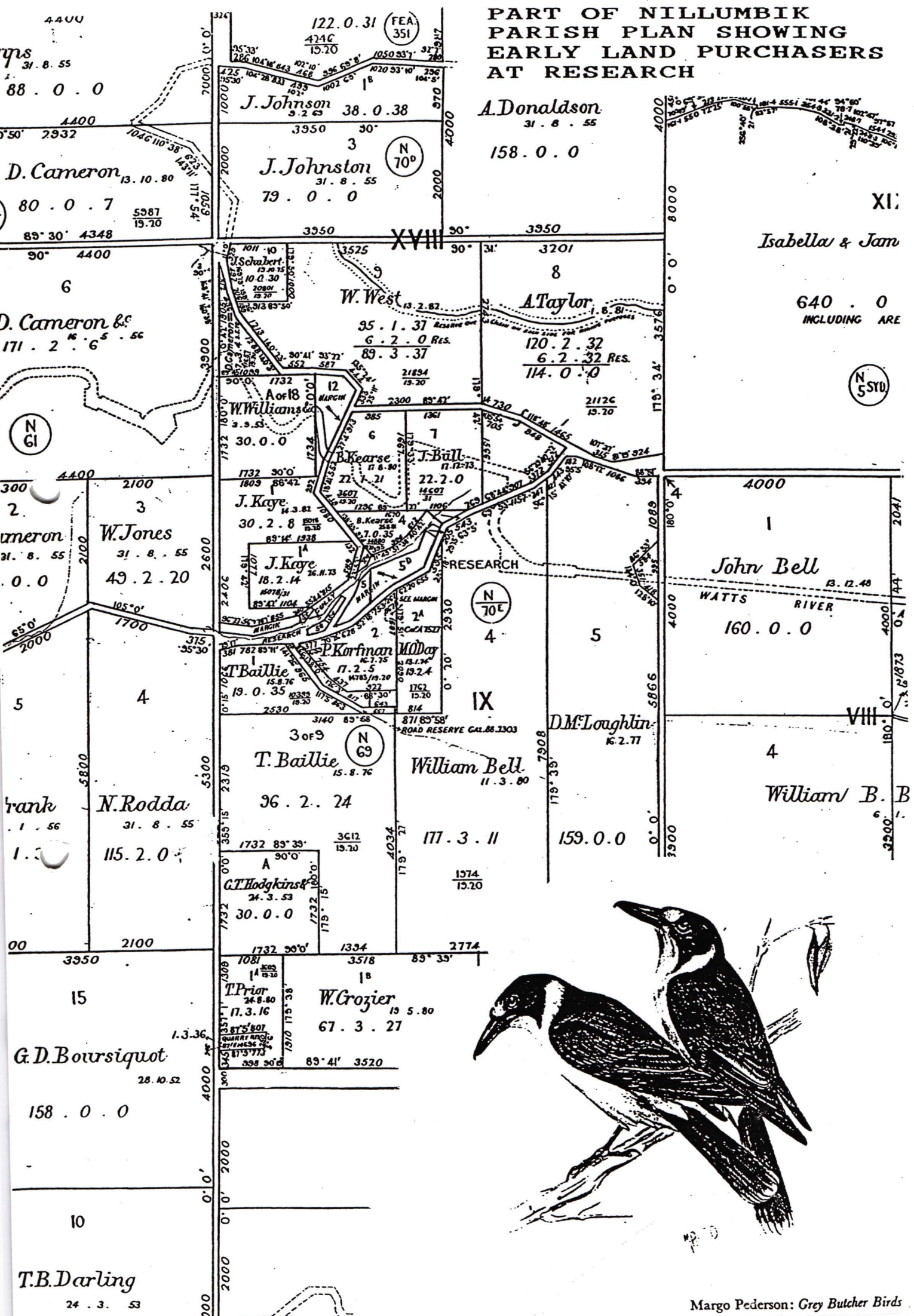
A committee at the school has been working hard to prepare a book outlining the history of the school, and it is hoped that this will be ready for sale on the day. Names of all students since 1935 are included, and as many pre-1935 students as we have been able to ascertain.

Please contact the school office (437 1917) if you would like to be sent a programme of events. It is still not too late for us to hear of any photos or historical memorabilia of Research that you have which could be suitable for display—or you can bring them to the Return to Research day where they can be photographed, so that you can keep the originals while the Eltham Historical Society will keep the copies. If you are able to help in this way, please ring Sue Grigg (437 1682).



RESEARCH GULLY BRIDGE, INGRAMS ROAD

PART OF NILLUMBIK PARISH PLAN SHOWING EARLY LAND PURCHASERS AT RESEARCH



Margo Pederson: Grey Butcher Birds

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

At the May meeting Duncan King-Smith spoke on his Shire sponsored oral history project "Listening to the Landscape". Duncan impressed members with his perceptive view of the local history scene and his delightful presentation. He played a number of excerpts from the many hours of taped interviews with local identities which have been edited out of the finished programme.

The "Listening to the Landscape" programme is currently available for public listening at the Eltham Community Health Service, 7 Dudley Street, Eltham.

Our geology excursion on 21 May was conducted under the expert guidance of Henry Guillaume of Smiths Gully. Henry is a geologist who has worked in many parts of the world and has adapted his skills to the local area in his retirement. He showed us many examples of typical and unusual local geological features and landforms. Henry has cast doubt on the commonly held view that the "Kangaroo Ground volcano" was situated at the hill containing the Memorial Tower. He says that whilst the area is obviously of volcanic origin the actual crater location cannot be determined.

OTHER ODDS AND ENDS:

We have a letter from Norman Shillinglaw of Galashiels, Scotland who has seen a copy of the Eltham Echo with an article about our Shillinglaw Cottage. He says that the family name originates from a now ruined Tower House on the Old Lands of Traquair in the Scottish Borders. The earliest recorded use of the name is 1464 and there are different spellings such as Schelynlaw, Schelynglaw and Shillilaw. A map with the letter shows the ruined tower as Shillinglaw Wall.

Bill Henderson of Lower Plenty has provided us with a copy of a 1967 university essay by Jack Potter on "A History of Queenstown-St. Andrews." This contains original research material, including information from interviews with a number of early residents. Source information is well documented. This is a most useful addition to the Society's records and is available for use by members seeking information on the St. Andrews area.

The Shire of Eltham has set up an Environmental Advisory Committee comprising Councillors, Council officers and local residents with an interest or expertise in various aspects of our local environment. After two meetings, it seems that the main thrust of the Committee will be to establish policies for the protection of the natural environment. However, the terms of reference of the Committee include such matters as buildings and places of historical and archeological importance. Russell Yeoman has been appointed to the Committee as one of the resident representatives covering these matters.

Russell Yeoman
Secretary

Sue Law
President

Opal Smith
Treasurer-
Membership-Secretary

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