

# Newsletter



No. 280 February 2025

## 2024 was indeed a busy year

Jim Connor

As we reflect back on 2024 we recognise it was a busy year for our Society.

We commemorated various anniversaries, including the 40th anniversary of the death of Alan Marshall on 21st January and the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the opening of the Eltham Library, which occurred on Sunday 22nd May 1994.

Throughout the year we published various stories to commemorate the Montsalvat artists' colony in Eltham, established by Justus Jørgensen on land purchased ninety years earlier, in 1934.

On 15th December 1994 most of the Shire of Eltham along with parts of the City of Whittlesea, the Shire of Diamond Valley and the Shire of Healesville, were merged into the new Shire of Nillumbik. On that date thirty years earlier, the former Shire of Eltham established in 1871, ceased to exist.

As in previous years we held several heritage excursions. In March there was an interesting Plenty River walk, in May we explored the former Stokes Orchard area and beyond, and in September we held another of our popular tours at the Eltham Cemetery. A special excursion was held in November when we visited the former Killeavey estate on the Yarra River in Eltham South and were fortunate to share time there with some Morrison family members, including at the site of their former house.

Presentations at our Society meetings covered a range of local history related topics. In February we learnt about Constable Dungy and his family who resided in the Eltham Police House in the 1890's, then at our Annual General Meeting in April we considered the transition process from the former Shire of Eltham to the new Shire of Nillumbik.

In June we reflected on the various anniversaries that occurred during 2024. Our August meeting was based around the Stanhope Estate subdivision of the extensive Handfield's family property in 1924, which introduced significant changes to the hillside area west of the Eltham township.

In October we celebrated the artwork of Walter Withers and considered varied aspects of Walter's life, and that of his family. Our final function for the year was a fun Trivia Night on 11th December.

We continued to work on projects with the Nillumbik Shire Council and maintained contact with others interested in local history, including through the Yarra Plenty Heritage Group.

So as we look back at 2024, we also look forward to exploring, celebrating and sharing more of our valued local history during the year ahead.

## Our Next Meeting

7.30pm Wednesday 12th February 2025

Eltham Senior Citizen's Centre

Library Place, Eltham

## Heritage Excursion

2.00pm Saturday 1st March 2025

Nillumbik Historical Society

See further details on page 2

## Our next meeting - 7.30pm Wednesday 12th February 2025

### Homeland: Stories From Afar - Liz Pidgeon

Public libraries play a role in preserving our national story as a multicultural society.

Yarra Plenty Regional Library's Homeland, stories of migration project, centred around participants undertaking an oral history interview part of which, was speaking about a treasured object they brought with them from their Homeland.

Join the Project Manager Local and Family History Librarian Liz Pidgeon who will discuss the project and we will show the compilation video of some of the interviews.

**Please note** this is the first of our evening meetings this year and it will be held on Wednesday 12th February at 7.30pm at our usual meeting venue, the **Eltham Senior Citizens' Centre in Library Place, Eltham**. Members and visitors welcome.



## Our next excursion - Saturday 1st March 2025 - Nillumbik Historical Society

Our next heritage excursion at 2.00pm on Saturday 1st March 2025 will be to visit the Nillumbik Historical Society precinct at Diamond Creek.

This area includes the historic Ellis Cottage, as well as a former Police lockup and a large barn containing various displays and many interesting artefacts reflecting the former farming history of the region.

The formal address is 10 Nillumbik Square, Diamond Creek, but the best access and ample parking is off Main Hurstbridge Road, north of the Diamond Creek shopping centre and the Diamond Valley College. Just look for the power lines crossing the road.



Ellis Cottage

Photograph - Nillumbik Historical Society

There will be a \$3.00 entry fee per person payable on the day and members and visitors are welcome to bring their own afternoon tea to have in the grounds. Coffee and tea will be available.

William Ellis migrated to Melbourne from Devon, England in the mid 1840's and was an early settler in the district. He built his cottage using local stone, completing it around 1865. The stone walls, 40cm thick, were plastered inside with mud and straw. The design was simple, a central passage with two rooms either side, each with its own fireplace. A doorway from the kitchen led outside to a dairy and other farm buildings. The roof was of hand-cut wooden shingles. The farm stayed in the Ellis family until after William's death in 1896 when part of the farm was sold off according to conditions in his will.

*This article is a fictional account of the life of a convict surveyor's assistant whilst surveying of the Port Phillip District, close to the Eltham district. This article was published in the September 2024 edition of the Greensborough Historical Society newsletter. Our thanks to Ian Bryant, researcher and author of the soon to be published "Subdividing Ancient Lands".*

Imagine if you will – it is the morning of Monday, 31st July 1837.

It is 5:00am, dark and the sun has yet to produce enough twilight to see beyond the campfire. You are devouring a meagre breakfast of bread and a cup or two of billy tea, hopefully enough to sustain you for the working day ahead.

You are a convict. A male convict, transported for a minor transgression some years earlier. You no longer see your family, friends or country. You are wholly reliant on your guardians, the colonial powers who have taken over this ancient land, the land you will now spend the rest of your life upon. Indeed, you will eventually be buried on this unforgiving continent – not your homeland.

Some months before this day, you were assigned by those colonial powers to a new guardian. A surveyor, whose authority over you has been elevated to that of Chief Surveyor of the Port Phillip district.

It was on the morning of Saturday, 10th June 1837, a survey party of seven other convict souls, yourself, and your guardian, surveyor Robert Hoddle, undertook a survey expedition covering over 300 square kilometres north of the newly ordained village of Melbourne.

You did not volunteer but will serve your penal servitude for the next four months at the behest of Surveyor Hoddle, a man many hold in great esteem. But others, particularly those of similar colonial authority in New South Wales and the new Port Phillip district, consider him to be opinionated, demanding and at times unmanageable.

Your survival will rely on a bullock dray packed with tons of equipment including tents, rations, cooking pots and other essentials to sustain sustenance and survival of the expedition for many months.

Your life is in the hands of your guardian – colonial surveyor, Robert Hoddle.

The bullocks themselves would have their work cut out for them over terrain yet to be traversed by colonials' intent on managing this ancient land on their own terms.

Terra nullius, a term you would not be familiar with, but a British doctrine designed solely to dominate and control these lands traditional owners, the Woiwurrung (Wurundjeri) peoples of the Kulin Nation - resident on this land for many thousands of years without the need for fences or formal documentation to prove ownership – who would be and have been profoundly disadvantaged. Whether you agree or disagree with your colonial masters on this issue, you will serve your penal servitude silent on the treatment of those peoples.



Robert Hoddle (1794-1881)

Hyman's Portrait Rooms, c1865  
State Library of Victoria

Perhaps it is because as a convict you can see similarities of your situation with those of the First Nations peoples – being subjugated or controlled in a way that allows very little or no freedom or choice.

And why is this day, Monday, 31st July 1837 a notable day for you. Tomorrow, Surveyor Hoddle will dispense to each convict, a new set of slops. Conspicuous convict clothing issued twice a year and tomorrow, the 1st August, will be the last for 1837. Your boots however, are another matter, as they were issued six months earlier and a new pair will not be in the next parcel of penal handouts.

They are uncomfortable at the best of times having suffered inadequate repairs. Over one and a half months into this expedition, through swamps, creeks, rivers, mud, sand and rocks, has seen fit to render them unsuitable for your 'employment' on the survey party.



A pair of convict made boots  
Port Arthur Historical Site Management  
Authority (Collection 1990:055)

And yet you push on regardless. No use complaining. Your guardian is deaf and silent to your needs. He has his own problems with his superiors.

Surveyor Hoddle has been gifted the exclusive right to determine how this ancient land will be divided into parcels of allotments for colonial possession, accessible by roads, rivers and creeks. Clearly marked roads, boundary fencing, and the construction of permanent buildings will be the end result of this survey expedition, all without regard for the entitlements of First Nations peoples who had survived for millennia without these colonial necessities.

Hoddle's role as the surveyor-in-charge is to ensure the survey will be completed in accordance with his standing instructions. He is the overseer of the convict's behaviour and conduct. The planning, co-ordination and the workings of the expedition are solely his responsibility.

The weather for today is another unknown. Today, the survey party of five, inclusive of four of the convicts and Surveyor Hoddle, will survey and traverse over 2 miles 48 chains (4.18 kms) of boundary lines and 1 mile 67 chains (2.96kms) along the west side of the Plenty River.

A total of 4 miles 35 chains (7.14 kms) from first light to very late in the afternoon. As for sustenance, there might be a small lunch break with bread, salted beef, and more billy tea. Surveying near the river provides fresh running water for man and beast.

As for the role of the convict labourers – two men on the survey chain, one forward and the other following, another convict as a timber cutter for stakes and boundary markers, and the remaining convict labourer a general hand looking after the horse and cart and Hoddle's own horse.

As for the chainmen, after surveying 4 miles and 35 chains (7.14 kms), completing 355 individual measurements with a 9lb (4kg), cricket pitch length wrought iron chain, dragged through dense bush, creeks, gullies, snakes and whatever other obstacle the Australian bush can provide, the end of the day will be a relief.

The remaining four convicts are entrusted with the camp site, the previous nights location being on high ground, north-west of the confluence of the Yarra River with the Plenty River. There is a camp cook, bullock driver, tent keeper and a general labourer.

Today, they will decamp from this site and follow the survey party, with instructions to establish a new camp site on the south side of the Plenty River at a site that will eventually, some 20 years later, become known as Greensborough.

As the expedition travels further north each day, the terrain becomes more challenging with hills, gullies and dense bush to be dealt with. The bullocks will certainly earn their rest after this day. The new camp site will be in use for at least four or five days, so rest for the camp party is assured.

As for the survey party – no such luck. Survey will be every day, averaging 5 miles (8 kms) each day, except Sunday, which is a day of rest and religious devotion. As a convict, you are required to attend church services in accordance with your penal obligations, but out here in the bush, Surveyor Hoddle will be your religious instructor for Sunday lessons.

And so, it is the end of another day. It's now 10 past 5 o'clock. The sun has just set, and it will be dark in half an hour. You have just enough time to enjoy a hot stewed meal of salted beef, bread and more of that billy tea.

Tomorrow, it all starts again. The same routine, albeit with a new, clean set of slops. As for those boots, the campfire and some warm wattle or eucalypt sap glue on the boots might be a good temporary fix for cold, damp, weary feet.

## Eltham Water Reserve

The coming of the railway to Eltham in 1902 must have greatly reduced cartage costs and times to the city markets for market gardeners. But the railway also increased the attraction of the town as a picnic destination for city folk. Alan Marshall cites a local, Mr Orford, on the growing craze. "During the wattle season, wattle trains came to Eltham frequently. The visitors roamed the creek pulling great arms full of wattle blossom to take back with them to Melbourne."

The treatment of the early Eltham water reserve (for watering stock) on the east bank of Diamond Creek opposite the West's lower creek-flat holdings, which had been gazetted in 1866, is indicative of changing perceptions of the role of creek-side land in the town of Eltham. This land now forms the east bank portion of Wingrove Park.

In 1913 a Mr A. E. Haughton of Kangaroo Ground wrote to the local paper to argue against allowing the fencing-in of the "pretty reserve by Wingrove's." The reserve had clearly not been used for its original purpose of watering stock for some time, and Haughton feared that if it were now to be used for grazing the natural vegetation could be destroyed. "Then instead of your reserve being for the people it would virtually be from the people. Citizens of Melbourne have discovered that Eltham has lovely picnicking places. This traffic will be worth a lot to Eltham if it caters for it properly."

Source: Cultural Heritage Significance Assessment and Guidelines, 2 Bell Street, Eltham



C.S. Wingrove  
Photograph - EDHS  
collection

On reading about the recent EDHS heritage excursion to the 'Killeavey' property, on 2nd November 2024, I recalled when I went there every day for 'school'. We rented a house on 60 acres about a mile away in Reynolds Road, during the war years. My mother, Katrine and I had evacuated from Kew to escape the possible bombing of the munitions factory over the Yarra River from our house. (My \* father stayed there, with the car, to work at 'The Listening Post').

My mother and I became partly self-sufficient. A jersey cow, Polly Perkins, for milk and chooks and ducks for eggs and meat. We bought horses for transport. My black Timor pony 'Lucky' took me to 'Killeavey' every weekday for 'School'.

Mrs Morrison had employed a Miss Knight to tutor her daughters Somerville and Virginia and to live in. I was invited to join them. Her four sons were in boarding school in Geelong. The education was based on an aged English model and was exceedingly boring. Extremely divorced from Australia. However, the friendships forged at that time were a bonus.

On hot days, my mother Katrine and Mrs Morrison would sit on comfortable rocks in the river splashing away as they gossiped. The garden around the house was charming. There was also a vegetable garden, looked after by a neighbour, Ernie Anderson.

It seems a pity the house was demolished.

\* Jenny's father, William Macmahon Ball (1901-1986), was a professor of political science, diplomat, author, journalist and radio broadcaster. Mac Ball's passing depleted the ranks of distinguished Australians who lived by the standards of 'gentlemen', and who combined high learning and genuine cultivation with a relaxed and authentic attachment to the ordinary citizens of their country.

Source: \* Australian Dictionary of Biography, Volume 17, 2007



Heritage excursion at Killeavey, including Virginia Morrison  
Photograph - Jim Connor - 2nd November 2024

VISIT SHILLINGLAW COTTAGE  
for  
LOCAL HISTORY, PAINTING,  
POTS, JEWELLERY, SPUN WOOL,  
KNITTED GARMENTS, SKINS, FLEECE.



SPINNING  
WHEELS &  
LOOMS

4397412 ELTHAM FLEECE CRAFTS 8443086  
MAIN ROAD ELTHAM.

I met Margot Edwards during 1948 in Matcham Skipper's Studio behind the Russell Street police station. Margot was only eighteen years old and one of the most beautiful girls I had ever seen. She had done an art course at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and showed outstanding ability as an impressionist painter.

Margot and I were foundation members of the new Eltham society that had emerged since the war. Ours was a small, unique group without parallel in the history of Australia. The Peace had brought the potential for this new kind of society, and Eltham was the only community in Melbourne that had not opted for suburban progress. Its free and independent spirits were attracted to the Artists' Colony free lifestyle. We made every effort to keep living as simple and rural as it had been for a century.

Source: from <https://www.alistairknox.com.au/biographies/14>



Margot Knox - 1954  
Home Beautiful magazine

## Margot Knox 1931 - 2002

Gwen Ford

Much of Margot Knox's early garden history relates to her time in Eltham where she and her husband, environmental designer Alistair Knox, built a large mud-brick house on several acres of bushland. As a twenty-year-old she worked with landscape designer Ellis Stones; it was during this period that she developed her lifelong skill of paving. Always an 'improver', initially at Eltham and finally at the internationally recognised Mosaic Garden in Hawthorn, Margot was very much a hands-on gardener.

As a young painter in Eltham, her early work reflected a love of the landscape in which she lived and worked. In 1985, both painting and gardening took a completely new direction when she moved to the Baptist Church Hall on the corner of Rathmines Road, Hawthorn. Here she transformed a concrete jungle into a visual feast. From broad acres to mere metres meant a considerable adjustment in the way she would design and manage a modest space. Rather than opt for the predictable small cottage garden or a bonsai bush look, she began a process that would engage her for the rest of her life.

The work of the great Brazilian landscape designer, Roberto Burle Marx was influential in Margot's garden design. Like him, she used plants to create sculptural forms preferring shape and texture over colour. Burle Marx believed that "To create gardens is a marvellous art - possibly one of the oldest manifestations of art." In her own work as in his, Margot believed that "we should always try to understand the mutations and variations in nature, and the light, sounds and perfumes that stir our emotions."

At the heart of The Mosaic Garden was a continuing process of innovative design, both in its creator's choice of foliage and her understanding of colour combinations, space and plants. This garden enchanted thousands of people who visited over the years, through the Australian Open Garden Scheme. Many visitors made annual pilgrimages to observe the progress of the garden.

Margot held her last solo exhibition at the Dickerson Gallery in 2001 - a series of stylised garden paintings, many depicting Vita Sackville-West at work in her Sissinghurst garden. She left a legacy which the garden writer Anne Latreille refers to as "The best garden I have seen in Australia."

Source: Gwen Ford - Australian Garden History (September/October 2002) - <https://www.jstor.org/stable/44179088>

You can at times be exposed to our local history at different times and in different places.

During a discussion in December 2024 with Graeme Newman and Barry Backman, who are active members of the Diamond Creek Men's Shed, I heard about the interesting history of the Men's Shed movement, both locally, nationally and internationally.



It is generally agreed that the first Shed was established in Goolwa, South Australia about 1993. The movement has grown quickly since then and there are now about 360 Sheds in Victoria, 1200 Sheds across Australia and more than 2500 Sheds operating in 12 countries.

In the Nillumbik district there are Men's Sheds at Eltham, Diamond Creek, Hurstbridge and St Andrews. The Eltham & District Woodworkers group at Yarrambat is also a Men's Shed, fostering interest in woodwork throughout the local community. Each group is engaged in creating their own history.

In just over 20 years this movement has exploded, with over 50,000 men in Australia involved in a range of activities, including wood and metal working, growing plants and vegetables, sharing social activities, lunches, health programs, as well as walking, cycling, music, genealogy, photography and other groups. Diamond Creek Men's Shed even has it's own in-house rock band, called OC/DC (Old Codgers/Diamond Creek).

Members of Men's Sheds also actively volunteer and raise funds for community causes and provide support at events for other not-for-profit groups.

Many men, especially after retirement, find themselves alone, often living in isolation and needing to connect with their community and find new purpose, but aren't sure how. Others just want to learn a new skill or revisit old ones. The Men's Shed movement provides a number of ways to be involved, stay connected and share experiences. You can find out more information at <https://mensshed.org/>.

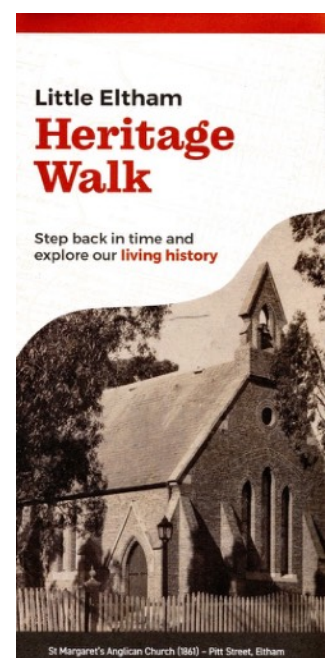
## Little Eltham Heritage Walk brochure

Nillumbik Shire Council, in association with the Eltham District Historical Society, has recently released a Little Eltham Heritage Walk brochure. Many sites of historical and cultural value since European settlement are accessible in this walk starting at the Eltham Library.

This brochure includes a colour map, clearly marked with points of interest with short descriptions and photos of the various sites located within the early Little Eltham township layout created by the 1851 subdivision by Josiah Holloway.

A free copy of this brochure is available at the Eltham Library or the Eltham Community Reception Centre, as well as at our EDHS meetings.

**Eltham District Historical Society**





## Early Eltham

*The following article and images were originally published in the Australasian newspaper on 2nd May 1903.*

### ELTHAM. A POPULAR HOLIDAY SPOT. By L.J.J.

The village of Eltham, with its 377 inhabitants, is prettily situated on the Diamond Creek, a tributary of the Yarra, 16 miles from Melbourne. Yet, in spite of it being so easily accessible from town, few people are aware of the beauties of this early settlement.

Prior to June last year one had to journey by coach from Heidelberg to Eltham, but now the railway conveys passengers through from Melbourne to Eltham, first-class return, for 1/9.

The opening of this extension to Eltham was the last ceremony performed by Lord Hopetoun, on June 5th, 1902, prior to his departure from Australia. Sauntering through the township one autumn morning recently I was constantly reminded of scenes characteristic of Surrey or Sussex villages.

There is the village pond (so essentially English), reflecting in its clear water a quaint cottage, dwarfed by a huge gumtree, an old smithy, and a hostelry, built quite fifty years ago, the flooring-boards of which the landlord informed me with pride were of Singapore cedar, and quite fit for another fifty years' wear. Then there are the village school, the shoemaker's, the drapery store, and the butcher's shop, all seemingly as they were when first they were erected many years ago.

Poplars grow to a great height at Eltham, and just now they are to be seen in new autumnal tints. The already leafless fruit trees on the slopes of the creek denote the near approach of winter. Orchardists were taking advantage of the recent rains, and were busy ploughing and harrowing between the trees, while the magpies and other birds were picking up worms and grubs on the newly-turned soil.

The busy time for Eltham is the holiday season, and then the inhabitants are put to their wits' ends to provide for the rush of picnic parties, cyclists, and other excursionists. Outside almost every cottage is a notice stating that 'summer drinks and hot water' are obtainable.

This article from: <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/138684152>



The Village Pond



Hostelry, Eltham



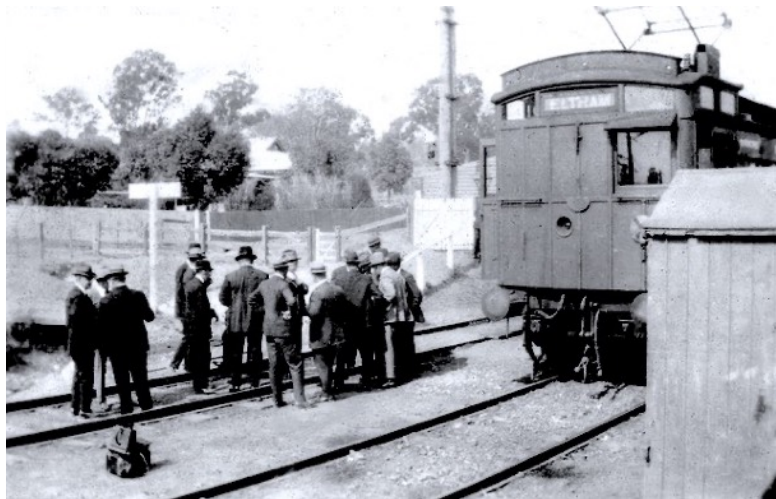
Drapery Store, Eltham



Poplars, Eltham

Melbourne began electrifying its rail network with the Sandringham and Essendon lines in May 1919. Progress thereafter was rapid, with electrification extending to Heidelberg in July 1920 and to Eltham in April 1923. On the section between Greensborough and Eltham, wooden poles were used to support the overhead wires instead of the more usual steel masts. (This was stated to be an experiment which “will be useful for other places”.)

At the official welcoming ceremony at Eltham station, a delegation representing the Railway Commissioners delivered predictable speeches, calling Eltham a “beautiful district” which “wants more people”. Afterwards, the school children present were given a free ride to Heidelberg and back. Under the new timetable, the number of trains from Eltham to the city increased to 11 per day (from 8), with a travel time of 40 minutes (was 60).



First electric train to Eltham 1923 - EDHS collection  
Photograph from Heather Jenkins (nee Sargeant) who lived at 728 Main Road Eltham as a child

Residents of the St Andrews area wanted to have the Hurstbridge line extended to Mittons Bridge (just north of St Andrews), which the Government rejected on cost grounds, even though some land between Hurstbridge and St Andrews had been reserved for the purpose.

But residents of Diamond Creek and Hurstbridge had more success with their desire to have the line electrified to Hurstbridge, which they believed (correctly) would lead to a better train service. This eventuated in August 1926, with *The Age* reporting that “the first electric train delivered its freight of passengers at the quaint little railway station.” A happy crowd of people celebrated with a carnival, which featured a snake charmer, a merry-go-round, a sweet stall and “budding athletes strutting splendidly in racing garb”. Commemorative badges marked the occasion.

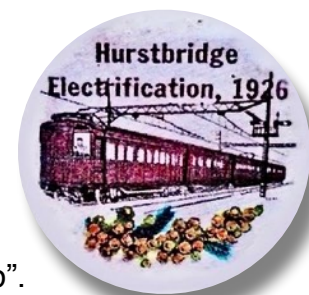


Image of a badge on display at Hurstbridge substation  
Photograph - Richard Pinn

But bear in mind that it was only the railway that benefited from electricity in 1926. In 1950, a reporter from *The Argus*, who had travelled to Hurstbridge by electric train, wrote that “Hurstbridge showed me one of the most strikingly ironical comments on progress I have ever seen. The station approaches are lit by kerosene lamps ... Hurstbridge and district has no electric light or power!” Houses and shops in Hurstbridge did not get electricity until August 1956.

Scattered around Melbourne’s suburban railway network are numerous electricity substations which convert 22,000 volt AC power to the 1500 volt DC used by trains. In 1926, these were located at Alphington (upgraded in 1951) and Greensborough. Another substation was built at Hurstbridge in 1929, but increasing railway traffic led to the construction in 1961 of new improved substations at Rosanna and Wattle Glen (and the Hurstbridge one was decommissioned).

The Wattle Glen and Hurstbridge substations are included on the Nillumbik Shire Heritage Register.

The Wattle Glen one is essentially just a plain rectangular brick building, functional rather than pretty. A smaller brick building, housing equipment to avert a power surge in the event of damaged or fallen power lines, was attached in 2023. The Hurstbridge one, now leased out for private use, is also brick but is more ornate.

Between 1923 and 1926, passengers for Hurstbridge obviously had to change at Eltham from an electric train to a steam train. But in later years (1950s-1970s), in off-peak times passengers still had to change at Eltham from a full-length train to a single-carriage train which shuttled between Eltham and Hurstbridge.

In the 1950s, after passenger services had ceased late at night, that carriage sometimes ran empty to Heidelberg, where it was used as the 'engine' to haul wagons of briquettes from Heidelberg to Mont Park. The Mont Park line, which branched off at Macleod and was electrified in 1928, was only ever used by goods trains serving the Mont Park Asylum complex. Legislation to enable Mont Park to operate as a passenger station was passed in 1946 but was later repealed, though the platform had an impressive building. The line closed in 1964 and nothing remains of the station today.

By the end of 1926, electrification of the Melbourne electric train network was virtually complete, extending to Broadmeadows, Frankston, Dandenong, Ferntree Gully and Lilydale (as well as Hurstbridge). At that time, Melbourne boasted that it had the greatest length of railway track converted from steam to electric operation anywhere in the world. But nowadays, the tentacles of electricity still don't go much further. Indeed, the line to Traralgon, electrified in 1956, was 'unelectrified' in 1987.

In almost complete contrast, Sydney did not see its first electric trains until March 1926, prompted by the opening of the first two underground stations, Museum and St James, later that year. (A curious side note is that St James was constructed with four platforms, but only two of them have ever been used. The other two have remained dormant, walled off from public gaze, for almost 100 years.) But after a late start, the 'Sydney' electric train network grew extensively from then on, now reaching west to Lithgow (1957), north to Newcastle (1984) and south to Kiama (2002).

Main sources: Hurstbridge Advertiser (1923), The Age (1926), The Argus (1950), report on the Wattle Glen substation prepared by Graeme Butler and Associates (2001), Wikipedia entry on the Mont Park railway line, history timeline on [victorianrailways.net](http://victorianrailways.net)



Heather Jenkins (nee Sargeant) at Eltham Railway Station  
Photograph - EDHS collection



Mont Park station (in 1959)  
Photograph - Springthorpe Heritage Project website

We encourage you to support our valued local sponsors



**morrison kleeman**

ELTHAM | GREENSBOROUGH | DIAMOND CREEK | DOREEN

Gayle Blackwood 0408 776 070



[shillinglaw.com.au](http://shillinglaw.com.au)



[webstergroup.com.au](http://webstergroup.com.au) (03) 9439 4222

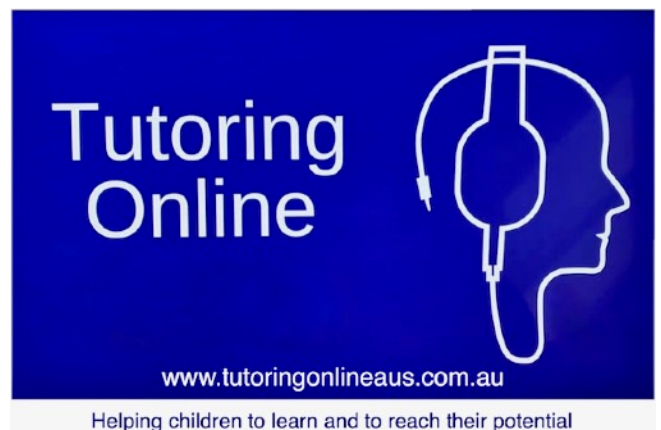


**MICHAEL WILSON**

DIAMOND JEWELLERS

[www.michaelwilson.com.au](http://www.michaelwilson.com.au)

Proudly supported by



\*Any images displayed in this newsletter from the Shire of Eltham Pioneers Photograph Collection (SEPP) are held in partnership between Eltham District Historical Society and Yarra Plenty Regional Library (Eltham Library)

*We are always interested to consider local history stories or articles for publication in our newsletter*

### **Eltham District Historical Society - contacts**

- **Jim Connor, President - Newsletter Editor**  
[edhsnews@gmail.com](mailto:edhsnews@gmail.com)
- **Russell Yeoman, Society Secretary**  
[edhsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:edhsoffice@gmail.com)
- **Robert Marshall, Treasurer / Membership Secretary**  
[edhstreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:edhstreasurer@gmail.com)

Our postal address is 728 Main Road, Eltham 3095

**Printed by courtesy of Vicki Ward MP - State Member for Eltham**