

# Kew Historical Society Inc.

Founded 1958



Incorporated 1987

NEWSLETTER No. 80

JANUARY 2006

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*Still serving the  
community, families,  
schools, students,  
historians and  
other researchers*

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Est. 1958

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## BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS



You may have heard that, with the laying down of the mantle by the Friends of Kew Library, our Society has agreed to undertake Quarterly book sales. These will be held in the Phyllis Hore room from 1 to 4 pm on Sunday 19th February, 21st May, 19th August and 20th November 2006. We would welcome your donations of good saleable books which can be left at the Kew Library. The Library will continue to be involved and the proceeds from the book sales will be shared. We would also welcome your help in setting up from 1 pm Saturday 18th February, or selling, and/or packing up if you are available anytime between 12 noon and 5.30 pm on Sunday 19th February.

## STOP PRESS!!

We are thrilled to announce that the Kew East Community Bank has awarded the Kew Historical Society a Community Grant of \$1500 to assist in the digitisation of the society's records. Our President and Secretary, Dione McIntyre and Thea Sartori, represented the society at the presentation function

## BANKS IN KEW

"In December, 1873, the business of Kew had developed sufficiently to justify the opening of a bank. Early in the previous year the English, Scottish and Australian Chartered Bank had opened a branch in Hawthorn, under the management of Mr John Toon, Formerly Town Clerk of the borough. The bank decided to extend its operations to Kew under the same manager. The first office was in portion of the Greyhound Hotel buildings, but in 1884 the present building was erected. The management has been in several hands since that time, amongst them Mr. J. C. Matthews and M. J. Chadwick. The present manager is Mr. Sydney E. Innes.

In August, 1885, a branch of the National Bank of Australasia was opened by Mr. T. T. Ochiltree, J.P., at 87 High Street. Three years later the present handsome building at the corner of Walpole Street was erected. Several managers have been in charge at Kew, the present being Mr. Hugh Trumble, who is almost a native of the district" p.77-78 Barnard, F. G. A., The Jubilee History of Kew Victoria: its Origin and Progress 1803-1910: E. F. G. Hodges, Kew, 1910.  
*Editor's comment - It is interesting to note that both these buildings still exist although only one still operates as a bank - the National Bank - but the former manager's residence on the top floor has recently been incorporated into the bank. The E.S.A. Bank was taken over and most of its bank buildings sold. This building has gone through various transformations and quite extensive alterations before its present usage as the Kew Newsagency. Most former E.S.A. Bank premises are readily recognisable - distinctive 2 story buildings constructed in dark brick with a steeply sloped roof.*

## MEMO from our PRESIDENT

Preparations are now well under way for the first Quarterly Book Sale which will be held, in conjunction with the Kew Library, on Sunday 19th February 2006 (see details on page 1).

This is new ground for us and we hope that all members will support the event in some way, either by helping to set up on the Saturday, by assisting at the sale between 1 and 4 pm, or by supplying as-new goods for sale on our general stall, which will be included in the event.

Following the presentation of a plaque marking the \$1500 Grant by the Kew East Community Bank at the AGM of the Bendigo Bank last year, and the donation of \$500 from Ken Sillcock, we are now in a position to proceed with the setting up of the data base. Discussions are being held with Library Management regarding the selection of equipment in order to be compatible with the Library system.

Graeme Lindsay is our official representative on the Kew Festival Committee. The Festival takes place shortly after the Commonwealth Games this year. Dates for our Heritage Display are Saturday 1st April to Monday 3rd April. We hope that you will be able to contribute to and participate in these activities.

The setting up of our display, based on the theme of this year's Festival, "Moving in Kew", is on the afternoon of Friday 31st March from 1 pm. Monday 3rd April will include special features for the participation of groups from local Primary Schools. Members able to demonstrate handicrafts and other skills of the past are especially requested to contribute to this occasion by passing on their knowledge.

We thank all those who took part in our Christmas celebration. It was a great social occasion. Ken Sillcock wrote a further episode of our Play, which was presented by a capable cast, and Ken provided the incidental music. Even Father Christmas managed to fit us into his busy schedule.

This year will be busy for us, too, but worthwhile. I join with all members of the Committee to wish you a peaceful and happy 2006, and look forward to your participation in the many exciting activities.

*Diane McIntyre January 2006*

## KEW FESTIVAL

Our participation in the Kew Festival is as follows:

- |   |            |          |   |
|---|------------|----------|---|
| <b>FRIDAY</b>                                 | 31st March | 1pm →    | Set up Heritage Display in the Phyllis Hore Room  |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>                               | 1st April  | 10am-4pm | Display opens<br>Plant and Gourmet Preserves stalls open<br>Lucky Dip ( Betty H. )<br>Helpers needed in room  |
|   |            | 11am     | Participate in Street Parade.<br>We need members to march in the parade. It is fun!<br>To volunteer, please ring our secretary<br>Thea Sartori, Ph: |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>                                 | 2nd April  | 2-4pm    | Historic Bus Tour of Kew<br>Meet at 1.45pm<br>Bus leaves Civic Drive outside Phyllis Hore Room  |
|   |            | 2-4pm    | Cemetery Tour - comfortable walking shoes needed<br>Meet at Gates to Boroondara Cemetery at 2pm   |
| <b>NOTE.</b> Bookings required for both Tours |            |          |   |
| <b>Contact:</b> Dorothy Benyei PH:            |            |          |   |
| <b>MONDAY</b>                                 | 3rd April  | 9am-3pm  | Group activities with school children<br>Volunteers and ideas for group activities appreciated  |
|   |            | 3pm      | Dismantle display and return items to storage   |

We need



Plants

Gourmet  
Preserves



Members will be asked to Indicate what times they are available to help.

KEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE 2005-6  
As confirmed and Co-opted on 4th November 2005

|   |                   |  |                                     |
|---|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| President   | Dione McIntyre    | Immediate Past President                 | Lisa D'Acri                         |
| Vice President<br>& Villa Alba Rep                              | Jill O'Brien      | Publications Consultant                  | Ken Sillcock                        |
| Vice President,<br>Editor of Newsletter<br>& Assoc.Hist.Soc.Rep | Margaret Robinson | Digital Recording Officer                | Tony Michael                        |
| Hon. Secretary  | Thea Sartori      | Supper Co-ordinator                      | Joan Simms                          |
| Assist. Secretary:  | Kym Sullivan      | Membership (labels etc)                  | Margaret Robinson<br>& Jill O'Brien |
| Hon. Treasurer:<br>& Public Officer:                            | Lazlo Benyei      | Committee Member                         | Rosemary Smart                      |
| Archivist:  | Dorothy Benyei    | Realisation Expert<br>& Kew Festival Rep | Graeme Lindsay                      |



### A MAN of MANY PARTS

Not only has Graeme Lindsay been responsible for many of our display props, including the very realistic organ in our bridal window (see Sept. issue bottom of page 4), but he has been selected as one of the relay runners in the Queen's Baton Relay for the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. The baton will have travelled over 180,000 kilometres, by land, sea and air, and have visited all 71 member nations of the Commonwealth by the time Graeme carries it on his leg of the relay.

- The details are:
- He will be a runner on day 49, relay leg number 104.
  - A sticker numbered 104 will be placed at the point where he starts his run.
  - Starting in Hawthorn, he will carry the baton along Burwood Rd, from Bridge Rd, finishing at Yarra St. A distance of some 400 metres.
  - He will start his run at approximately 2.48 pm.

All are welcome to attend and cheer him on his way.

### VILLA ALBA MUSEUM INC.

Villa Alba Museum Inc. continues to open on the first Sunday of every month from 1pm to 4pm.

Admission: Family \$25 Adults \$12 Concession \$9 Children under 12 free

A range of donated plants are available from the plant stall just inside the main gate. The sale of these plants supplements the gate takings.

A selection of functions are being planned which will extend its usage and hours of opening, and increase the funds available for conservation and restoration.

For further information [www.villaalbamuseum.org](http://www.villaalbamuseum.org)

### AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

We extend our congratulations to our member Beth Brodribb who was awarded a medal (OAM) in the General Division in the Australia Day Honours "for services to the community through voluntary support for health and welfare organizations".

Beth is a former welfare officer and has been a volunteer for more than thirty years.

### AMALGATION THOUGHTS IN 1910

"A scheme for the re-amalgamation of the three municipalities of Hawthorn, Camberwell and Kew has lately been considered, but no definite expression of opinion has yet been offered by either council. The proposed city of Boroondara would cover the same ground as the original Boroondara Road District, viz., 22 square miles. It seemed to be unworkable in the early days, and whether anything would be saved at the present time is quite problematical."

p.84. Barnard, F. G. A., The Jubilee History of Kew Victoria: its Origin and Progress 1803-1910: E. F. G. Hodges, Kew, 1910

## 2006 CALENDAR

Wednesday 8pm

We meet monthly in the Phyllis Hore Room on the second Wednesday of each month unless otherwise announced.

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>February 8th</b>   | Dr Charles Parkinson -<br>"Sir William Stawell"                           |
| <b>March 8th</b>      | Sheila Pitt -<br>"Wartime Kew"  |
| <b>April 12th</b>     | Trish Williams from VicRoads<br>"Senior Drivers"                          |
| <b>May 10th</b>       | Claire Chisholm from Strathcona<br>"Anzac Cove"                           |
| <b>June 14th</b>      | -<br>- to be confirmed  |
| <b>July 12th</b>      | Mrs. Judy Goodes ,first secretary in 1958,<br>- the beginnings of the KHS |
| <b>August 9th</b>     | Members Night<br>"Memories of getting to school"                          |
| <b>September 13th</b> | Film night<br>-   |
| <b>October 11th</b>   | Annual General Meeting<br>- Andrew McIntosh MLA, Member for Kew           |
| <b>November 8th</b>   | A Kew School<br>- to be confirmed .                                       |
| <b>December 13th</b>  | Christmas Party<br><b>Note:</b> 7pm start                                 |

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

Due 1st July each year

- Individual \$15
- Family \$17
- Student \$5

We invite all interested people to join our society and enjoy our speakers and discussions on local history in an atmosphere of warm friendship.

## NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members

- Dr Mary Henty Parkin
- Cr. Phillip Healy

## VALE

We note with sadness the passing of Dr John Colebatch, AO, 6/6/1909 - 20/11/2005 , a former member of our society and a very active member of the Kew Community

## DIGITISATION OF RECORDS

Tony Michael, our digital recording officer, has arranged the donation of some secondhand computer equipment and is obtaining quotes for additional items with the aim that a computer workstation, including a scanner, can be set up in our archive room. This will enable us to scan items onsite and store our digital records in the archives room.

## CURRENT WINDOW - BOOK SALE SUNDAY 19TH FEB

BOOK SALE Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb

Phyllis Hore Room  
1pm - 4pm.