

Kew Historical Society Inc.

Founded 1958



Incorporated 1987

NEWSLETTER No. 92

JANUARY 2010

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President:

Mr. David Benwell
Ph: _____

Secretary:

Ms Judith Vimpani
Ph: _____

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

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

On behalf of the committee and myself I wish all our members and their families a joyful and healthy new year.

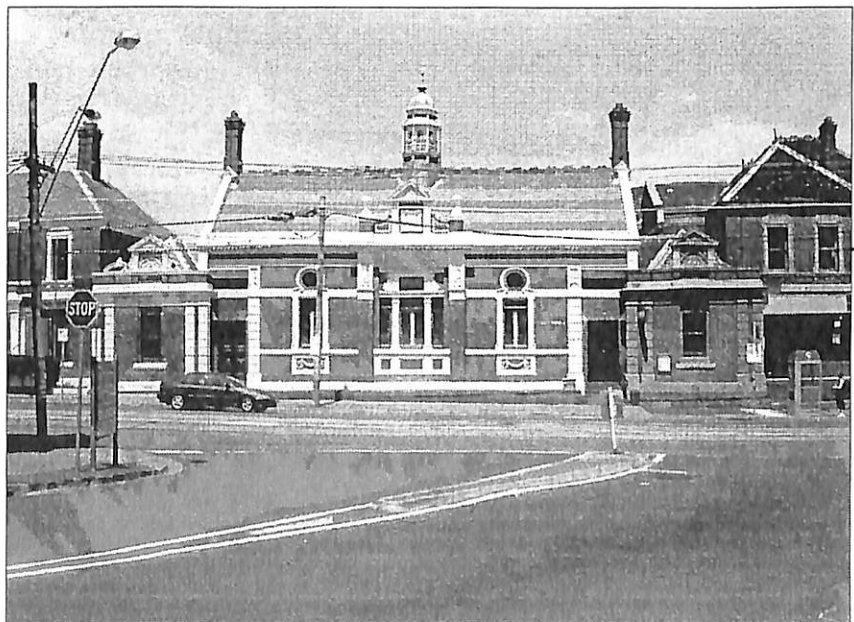
Again we have an interesting year panning out before us with the progressive refurbishment of the Kew Courthouse and Police Station, the outside of which is now looking quite magnificent. Some of you may have noticed the slate roof tiles which have a green band running across them. This we understand is due to the original colour tiles running out and rather than wait for a new delivery from Wales the green tiles have been used.

An interesting and varied programme has been organised for the year including the special outing to the Holy Trinity Church. This will take place on a Sunday afternoon so we can see the restored windows. (see P.6 for details) We continue to concentrate as far as possible on local issues for our meeting topics and we would appreciate members suggestions as to what would be of interest to them.

The Kew Community Festival is again happening in March and planning is underway on the Kew Historical Society's involvement with the street parade and display in the Phyllis Hore Room. This year's theme for the festival is 'Musical Kew'.

I look forward to seeing you all at our first meeting of the year on the 10th February.

David Benwell



VILLA ALBA MUSEUM INC

Members will be pleased to hear that in October last year Villa Alba received Federal funding towards the restoration of two of its most significant rooms, the Vestibule and the Boudoir. The grants are part of the Australian Government Jobs Fund initiative and will provide conservation training for up to five trainee conservators under the supervision of art conservator Andrew Thorn. As a result of some good publicity in The Age, Villa Alba had an extremely well attended Open Day on the 3rd of January. This publicity resulted in more than 430 visitors, not counting children admitted for free. (In comparison, in January 2009 there were 16 visitors)



By 2.30pm the queue was no longer out the front gate into Walmer St. There was some delay with collecting admission charges but the four page brochures were handed out to those queuing so visitors could read up before entering. Card Sales were brisk despite a price increase. This successful day highlights the importance of good publicity in encouraging/reminding potential visitors that the house and garden are open.

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

Admission charges:

Adults	\$ 10
Concession	\$ 8
Children	free

Sunday 21st March is a Free Family Day to coincide with the last day of Kew Festival
For further information on Villa Alba www.villaalbamuseum.org

KEW FESTIVAL

Our participation in the Kew Festival is as follows:

FRIDAY	12th March	1pm	Set up Heritage Display in the Phyllis Hore Room
SATURDAY	13th March	10am-4pm	Display opens Devonshire teas 10.30am - 3.30pm
		11am	Participate in Street Parade. We need members to march in the parade. It is fun! Dress as 1910 Operatic Theatre goers To volunteer, please ring
SUNDAY	14th March	2-4pm	Historic Bus Tour of Kew Meet at 1.45pm Bus leaves Civic Drive outside Phyllis Hore Room
		2-4pm	Cemetery Tour - comfortable walking shoes needed Meet at Gates to Boroondara Cemetery at 2pm Bookings essential for both tours Ring
MONDAY	15th March	9am-3pm	Group activities with children from invited schools
		3pm	Dismantle display and return items to storage

Members will be asked to indicate where and when they are available to help, at the March meeting.

KEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE 2009 - 2010

As elected on 14th October 2009

President:	David Benwell	Archivist:	Dorothy Benyei
Vice Presidents :	Dione McIntyre Philip Slobom	Committee members :	Joan Simms Rosemary Smart
Hon. Secretary:	Judith Vimpani	Re -appointed:	
Assist. Secretary:	Margaret Robinson	Public Officer:	Thea Sartori
Hon. Treasurer:	Graeme Lindsay	Auditor:	Max Sartori

QUARTERLY BOOK SALES

These are held in the Phyllis Hore room from 1 to 4 pm on Sundays.

Dates for 2010 are

SALE DATES	SET UP DATES
<u>21st February</u>	20th February
<u>16th May</u>	15th May
<u>15th August</u>	14th August
<u>21st November</u>	20th November



REMINDER NEXT BOOK SALE 21ST FEBRUARY

(Setting up starts 2 pm Saturday)
SALE starts at 1 pm & stops at 4pm
Clearing up starts 4 pm

Please put this date in your diary
All help appreciated

BRIDGES OF KEW cont.

The Chandler Highway or Outer Circle Railway Bridge

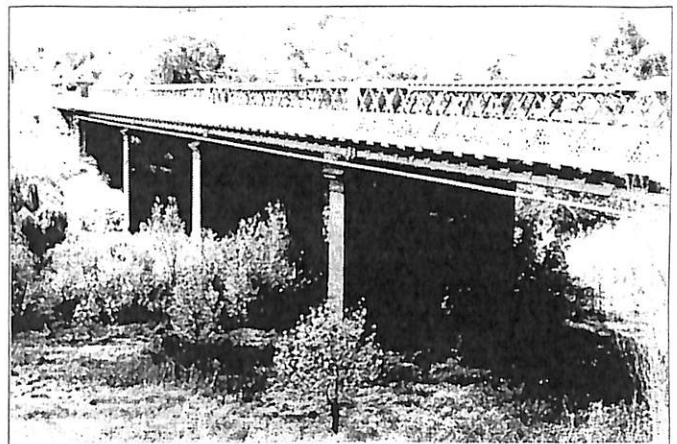
This was part of the Outer Circle Railway Line which extended from Fairfield to Oakleigh. It opened in 1891, and after a trial period of two years during which it proved to be unprofitable, the Kew section was closed in April 1893.

"With the failure of the Outer Circle Railway it was considered that the costly railway bridge between Kew and Fairfield should be used for road vehicles. With this in view, in 1913 it was decided to convene a conference of representatives of Kew and Heidelberg. After a full consideration of the proposal, Kew and Heidelberg Councils sought an interview with the Railways Commissioners to discuss the opening of the Outer Circle Bridge for road traffic".

"It was not until 1929 that the bridge opened for road traffic. Considerable road work had to be done in paving the top of the embankment and in the cutting between Princess Street and the bridge. A 20-year agreement was made with the Kew and Heidelberg Councils regarding the maintenance of the roadway, which had been named Chandler Highway after the then Minister for Public Works."

"The opening of this bridge afforded a very convenient means of access from the eastern to the northern suburbs. "

Quotes from Vaughan, W.D. Kew's Civic Century. Kew , 1960. pp 74-75.



The Committee has decided to introduce By-Laws to define more accurately how the Kew Historical Society conducts its business in the future.

The following By-Laws will be presented to the February General Meeting as a courtesy so that members would have an opportunity to comment before they are finalised by the Committee at their March meeting. Contact David Benwell or Judith Vimpani with your comments

PROPOSED BY-LAWS

A. BOOK SALES

The Quarterly Book Sales

The Quarterly Book Sales are conducted by the Kew Historical Society and the proceeds are shared equally between the Kew Library and the Kew Historical Society.

Management of the Book Sales

The Management of the Books Sales is determined by the Kew Historical Society Committee.

The Sunday Mini-Sales

(a) The Sunday Mini-Sales are to consist of books left over from the previous Quarterly Sale.

(b) The Sunday Mini Sales are held at the discretion of the Kew Historical Society Committee in consultation with Kew Library.

Quality of the Books

The Kew Historical Society will make every effort to ensure that the quality of the books to be sold are of the highest standard. Any books not considered to be up to standard are to be offered, at a discount rate, on a bargain table or removed from sale and disposed of as determined by the Kew Historical Society Committee.

Books for the Kew Historical Society

Any books of value to the Kew Historical Society, as determined by the Kew Historical Society Committee, are to be retained for the Society's Library, free of charge.

B. OWNERSHIP OF ASSETS

To be read in conjunction with By Law C Use of Kew Historical Society Equipment

Donated Items

All donated items including ephemera must be supported by a signed Acquisition Form.

continued next page

Loaned Items

(a) Some items in the Kew Historical Society's collection are available for loan at the discretion of the Archivist.

(b) An Outwards Loan Form must be completed for all items loaned from the collection. See form for details and conditions of loan.

Printed Matter and Digital Images

All printed matter and digital images acquired for or on behalf of the Kew Historical Society are the property of the Society, and as such are to be stored on the Kew Historical Society's premises.

Back-up Copies

TWO back-up copies of all digital records and images must be maintained. ONE must be stored on the Kew Historical Society's premises and ONE must be stored in a safe place at another location, as determined by the Kew Historical Society Committee.

Equipment

All equipment owned by the Kew Historical Society is to be used, maintained and stored on the Kew Historical Society's premises unless special permission is granted by the Kew Historical Society Committee.

C. THE USE OF KHS EQUIPMENT

To be read in conjunction with By Law B Ownership of Assets

Kew Historical Society equipment is for the exclusive use of the Society, for the purposes of the Society as determined by the Kew Historical Society Committee.

Maintenance of Computers and Associated Equipment

(a) Maintenance of computers and associated equipment is to be the responsibility of a sub-committee appointed by the Kew Historical Society Committee.

(b) At least TWO people are to be trained to operate each piece of equipment owned by the Kew Historical Society.

Passwords

All passwords are to be recorded with the Secretary prior to use or within 24 hours of use.

HOME EVENTS

A Service of Thanksgiving
for the Life of

Clarrie Thompson

30th April 1912 ~ 26th September 2009



Kew Uniting Church
Highbury Grove, Kew

Friday 2nd October 2009

Clarrie Thompson 1912 - 2009

We remember and give thanks for the life and service of Clarrie Thompson, a foundation member of the Kew Historical Society. Clarrie was born in Kew, and educated at Kew Primary School and Melbourne Girls' High School, she then trained as a nurse at the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

Clarrie was the great-granddaughter of James Venn Morgan who arrived in Australia in 1851 and built one of the earliest houses in Kew in Bulleen Road (now High Street) near Charles Street. Her grandmother Celia Butson (nee Morgan) was the first white baby girl born in Kew in 1852, a baby greatly admired by the local aborigines.

With her husband Jim, Clarrie supported the Kew Historical Society quietly but most efficiently in every area. We remember in particular their help with street stalls and the wonderful marmalade they regularly made and sold for our funds. Clarrie's knowledge of Kew's history was invaluable, as was her friendly manner and kindness. We extend our sympathy to her son Derrick (named for another pioneer forebear) and Derrick's children.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, KEW

Sunday 11th April 2010 at 4pm

With windows at the church recently restored, and fundraising for further restoration underway, the Kew Historical Society has decided to support the church with a tour of the church conducted by Rev. Roy Stanley
Gold coin donation appreciated.

NEW ADDRESS

Raymond Vaughan Smith has a new address He has moved to Broughton Lea, 9-17 Broughton Road, Surrey Hills.

This is the same location as Ken Sillcock. They have already caught up although they are on different floors.

Visitors welcome

Check with Rosemary for details

RHSV Grant

As the result of a successful grant application to the RHSV by the treasurer Graeme Lindsay, the Kew Historical Society has a lovely new portable banner. It is easily assembled and packed up and will be very handy for both display and advertising purposes. Many thanks to the RHSV.

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to our new members

- Josh Frydenberg
- Don & Wendy Garden

Current Window

Our current window showing our display for History Week .
Our new banner can be seen on the left side of the window .



EVENTS ELSEWHERE

RHSV

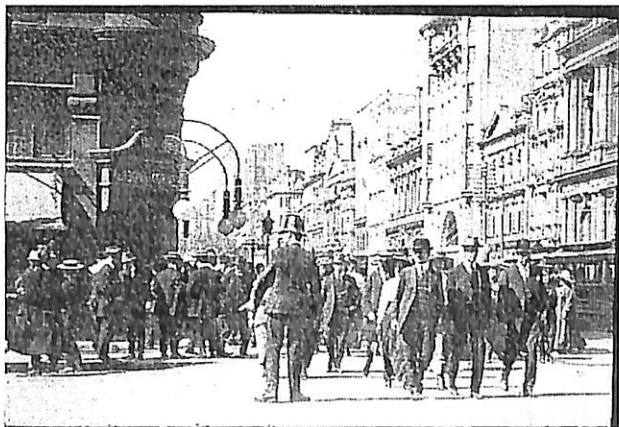
Robert Law
Exhibition*February April 2010*

The RHSV's Images Collection holds just over 4000 glass (or lantern) slides. Of these 1100 are collectively known as the **Robert Law Collection**. The Society received the collection in the early 1930s.

In early February 2010 the Society will hold an exhibition of a selection of printed images from the **Robert Law Collection** either photographed by Law (many are signed) or collected by him. These will be supported by items from a private collection. The exhibited prints will feature the life, work, family and interests of Robert Law, so giving an insight into the social and cultural life in Melbourne and Victoria between 1890 and 1930. His collection of street scenes alone presents a discerning study of the everyday life of the people of Melbourne during his lifetime.

Robert Law (1870 - 1930) was Chief Chemist, Assayer and Refiner at the Royal Mint, Melbourne. He was born in Scotland, educated at Glasgow University and in World War I commanded the Third Pioneer Battalion with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Associated with the Volunteer Defence Forces for over twenty years and enlisting for the AIF in 1916, he served in France, being mentioned in despatches. Interestingly there are few slides of WWI. He travelled widely before and after the war. Besides being a keen Photographer, he was interested in yachting, athletics, swimming and chemical research. He served as President of the Society of Chemical Industry of Victoria. He was President of the Brighton Soldiers Memorial Committee, being a long-time resident of Brighton. He is buried in the Brighton cemetery.

These slides and others collections, are being progressively digitised thanks to a grant from the Ian Potter Foundation and the efforts of RHSV volunteers.



Intersection of Collins and Elizabeth Streets, Melbourne, looking East, showing Alston's corner (left) and the south side of Collins Street [RHSV Images Collection: GS-CS-31] Robert Law

BALWYN H. S. Meetings

Thursday 11th February 2010 at 8pm

Guest Speaker: Dr. Hugh Wirth AM, K.S.J.
Topic: My 46 years as a Veterinarian

Dr. Hugh Wirth, renowned Balwyn veterinarian and president of the RSPCA, will speak about his years of veterinary practice and his family's association with Wirth Bros. Circus

Thursday 11th March

Guest Speaker: Peter Harris
Topic: The *Alma Doepel—Our Last Tall Ship*

All meetings are held at the
Balwyn Evergreen Centre
45 Talbot Avenue, Balwyn
Phone:

HERITAGE HILL MUSEUM
AND HISTORIC GARDENS

Hart & Hand

Stitching Together the Private and Public Lives
of Mrs. Dorothy Hart
13 January—5 March 2010

This Exhibition, held in Mrs. Hart's former residence, Benga (1935), showcases ten never before displayed dresses and garments, all of which were hand made by Mrs. Hart between the 1940s and the 1970s.

As well as these superb garments, the exhibition features a replica of Mrs. Hart's 1940s bedroom complete with original audio of Mrs. Hart reminiscing about her childhood and life at Benga.

Open: Wed. - Fri. 10am - 4pm
Sun. 12pm - 4pm

Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens
66 McCrae Street, Dandenong 3175
P:

HAWTHORN H. S.

Celebrating
20 YEARS
OF PLANTING AT
THE WURUNDJERI GARDEN
Saturday 17th April 2010
10.30am

Meet at the Wurundjeri Garden
Glan Avon Road, Hawthorn
Bookings are required for this event, please call
Boroondara Library Service on

2010 CALENDAR**Wednesday 8pm**

We normally meet monthly in the Phyllis Hore Room on the second Wednesday of each month. Due to unforeseen circumstances meetings marked with an * will be held in the Kew Library

February 10th *	Friends of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery "What's Happening at Boroondara Cemetery" Cathie Shaw - Treasurer - FOBC
March 10th *	Ann Holmes – Boroondara Libraries
SUNDAY See p.6 April 11th for details	Meet at Holy Trinity Church at 4pm for tour conducted by Reverend Roy Stanley
April 14th *	Ian Penrose Yarra River Keeper
May 12th	Norman Jackson Update on Courthouse restoration work
June 9th *	Kew Neighbourhood House Robin Kenrick - operations head
July 14th	Members' Night
August 11th	Ruyton Girls' School
September 8th	Dee Fraser, Bendigo Bank "History of Community Banking"
October 13th	AGM – Mayor of Boroondara
November 10th	Tony Michael
Thursday 16 December	Xmas Function

**MEMBERSHIP FEES
2006-2007**

These are due on 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.

BOOK SALE

1 pm to 4 pm

SUNDAY

21st February

Phyllis Hore Room
Rear Kew LibraryPlease put this date in your
diary

Printing courtesy of Andrew McIntosh MLA, Member for Kew

www.andrewmcintoshmp.com

Kew Historical Society Inc.
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