

Kew Historical Society Inc.

Founded 1958



Incorporated 1987

NEWSLETTER No. 93

JUNE 2010

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*Serving the
community, families,
schools, students,
historians and
other researchers*

Est. 1958

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FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

Dear Members

This Kew Historical Society year is moving along very quickly and we are fast approaching our AGM in October. We will therefore soon be considering our officers for the coming year and I do note that our annual membership fees are now due. It is also a time for giving due consideration to bestowing honorary membership on those giving outstanding service to the Society.

It is pleasing to note that from now on our meetings are back to the regular meeting place in the Phyllis Hore Room for the rest of the year.

In the past few months we have taken part in the Kew Community Festival and I would like to complement and thank all those who assisted in the setting up and running of the replica 1910's café. It was a grand effort and very much enjoyed by the patrons. The street parade participation also went well in very pleasant weather conditions, as did our historical tours.

The Kew Court House and Police Station restoration is continuing apace with the completion of the external renovations and letting of the contract for the internal work. Our fundraising has now come to an end and the City of Boroondara is holding a small reception at the Court House in recognition of all those who took part in the Fundraising Appeal. This will take place in mid-July.

The recently held Quarterly Book Sale has been successfully completed and the average returns maintained. This great result was achieved with the help of a number of members and volunteers and we are grateful for the efforts put in by everyone.

The speakers for the rest of the year are listed in this newsletter and will provide a varied and interesting reflection on, largely, local history.

I look forward to catching up with you all at our July meeting.

David Benwell
President



Kew Festival 2010



Part of our contribution to the Kew Festival involved participation in the Saturday

Street Parade where members were dressed as musicians, opera goers and singers. In the Phyllis Hore room there was a tableau of a musical soiree with "Nellie Stewart", plus musical entertainment by some students from



Trinity Grammar and a musical interlude by a pianist, with Ye Olde Tea Rooms

servicing home made Devonshire teas.

The Devonshire Teas proved a great success with takings of \$479. On Sunday there was a bus tour lead by Graeme Lindsay and Philip Slobom and a cemetery walk.



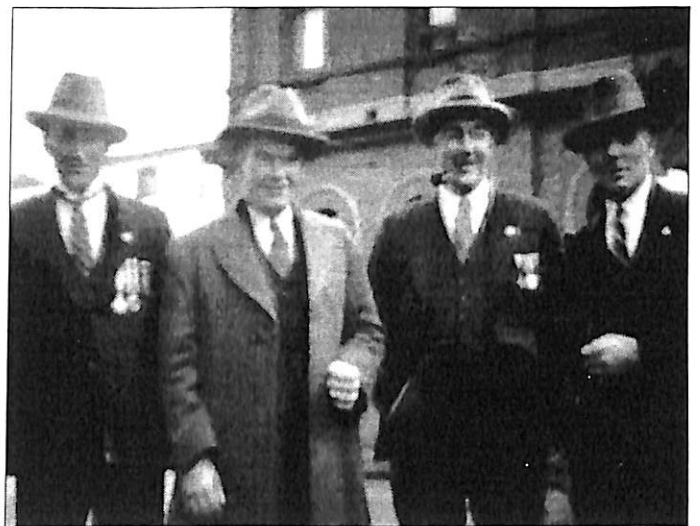
Photos supplied by Janelle Benwell, Slavka Jelovic, Les Littlechild and Judith Vimpani.,

IN SEARCH OF HISTORY

In 2006 Norman Marshall attended the Kew Historical Society meeting showing a movie of a **1934 ANZAC parade** held in Kew taken by Alexander McMillan a relative of his. The soldiers met at Kew Junction and then marched up High Street to the War memorial. The film was recently donated to The Shrine as part of their archives and they seek our assistance to help identify some of the people in the movie.

Below are a sample of some photos extracted from the movie. If you recognise any of the people please contact the Kew Historical Society with your information.

Tony Michael



The First Europeans to visit Kew

Late in 1802 Philip King, Governor of New South Wales, dispatched the schooner "Cumberland" to survey King Island and Port Phillip to the north of it.

The purpose? To establish whether or not either location might prove a suitable site for a new settlement.



Commander Robins viewing the Yarra valley from a tree.

The "Cumberland" party included Commander Charles Robins, the surveyor Charles Grimes and James Fleming, a gardener

In January and February 1803 Grimes carried out the first complete survey of Port Phillip, during which on the 8th February his party rowed up the Yarra River as far as a rock fall which halted their further advancement up the river.

They then walked around the present day Studley Park area and Commander Robins made his historic tree climb to view the Yarra valley. It is thanks to Fleming, who kept a detailed journal of the survey, that we learn the story of Kew's first European visitors.

'A Journal of Grimes Survey - the Cumberland in Port Phillip January - February 1803', by James Fleming can be found in the Kew Library.

Article by Graeme Lindsay

Illustrations from Living City, Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, Autumn/Winter 1978 p.7.



Charles Grimes Acting Surveyor-General of NSW.

Excursion:

'Celebrating 100 Years of Flinders Street Station'

An exhibition at the
Royal Historical Society of Victoria
6 May-6 August 2010



239 A'Beckett Street (cnr William) Melbourne
10am-4pm, Mon-Friday

Special Guided Tour:

Wednesday 24th July at 10:30am

Please Ring Margaret to book your place

Phone No.

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to our new member

- Bruce Wardrop

Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre

At our June meeting, Robyn Kenrick gave an informative talk about the origins of the Kew Neighbourhood Centre from its inception, the various name changes over the years, and the range of services it provides today.

The program includes general interest, English as a second language, art & music, computers and fitness and wellbeing. They run an Oasis program providing support for disadvantaged people. Their Sparechair cafe gives hands on practical experience to anyone interested in cafe work and associated skills. Several members recommended the cafe.



Sparechair

2 - 12 Derby Street
Kew 3101

Ph: .

8.30am - 3pm
Monday to Friday

Yummy food & great coffee

OUT AND ABOUT

RHSV	BALWYN H. S. Meetings
<p>Tuesday 10th August</p> <p>VICTORIA IN FOCUS:</p> <p>The RHSV's Photography Collection</p> <p>Speaker: Michele Summerton Where: RHSV Time: 5.15 tea/coffee 5.45 Lecture Cost: Members Free; Non-Members \$5.50</p> <p>The invention of photography in 1835 coincided with the settlement of Melbourne. By the 1850s the new process had been refined and its impact as a recording mechanism was immediate and profound. Professional photographers began to capture the astonishing transformation of Melbourne from a raw settlement to a flourishing city, not only documenting the remarkable enterprise of the gold rich metropolis in its marvellous buildings and streetscapes but in portraits of its citizens as well. Photographers were quick to also capture various activities in the regions recording the towns and landscapes in which colonial Victorians lived and worked. Development of the dry plate method in 1885 simplified the photographic process and inspired interest in remote, scenic photography. By 1900, snapshots were beginning to play a greater role than studio photographs in recording the everyday lives of Victorians. Although undistinguished in photographic technique, these informal and ordinary images are charged with the experiences of people recording their own personal histories.</p> <p>The RHSV's extraordinary photographic collection charts the history and achievements of Victoria from the 1850s to recent times. When the society was founded in 1909 with the task of preserving Victoria's heritage, its first acquisition was a photograph, a portrait of the donor, a pioneer settler of Melbourne. Other donations quickly followed and today the collection is a significant resource, comprising some 30,000 images and demonstrating various photographic processes.</p> <p>Michele Summerton will take you on a visual journey through the RHSV's photographic collection. Her talk will explore the collection through various themes in Victoria's history while also ranging over the principal photographic processes represented by its images.</p> <p>Michele is a Melbourne-based historian and heritage practitioner specialising in historic places and material culture. She recently completed a significance assessment of the RHSV's photographic collection with funding provided by Heritage Victoria</p>	<p><u>Thursday 12 August 2010 - 8pm</u></p> <p>Guest Speaker: Geoff Heath</p> <p>Topic: Harry Heath's - From Corner Store to Supermarket</p> <p><u>Thursday 9 September 2010 - 8pm</u></p> <p>Guest Speaker: Clive Enticott</p> <p>Topic: Missing Mansions of Melbourne</p> <p>All meetings: Balwyn Evergreen Centre 45 Talbot Avenue, Balwyn</p>
	<p>CAMBERWELL H.S. Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 22nd July at 8.00pm in the Meeting Room,</p> <p>Hawthorn Town Hall (side entrance via car park) 360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn</p> <p>"Our Forgotten Heroes—The Boer War"</p> <p>Guest Speakers: Hon. Michael Baden-Powell, chairman, and Mr Peter Kemp, member of the Boer War Memorial Committee (Victoria)</p>
	<p>VILLA ALBA MUSEUM INC.</p> <p>Most of the covering paint has now been removed from the walls of the boudoir revealing its exotic decoration which made extensive use of turquoise and gold leaf. Work on the "Edinburgh" wall of the vestibule is making steady progress. Members will be interested to note that board member Jessie Serle received an OAM for her involvement in heritage conservation and her advisory role for the preservation and restoration of historic properties. Villa Alba's next open day will be on Sunday 1st August. For those who haven't been lately a visit is recommended.</p> <p>Details: Villa Alba Museum Inc. Walmer Street Kew Open 1st Sunday of month 1.00—4.00 pm.</p> <p>Charges: Adults \$10, Concession \$8, Children under 14 free</p>

2010 CALENDAR**Wednesday 8pm**

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

**MEMBERSHIP FEES
2010-2011**

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.

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

May Quarterly Book Sale a Success

With record numbers of fiction books we crossed our fingers as the customers rushed the doors. The Readers Digest Condensed Collections which were predicted to languish on the table were soon snapped up by a young man with a bookcase to fill in his study. He also bought many of the Reference Sets, no worries that they were not complete sets!

As for the hardback fiction, over 100 books have found a new home as 'interior design' in a trendy bar in Brunswick. They had to have black covers, that's all. Could be some interesting reading over a cocktail or two!!



**REMINDER
NEXT BOOK SALE
SUNDAY 15th AUGUST**

(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

Printing courtesy of Andrew McIntosh MLA, Member for Kew

www.andrewmcintoshmp.com

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