

INDIARADING & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MARCH ... 1968

NEWSLETTER ... NO. 9.

*** NEXT MEETING ***

WEDNESDAY, 13th MARCH

7-50 P.M.

VISIT to STATE PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Following a tour of the building, during which we may see State Parliament in Session, Mrs. D. Goble M.L.A. has asked us to have supper with her.

In order to facilitate arrangements Mrs. Goble has so kindly undertaken, we must indicate the numbers expected (which may not exceed 40), so please complete the slip attached, and return it to Mrs. J. Recznick, 15 Walwa St, Mitcham, or phone any/either of these numbers as quickly as possible. 874. 5789.... 87. 3429.

Meeting Place: On the front steps at Parliament House

SWAN HILL CONVENTION & ACCOMMODATION

28th & 29th SEPT. 1968

Through a misunderstanding we had received the impression that bookings might be made on our behalf. As this is not the case we are circulating the list of motels, camping sites, etc which has been supplied, so that members may make their own bookings as soon as possible. (The number from the Society so far intending to attend the convention is approaching 30).

Prices subject to alteration without notice

SWAN HILL HOTELS

Royal	B & B	\$4.50	Phone 22017
White Swan	B & B	4.20	22761
	Self cont.		
	bath & toilet	5.00	21214
Commercial	B & B	3.80	

SWAN HILL MOTELS

Motel Swan Hill	B & B single	7.00	9.00	22727
	Twin or double	10.00		
	3 in 1 suite	13.00		
	4 in 1 suite	16.00		
Motel Planet (1 mile south of City)	B & B single	7.00	10.00	22151
Motel River Murray	B & B single	6.50		22067
	double	9.50		
"Gleewood" Private Hotel Motel	B & B single Pte. Hotel	4.50		21487
	B & B Motel	5.50		

NYAH WEST (20 miles north of City)

Grand	B & B single	4.50	Nyah 29
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Lake Boga 10 miles south of City

Motel Driftwood	B & B single	6.00	
	double	9.00	Lake Boga 120
" Catalina	B & B single	4.75	
	double	7.50	Lake Boga 92

SWAN HILL CARAVAN PARK

Site only	1.00	21494
	1.30 with power	

Hire of overnight caravans 4 berth 4.30 (bring own blankets, linen & cutlery)

REPORTS: Cr. C.R.T. McCall, The Mayor of Nunawading, addresses us last month and "Early Melbourne As Seen By Myself" was the title of his talk. Cr. McCall was born during the latter part of the last century and has early memories of this century. His mother was English and his father an Australian. He was born in Glenferrie, but at the age of 6 months went with his parents to live in Brighton. Later he attended Brighton Grammar School.

One of his earliest recollections was the Boer War. He remembers the Relief of Mafeking when the news was spread by a man banging a gong as he walked the streets. In 1901 he saw the returned soldiers (mounted troops) as they passed through Brighton on their way to camp at Lang Warren. This scene was impressed on the young boy's mind.

Other recollections included the death of Queen Victoria when buildings were draped and Federation in May 1901, when the Duke of York - later King George V landed at St.Kilda. He saw the Duke of York again at a Review at Flemington, followed by a brilliant fireworks display.

Cr. McCall's uncle was "Usher of the Black Rod" (dress has never altered from Federation until the present time) and ultimately became the Clerk of Parliaments. Cr. McCall, the eldest of a family of nine accompanied his bachelor uncle to Parliament House on every Saturday. We were shown the Railway pass on which they travelled.

Another memory was the State funeral of Sir Thomas Bent, who was originally a market gardener. Cr. McCall emphasised that in his opinion the Cabinet of Sir Thomas Bent did more for Victoria than any other Cabinet. He had the greatest admiration for Sir Thomas.

In 1904, a young brother, 3 years of age, contracted diphtheria and Cr. McCall had to run two miles for a doctor only to find the doctor had gone to the country. (heidelberg)

In those days Brighton Cemetery was a snake infested swamp. There were sand dunes where Hawthorn Road is today. Slaughtering was carried out close to Elwood Beach. There were tram lines for horse-drawn trams in Elsterwick.

It was an offence to swim in the open, so people used the public baths. A white flag went up for the ladies and red flags for the men. Cr. McCall then gave an amusing description of bathing-costumes then in Vogue.

The introduction of telephones was another memory. Free calls but there was a rental charge. Fire-carts were horse drawn and were followed by small boys.

In 1908 the First American Fleet visited Melbourne on a good-will mission when twenty-two ships were anchored in the bay. Visitors to the ships were conveyed from St.Kilda Pier by motor-boat. Cr. McCall showed members a ribbon souvenir which his Aunt bought on board "U.S.S." Vermont

In 1910, when Cr. McCall "entered" the bank, there was much illiteracy - one in twenty could not sign their own names.

When he was a lad Band -concerts were a great attraction. St.Kilda had side-shows whilst the pleasure-boats "Hygea," "Weroona," and "Edina" sailed to Queenscliff. Handsome-cabs and Stanley steam motor-cars were popular means of transport. Halley's Comet appeared in 1910.

Cr. McCall then read some dates from a diary.

15-2-58	Balloon (1st ascent)	24-2-85	Aquarium (opened)
1874	Price of Argus reduced 3d to 2d.	13-5-85	Earthquake in Australia.
1-10-80	Opening of Exhibition Buildings.	10-6-86	Earthquake in New Zealand
14-6-83	Railway line Albury to Vošonga	11-12-85	Cable trams in Melbourne first opened for traffic.
1884	Rain in Melbourne 15th to 28th January.		

- " P U R R U M B E T E " -

(Classified "B" by National Trust)

HISTORICAL AND ANTIQUE DISPLAYS
AUSTRALIANA EXHIBITION

OPEN DAYS IN AID OF CAMPERDOWN DISTRICT HOSPITAL

Sunday Afternoon March 10, 1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. and

Monday, March 11, 1968, 10 p.m. to 5.30. p.m. (Labour Day Weekend)

The pioneers, John and Peter Manifold, discovered Lake Purrumbete in 1838 and took up 100,000 acres. The following month they built a crude hut on the north bank, but troubled by the blacks they vacated this and built a substantial dwelling surrounded on three sides by water, which formed the beginning of the homestead as it exists today.

By courtesy of Cr. and Mrs. W.G. Manifold, and Mrs. John Manifold, the main section of this historic home and the extensive grounds fronting the lake are to be opened to raise funds principally for the Camperdown District Hospital, but portion of the receipts will go to the Camperdown and District Historical Society for restoration of historical memorials.

In addition to its exquisite antique furniture, the house will contain paintings, photographs and documents portraying the early development of the district. Also on view will be vintage cars, and a display of Australiana from the private collection of Mr. James D. Wilson.

ADMISSIONS: SUNDAY BY DONATION

MONDAY BY PROGRAMME ON SALE AT GATE, Adults 50 cents

Children 10 cents.

HOW TO GET THERE: Purrumbete entrance gate is on the Princes Highway, approximately 5 miles east of Camperdown. Travelling from Melbourne on Princes Highway, it is 1½ miles west of rail crossing at Weerite near the 116-mile post.

AFTERNOON TEA. SOFT DRINKS

FACILITIES FOR PICNIC PARTIES.

Members of Nunawading Historical Society will be welcome to attend the Annual Meeting of Croydon Historical Society on Thursday 14 March at 8 p.m. in Croydon Hall Supper Room.

Slides of old Croydon will be shown.

M. McGovern (Mrs)
(Hon. Secretary)

SOLE GRAVE RESEARCH.

In the old part of the Box Hill Cemetery is the unkept headstone of one Ivy Campbell, who died 25th March 1907, which was erected in her memory by her school-mates of Mitcham State School.

Does anyone know more to add to this report?
Would anyone be interested in doing research into this grave, and others which are of interest for our Society's historical records?

L. K.C.
