

NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

SEPTEMBER 1968.

NEWSLETTER NO. 15.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 11th September, 1968.  
8 p.m. at the Auditorium, Old Orchard Shopping Centre, Blackburn.  
Mr. L.J. BLAKE, B.A., B.ED., M.A.C.E., President R.H.S.V.,  
will deliver an illustrated address on:

'THE GOLD ESCORT ROUTE TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA'

REMINDER: As our financial year ends on 30th September, the  
October meeting will be the Annual one, with election of  
office-bearers. Nomination forms will be available at the  
next meeting. Subscriptions will also be due from October.

AUGUST MEETING: Mrs. Hoban gave us a most interesting evening with  
her story of Caroline Chisholm. Mrs. Chisholm worked first in  
helping the immigrant girls arriving in Sydney, then to improve  
the poor conditions on board ships. Later she assisted whole  
families to emigrate, and due to her efforts, shelter sheds  
were erected on the routes to the diggings, where people could  
stay overnight. Mrs. Chisholm also criticized the squatters  
strongly and urged the 'unlocking of the lands'. Despite the  
acclaim of earlier days, her death in England went almost  
un-noticed in Australia, where she had so truly been  
'The Emigrant's Friend.'

LATROBE LIBRARY TOUR: Members who were on this tour had a  
wonderful evening, seeing briefly what goes on behind the  
scenes with the housing of our State records. Prints, maps,  
shipping records, archives, private papers and all the other  
collections were shown to us. The 'Sail and Steam Exhibition'  
proved fascinating to everyone - it is open till 13th September.

VISITORS: On Saturday, 2nd November, a bus load of Mornington H.S.  
Members will be visiting Nunawading to see the Schwerkolt  
Cottage, then on to Doncaster, Ringwood and Croydon. It is  
planned to give morning tea to these people. Members from here  
may follow the bus on its trip in their own cars if they wish.  
Particulars from Mrs. Leach.

DID YOU KNOW THAT - The 108 year-old hotel on the corner of  
Flinders and Queen Streets, Melbourne, is being renovated. It  
will be in the style of an old English 'pub' and will be called  
'THE FOX AND HOUNDS'. Yoicks! Tally-ho!

The Royal Arcade, Melbourne, is one hundred years old. The  
site was bought in 1837 for £40, and for £4000 in 1868 when the  
Arcade was built. In 1958, the tenants bought the entire arcade  
for £541,000.

At one time, a fountain and an aquarium were at the Little  
Collins Street end, and later, there were tree-forms in tubs,  
with seats nearby. At the present time, seats are being  
introduced again.

Gaunt's - where you can find how hot or cold the day is - began  
business here in 1856, while Catanach's have been in their place  
since 1898. From 1900 to 1915, there were Turkish Baths in the  
Arcade. The clock, with Gog and Magog, based on London's  
Guildhall, was put in place in 1892. The Lion and the Unicorn  
are on the clock and Father Time is watching.

**LOCAL HISTORY:** On 10th November, 1857, a petition was presented to the Governor, Sir Henry Barkly, by the landowners, graziers and other residents in and around Nunawading. The nearest public pound was about seven miles distant; a suitable reserve of public lands had already been made by the Survey Department in a central locality for the purpose of a pound. This spot was along Boronia Road, almost to the creek, on the south side. The request was therefore made that a public pound be forthwith established in Nunawading. It was signed by 39 men, among the names being Tainton, Lavidge, Delany, Mayne, Yeomans, Fisher, Holland, Lobb. The request was not granted and by 1870, there was still no pound in this part of Nunawading.

#### Felling Trees on the Roads.

There is nothing new about objections to the cutting of trees along main roads, as the following letter shows. The Licensing Agent was the man who issued licences and collected fees for cutting timber, and similar activities on Crown land.

(To the Assistant Commissioner for Lands and Survey.)

Box Hill.

4th October, 1870.

Sir,

I have the honor to request you will be good enough to inform me whether as Crown Lands bailiff I have a right to prosecute persons for cutting timber on the Main Road without a licence.

I beg to inform you that the road I refer to is the main Whitehorse Road and in the Road Board District of Nunawading.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

George Douglass,  
Licensing Agent.

(Mr. Clement Hodgkinson minuted the letter on 12 Oct. 1870)

Inform that the road is under the control of the Road Board of Nunawading. If the Board authorises the removal of trees from the road, the parties engaged in such removal should not be interfered with.

K. Patterson.

**YARRAM:** Some time ago, the Blackburn Tree Preservation Society spent a weekend visiting the Strzelecki Ranges in Gippsland, and, during the overnight stop in Yarram, the local Historical Society entertained the visitors. The President, Mr. Irving, told some of the early history of this area, one of the first settled away from Melbourne, and gave a brief picture of present-day conditions. The Barry's Beach oil-drilling project is something certainly not envisaged in former times. The visitors were also able to inspect old maps of the district.

A locked trunk at the Shire Hall, unopened for many years, was forcibly opened recently, and was found to contain much of the collection of Rev. George Cox, and Anglican minister in Yarram circa 1910-1920. This gentleman followed up research on the history of the district, and his notes were published in 'The Gippsland Standard' during the years 1912-1927. The most interesting of the 'finds' was a book containing 'Brands of Cattle Shipped at Port Albert, taken by John Gow, Inspector of Brands'. Among the pastoralists listed were Lechlan McMillan (discoverer of Gippsland) and Lechlan MacAlister, who sponsored McMillan and held a large area in north Gippsland.

Because of the 1838-40 drought, MacAlister and others sought new pastures and sent out their employees to search. McMillan reached Port Albert, and, with this track established and the



Another historian, Greig, states that, because of the suppression of McMillan's discoveries, Strzlecki took and was given credit for journeys which had been accomplished earlier by McMillan. However, some years later, Mr. Townsend, Govt. Surveyor, was instructed to follow McMillan's course from Port Albert to Monaro, and to re-establish the names given by him, so that of the Count's nomenclature, the names of the Province, Gippsland, and the rivers Latrobe and Perry, and Lake King, alone remain. The others were rightly discarded for names given by the original explorer.

Some dates of settlement:

- 14/2/1841. McMillan arrived on horseback at Old Port.
- 2/3/1841. Brodribb's party landed at Port Albert and built huts, leaving men while the 'Singapore' returned to Melbourne.
- 24/5/1841. 'Jane and Emma' landed stores for McMillan's waiting drays.
- 25/7/1841. 450 ton steamer 'Corsair' arrived with 50 settlers.
- 11/3/1842 'Eliza Jane' sailed for Sydney with first cargo of wool shipped from new settlement.

While there is no contemporary evidence, Mr. T.G. McKenzie, a member of a pioneer family, stated that cattle were shipped to New Zealand for food for the British troops during the Maori wars. Greig, in the Vic. Hist. Magazine, October 1912, stated: 'On 6/3/1842, the steamer Waterwich, 100 tons, left Melbourne for N.Z. via Port Albert. The Waterwich loaded cattle about 11th March for Jas. McFarlane (of Heyfield and Omeo Stations), destination Port Nicholson.' Greig acknowledged having obtained details of this shipping from Rev. Cox and the recollections of John Buntine of Cobram who as a boy was employed for McFarlane.

"The 'Gippsland Guardian', first published 1855, reported shipping at Port Albert, and my recollection is that many cattle were being shipped to N.Z. early in the 1860's, but the trade ceased about 1862 when pleuro broke out in Gippsland herds." However, Hobart seemed always to have been the principal market for cattle shipped out of Port Albert. By the end of 1842, the 'Waterwich' and 'Industry' were laid on as regular traders to Van Diemen's Land with fat cattle and sheep.

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NATIONAL TRUST. EBENEZER MISSION STATION, at Antwerp in north-western Victoria has been classified as "B" by the National Trust - 'highly significant - to be preserved.'

Moravian missionaries travelled from Europe in 1854, and set about bringing Christianity to the aborigines by building this Ebenezer Mission in lonely bush country between Dimboola and Jeparit. The limestone church, now crumbling, was opened on 12th August, 1860.

Since the 1930's, Arkona Lutheran Church had provided a management committee to care for the mission, but some time ago, the National Trust decided to make this place a Trust project. The former committee has now withdrawn, in order that the N.T. could take over as official committee of management. Legal formalities on transfer of land have been proceeding.

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D. MATTINGLEY,  
EDITOR.