



NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY - MARCH 1984
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Dear Members,

Our Christmas meeting was enjoyed by all who came along. A play reading ably presented by Doris Mattingley & performed by Doris, Phyl Johnson, Teddy & Allan Poole, Maurice Chatwin & Andrew Hillier was the highlight of the evening.

Have you sent your annual subscription along to Shirley Barker 14 Tortice Ave. Nunawading 3131. Single \$3.50 Family \$5.00 Newsletter only \$2.00.

LION'S DEN OP. SHOP Blackburn. Our Society has been allocated 2 weeks beginning 8th May this year, let Phyl Johnson know if you have any storage space till then to keep donated items. A roster will be drawn up, please let Phyl know if you're available and how many days you can spare, any friends who might be happy to help are most welcome.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed. 8th Feb. General Meeting & Picnic Tea at Schwerkolt Cottage
6.30 pm Museum. Bring along a picnic tea & a rug or chair to sit on, everyone most welcome.

Wed. 4th Mar. General Meeting at Doris & Grant Mattingley's home
7.45 pm 2 Leons Court Blackburn ph. 8784630

Wed. 11th Apr. General Meeting Coffee Shop Civic Centre Nunawading
7.45 pm Speaker: Mr Gary Presland Archaeologist will speak on the recent Victorian Archaeological Survey which made a study of the Aboriginal Occupation of the Melbourne area, Mr Presland was involved in this study.

100 YEAR OLD SHOUT

Nyngan, that friendly town on the Bogan River, 620 kms northwest of Sydney, just celebrated its centenary, well, actually the 100th anniversary of the railway station around which the town grew.

One local publican came up with a particularly creative idea for his participation. For a whole day he offered a schooner of beer (now \$1.10) for every original penny brought to the bar.

"It's a bit of a risk, I know," he said, "But there's always the chance I'll crack a 1930 penny, worth thousands of dollars!"

From Aust. Bicentennial Newsletter.

Reg. Publication VBH 1468. Edited by Shirley Jones 2 Delhi St. Mitcham V. 3132 ph 8747073. Prepared for postage by Val Fitcher. The Editor would be happy to receive any paragraphs or articles for future Newsletters so please get busy with your pencil & paper.

COACH AND MAIL ROUTES between Melbourne and Lilydale.

For some years before the railway was built coaches passed through Nunawading on the Melbourne-Lilydale route. Even before then there had been regular mail routes through our district, and the form and frequency of them give us clues to the amount of development and population in this area. Here are the documented records of those activities.

Municipal Directory 1881 - Shire of Lillydale - Lilydale is connected to Melbourne by two lines of coaches, via Ringwood and Kew.

- Annual Reports, Postal Department, Parliamentary Papers:-
- 1862 - Mail to and from Kew and Warrandyte by way of Doncaster and to and from Kew and Lilydale, 3 times a week by horseback.
 - 1865 - Mail to and from Kew and Lilydale by way of Box Hill, Doncaster and Warrandyte, 3 times a week by horseback.
 - 1867 - Mail to and from Kew and Lilydale by way of Box Hill. To and from Kew and Warrandyte via Doncaster, 3 times a week by horseback.
 - 1869 - Mail to and from Kew and Lilydale, 6 times a week by horseback.
 - 1870 - Mail to and from Kew and Lilydale by way of Box Hill, 6 days a week, by coach.
 - 1873 - Mail to and from Melbourne and Lilydale, by coach, 6 days a week.
 - 1876 - Mail to and from Melbourne and Lilydale, via Baldwin (?Balwyn), 6 days a week, by coach.

Lilydale Historical Society has a short history of Lilydale, prepared in 1931, in which the coaching history is given as:-

"Robinson & Wagner started a line of coaches running between Lilydale and Melbourne. They sold out to Cobb & Company in 1874. Cobb & Co. had a big depot in Lilydale, with coach lines to Healsville, Marysville and up the Yarra valley.

Mitchell & Co. started a line in opposition in 1880. Competition became so fierce that fares were reduced to 1/- return. Mitchell & Co. then gave up."

The coaches ceased to run when the railway was opened at the end of 1882.

Keith Patterson 1983

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The Victorian Railways issued a "Coach Guide containing particulars of regular Coach & Motor Services between Victorian railway stations & towns outside the railway system", the 'gratuitous' issue 1st July 1925 has some interesting time tables & fares, here are a few examples:-

Bayswater to Hazel Dell (5 miles)	2 coaches daily	2/- single
Bayswater to Olinda (8 miles)	2 coaches daily	4/6 return
Bayswater to Wantirna (2 miles)	no regular conveyance	
Bayswater to Sassafras (6 miles)	2 coaches daily	4/- return
Belgrave to Gilmore's Grn. (8 miles)	Coach to S'fras Sth then 4 miles thence by arrangement with mail contractor.	
Croydon to Bushy Park (4 miles)	Cabs when required.	6/- return
Croydon to Kilsyth (3 miles)	3 coaches daily, 15 mins uphill, 10 down.	
Upper F.Tree Gully to Monbulk	3 coaches daily	2/6 return
Ringwood to Warrandyte (6 miles)	2 Motor coaches daily 30 min "	Day/ret.
Yarra Junction to Black Sands (5 miles)	Tram no set times	7d single
Yarra Junction to Three Bridges (7 miles)	Tram	10d single
Yarra Glen to Dashville (6 miles)	Mon. Wed. Fri.	4/- single
