

NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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APRIL MEETING

On Wednesday, April 11th., at 8.00 p.m., at the Coffee Shop, Civic Centre, Whitehorse Road, Nunawading, we will have as our Guest Speaker Mr. Alan West, Curator in Anthropology at the National Museum of Victoria. His subject is "Victorian Aboriginal Relics". This is an opportunity to hear about this interesting subject, much of which could be linked with our own local history. Don't miss it.

MAY MEETING

May 9th. WORK NIGHT.

Same place, same time, and plenty of work for all. Please come.

1973 PROGRAMME ALTERATIONS

The following alterations have been necessary in order to fit in with the availability of our Guest Speakers:

May 9th. Work Night

July 11th. Guest Speaker Jean Field "Historical Interests Abroad".

August 9th. H. C. Students night at Wesley Hall.

Guest Speaker Dr. Ian Turner of Monash University, "World War 1".

URBAN OR RURAL When the Mayor of Nunawading, Cr. Frank Taylor, gave a talk at our last meeting, although the attendance was small, owing to illness and inclement weather, those present were treated to a very interesting and informal address. It can be assumed our present Mayor is a 'country boy at heart'. The talk was followed by a general discussion on all points brought to light and it was obvious to all that the country and the city, each need each other, in order to make our world the kind of place we want to live in.

POINT NEPEAN TOUR

For those who like to have plenty of notice of proposed tours, we present the itinerary for one we expect to do on Sunday, September 16th.

- 9.30 - 10.00 a.m. Departure.
- 12 Noon. Meet representatives of Nepean Historical Society at Collins Memorial. Short talk on early settlement 1803 and visit Settlers' Graves.
- 1.00 - 2.00 p.m. Stop at Back Beach Sorrento for picnic lunch (each take own lunch). Visit new Coppin's Lookout where magnificent view of Ocean and bay is obtainable.
- 2.15 p.m. Visit Point King where Lieut. Murray first raised the Union Jack and took possession of Port Phillip in the name of King George III.
- 2.30 p.m. Visit Quarantine station (yet to be confirmed) visiting Ticongenga Memorial, Heaton's Memorial, the early cemetery, Cheviot Beach, and the Holt Memorial Plaque.
- 3.30 p.m. Visit Nepean Historical Museum.
- 4.30 p.m. Leave Sorrento and drive home via Arthur's Seat, where a magnificent view of the Western Port and Port Phillip Bay is obtained.
- 6.30 p.m. Expected time of arrival home.

This information has been supplied by the Secretary.

FITZROY GARDENS

We have received from Mrs. Iris Fryer, a very interesting collection of historical facts about the Fitzroy Gardens. With thanks to Mrs. Fryer, they go into our Archives.

Subscriptions are now due. Please send your cheque to the Treasurer.

RESEARCH Recently Mr. Keith Patterson came across the following information on THE FIRST LAND SALES IN NUNAWADING

The area east of Middleborough Road was surveyed and advertised for sale by auction from 1855 onwards. At that time it was the policy of the Government to sell land by auction at a reserve price which was usually £1 an acre for country land, but might occasionally be higher. If land was unsold it was open for "selection", that is, it could be bought by anyone who made a cash offer of the reserve price. The money was used partly for public works and partly to finance an assisted immigration policy.

Allotments in Nunawading varied from 69 acres to 240 acres. At the first sale, 22nd. October, 1855, land offered was all in the southern section. The only buyers were, John Holland of Mulgrave and Charles Burrell of Plenty. Burrell, James Riley of Melbourne, Joseph Wilks of Nunawading, William Jones of Melbourne, and Patrick O'Connor of Sandhurst, selected the remainder within the next month.

Three days later most of the area between Middleborough and Springvale Roads, Koonung Creek and the south side of Canterbury Road were offered. William Williams of Nunawading paid the highest prices, £1/11/- and £1/7/- an acre, for two allotments on the north side of Whitehorse Road, nearest Middleborough Road. William Heading of Kew paid £1/2/- an acre for the next. Thomas Blood of Boroondara, and James Cook of Hawthorn, also paid £1/2/- an acre. James Cousens of Sandridge, bought three allotments and Patrick Riley of Melbourne, bought two. Holland bought two, and John Lobb of Brunswick, bought one.

Before the end of the year almost every remaining allotment had been taken up by Joseph Orr of St. Kilda, who bought four allotments, Patrick Riley, two allotments, John Woods of Collingwood, six allotments, William Morton, three allotments, William Clisby, one allotment, Nelson Polak, one allotment, William Jones, two allotments, William Tranter of Hawthorn, Fred Whitman of Hawthorn, Charles Cook of Nunawading, R. Kefford and Edward Wilton, one allotment each.

CONDOLENCES

During September it was learned, with deep regret, of the sudden death, whilst holidaying in N.S.W., of one of our foundation members, Mrs. Hilda Boxshall. The late Mrs. Boxshall had a remarkable memory, and having lived most of her life in Mitcham, had first hand knowledge of early incidents in the history of Blackburn and Mitcham.

This proved invaluable to the Society at its commencement and again during our Centenary Research. On behalf of the members, sympathy was extended to Mr. Boxshall and his family, at the time of their loss, and we trust that Mr. Boxshall will soon feel like joining us again at our regular meetings and share our common interest.

More recently we heard of the passing of Jean Field's father, and also Eleanor Ronaldson's father. Both these members have received expressions of sympathy from our Society.

ACQUISITIONS

We have been fortunate to receive a 1904 single shot Winchester rifle for our historic collection. The donor Mr. George Nethercote, of Boronia Road, Vermont tells us it was first used in the area bounded by Kooyong and Glenferrie Roads, the present site of Scotch College. We are very grateful to Mr. Nethercote for thinking of our Society when disposing of such an interesting item.

Whilst on the subject of historic items, it is interesting to note in a letter from Korea, that brass vases, urns, incense burners etc., are more likely to be 1,000 years old than 100 years. Many of these are being sold cheaply these days, usually to be melted down to make new articles with an untarnishable finish. We know someone's luggage is going to be overweight on his return home.
