

NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Category B.

Pres. Mrs. J. Webster	Sec. Mr. C. Tilson	Tres. Mr. I. Barker,
674 Canterbury Rd.	8 Pearcedale Gve.	14 Tortice Ave.
VERMONT. 3133.	NUNAWADING. 3131.	NUNAWADING 3131.

OFFICERS FOR 1975

The following office-bearers were elected at the annual meeting last October:-

President	- Mrs. J. Webster, 674 Canterbury Rd., Vermont.
Vice-President	- Mr. M. Chatwin, 44 McCulloch St., Nunawading.
Secretary	- Mr. C. Tilson, 8 Pearcedale Gve., Nunawading.
Treasurer	- Mr. I. Barker, 14 Tortice Ave., Nunawading.
Committee	- Mesdames J. Field, W. Leach, H. Dewhurst.
	- Misses N. McGaw, M. Gibbs, Mr. K. Patterson.

PROGRAMME FOR 1975.

Several organisations which we have asked to provide speakers have not yet replied. Definite arrangements have been made for the following meetings:-

February 12. Mr. Peter Williams of the Maritime Trust will speak of the Cerberus and other notable ships.

March 12. Mr. Brownlea, president of the Genealogical Society, will tell us what material is available for those who wish to prepare a family tree and research their family history.

July 9. Mayor's Night.

October 8. Annual Meeting. Mr. Alan West of the National Museum.

November 12. Mrs. J. Field.

OCTOBER MEETING

Mrs. Pullin, of Ringwood, who has just taken over as Director of the

OCTOBER MEETING contd..

Royal Historical Society described the activities of the Society at our annual meeting, particularly about the regional and biennial conferences and cataloguing of its library. A local society, she said, does not have to have a large membership to do a worthwhile job. Provided it has a keen core it will be an effective organisation.

NOVEMBER MEETING.

Several visitors from the La Trobe Library and Public Records Office helped to make the meeting interesting. Mr. Patterson showed pictures from a tour of Japan, which gave us a good general impression of the country and the life of Japanese.

DECEMBER MEETING.

This was the first occasion on which we have met in December. The programme was largely informal with Mrs. Field and Mr. Patterson describing their family histories. These were nicely contrasting. Mrs. Field concentrated on her mother's family, which can trace its descent back some hundreds of years. They were occupied with pastoral pioneering in Western Australia, mostly in the northern part of the state. Mr. Patterson's ancestors were agricultural labourers, and the family, since coming to Australia, had been mostly engaged in land selection in different parts of Victoria.

EXHIBITIONS.

Two exhibitions have been presented during November and December. When the South Vermont shopping centre was opened the Commercial Bank asked us to present an exhibition there. Mrs. Webster prepared a good selection of material, partly of maps, photographs and documents in our collection, and partly of similar material from some of the old residents in the Vermont area. We expect that copies of some of that material will be added to our collection.

The other exhibition was mainly of clothes dating from about 1900, including a wedding dress, shawl, part of a trousseau of underwear. They were supplied by Mrs. Field and Mrs. Uhl, with some items from Schwerkolt Cottage, and were on display at the Library. A single-furrow plough, made at Foster about 1880, which is part of the agricultural implement display at the Cottage, was included, with pictures showing how such ploughs were used, for the information of those who have never seen them.

MUSEUM BUILDING.

After a discussion with the city engineer about the proposed museum building we are hopeful that it will soon be built. Plans have been prepared and we are at the stage of discussing such details as flooring, cupboards and the arrangement of display space.

THESIS ON TILES.

A copy of a thesis on Ceramic Tiles, by Miss Jennifer Bennetts, has been prepared for the Society. In a general review of the foundation and development of tile manufacture in Melbourne, Miss Bennetts has a long chapter devoted to the Australian Tesselated Tile Works, of Mitcham, and the work of Mr. E.E. Walker. The main impression gained from a reading of the thesis is that the Mitcham works were the main tile works of Australia, and of even greater importance than we have realised.

A QUARRY IN BORONIA ROAD.

What do people near the junction of Morack and Boronia Roads think of their land?

When land in that area was selected during the late 1860's an allotment of about 30 acres was left. The Nunawading District Roads Board asked in March 1869 that land be reserved for a quarry. A note was made on the Lands Department's file, "Mr. Bage's assistant laid out four 80-acre blocks under 42nd section, leaving an allotment of 30 acres in the middle, which is not likely to be taken up by anyone on account of its stony nature. He was informed it would not be any use to anyone unless it was taken up for quarrying purposes. I suggest the Board have it pointed out to them as the one that can be temporarily set aside for quarrying purposes." Two or three years later this allotment was selected by John Brown, the first head teacher of Vermont State School, who tried to combine teaching and farming. After three years he had to make a declaration of what he had done with it. He said he had cultivated only one or two acres because the soil was very light and needed trenching and manuring before anything could be done with it.

INTEREST IN SCHWERKOLT COTTAGE.

Schwerkolt Cottage is having many more visitors now than previously. Some effective publicity seems to have stimulated interest and it is mentioned in a new book of tours produced by the Herald Touring Club.

"PUT THE RABBITS IN".

Extract from a letter received by the Lands Department in 1867 from a man applying for a renewal of a licence to occupy some land at Baringhup,

"PUT THE RABBITS IN" contd..

"I shall have it all fenced with a stone wall five feet high and I have made a dam on it, value £25 and then I shall be able to put the rabbits in."

PIONEERS BURIED IN BOX HILL CEMETERY.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Date of Burial</u>
JOYNER	One of the first owners of the land on the north-west corner of Canterbury and Springvale Roads. He was an elder among the Fisherites. James 82 years Blackburn Methodist	10/10/1904
JOBINS	Took up land at the south-east corner of Canterbury and Terrara Roads, Vermont, about 1868. He was described as a gentleman from Prahran. A member of the Fisherites. Thomas 88 years Wesleyan	1/9/1901
KEENAN	Took up land in what is now Vermont Shopping Centre, about 1868. Margaret Ringwood John Owen 67 years Catholic	29/6/84 28/5/1903
WILLIAMS	Land along Middleborough Road, on both sides of Whitehorse Road, was bought by Williams at the first land sale 1855. As there were several families of Williams these may not be related. Alfred Isaac Nunawading Wesleyan Bertha Child Mitcham Public Samuel Mitcham C. of E. Bessie Emily Mitcham Public	6/3/75 28/3/89 6/12/91 2/1/1903
ANTONIO	The family after which Antonio Park is named. Bought land in Whitehorse Road about the same time as Schwerkolt. F.W. Mitcham C. of E.	2/8/97
McCLELLAND	John McClelland took up land in Whitehorse Road, Mitcham about 1867. John 9½ years Nunawading C. of E.	14/3/77

K. A. PATTERSON,
Editor.