

## NEWSLETTER

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Pres. Mr. W. Shortland      Sec. Mrs. J. Shortland      Treas. Mr. I. Barker,  
96 Loughnan Road,      14 Tortice Ave.  
RINGWOOD. 3124.      NUNAWADING. 3131.

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

President - Mr. W. Shortland  
Vice-President - Mrs. J. Webster  
Secretary - Mrs. J. Shortland  
Treasurer - Mr. I. Barker  
Research Officer - Mr. K. Patterson  
Committee - Mrs. J. Field, Mrs. S. Jones,  
Mrs. P. Johnson, Mr. M. Chatwin,  
Mr. C. Tilson.

Our membership is slowly increasing, but the committee is concerned at small attendances at meetings. We appreciate the interest of those who pay the annual subscription, but it is discouraging when only a small number are at meetings, and it tends to dampen the enthusiasm of those who are carrying the main burden of maintaining our programme of meetings, collecting information about the past, recording and preserving our records, particularly as some of the original members are now becoming old and less energetic.

February 9 - Mr. C. Tilson - Preserving Photographic Records.  
 March 9 - Mayoral Evening - Entertainment by Mitcham Repertory Society  
 April 13 - Mrs. J. Field - Wedgwood  
 May 11 - Members Informal Talk Night  
 June 8 - Film of raising the Vasa (A Swedish warship, which sank off Stockholm more than 200 years ago).

All meetings will be at the Coffee Shop, Civic Centre, except the Mayoral Evening, which will be at the Willis Room, Nunawading Library.

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#### EXCURSIONS PLANNED

Two excursions have been planned for the first half of the year.

VISIT TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE - Wednesday, March 23. See Mrs. Shortland for bookings, a small charge will be made. We will meet outside the main gates of Government House at 1.55 p.m., and will be met by a representative of the National Trust, who will direct us to the State Entrance, and act as guide for a tour of the building. The tour should take between one hour and an hour and a half.

VISIT TO KYNETON - Sunday, April 17. Meet at Hanging Rock for a picnic lunch approximately 11.30 a.m. then go to the Kyneton Museum where we meet representatives of Kyneton Historical Society at 2 p.m. They will then show us over the museum and places of interest.

#### CHARMING BUILDINGS OF CARLTON AND NORTH MELBOURNE

Miss Bamford of Box Hill Historical Society, showed our November meeting a series of excellent photographs she had taken of houses and other buildings in Carlton and North Melbourne. The main feature was the variety of wrought iron decorations, mainly in verandahs and balustrades, but also in fences and gates and sometimes on doors, with motifs ranging from geometrical to floral, animal and bird. She also had photographs of some very pleasing architectural features of modest buildings.

THE HISTORY OF CARDS - Appropriately Mrs. S. Jones described the history of post cards at our December meeting, illustrating her talk with examples of hundreds of different types. Post cards were first used in 1870, and rapidly became very popular, until millions were being posted each year. They were of all types, from personal to scenic and comic. At the height of their popularity tourists who visited a place of interest seemed to spend all their time writing cards rather than looking at views, as if the main interest was in sending a card rather than admiring a view or understanding some local culture or history. The cards she showed were interesting in showing how fashions changed.

#### MUSEUM

The Museum building in the grounds of Schwerkolt Cottage is now close to the lock-up stage, so it is time for us to look out all the items of interest we are holding. We expect that we will choose a date on which everyone holding exhibits can bring them to the building, where they can be stored and sorted, in preparation for exhibition. We would appreciate lists of items held by individual members, so that we can have some idea of what is available and begin to plan how to display them. It would



also be a help if members canvass their friends for any articles they may hold which are suitable for display.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

A reminder. If you have not yet paid your subscription, we would appreciate receiving it shortly.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS

Some photographs of the district taken by members were shown at the last annual meeting. We cannot under-estimate the importance of these, as they give an authentic picture of what our area is like now. This may not mean much to us at present, but they will become very valuable within a few years. We are being constantly asked for photographs showing streets, shops, churches, other buildings, landscapes, etc., as they were some years ago. Changes are constantly occurring, and photographs taken at the time are the best possible record of how they were at some particular date. We collect records of the past, but we need also to preserve records of the present. It will be the past, and history, almost before we realise it.

#### MINING IN NUNAWADING

There have been vague rumours of mining in Nunawading, but it has been hard to find anything definite. As usual, a lead has come from some other line of research. The Ringwood people were inquiring about their antimony mine, and found in a report submitted to Parliament in 1878 a note beneath statistics of antimony ore raised - "From a mine at Nunawading 930 ton 17 cwt were obtained."

#### POST OFFICES IN NUNAWADING

The following are the dates on which post offices in the City of Nunawading were opened:-

##### Official Offices

Blackburn	10 Jan. 1876	- Opened as Blackburn Creek, name changed to Blackburn 12 March 1883.
Vermont	1 Nov. 1881	- Originally named L. L. Vale, name changed to Vermont 1 August 1885.
Mitcham	1 June 1884	- The first post office was at the railway station.
Nunawading	1889	- Known as Tunstall until the name was changed on 1 November 1945.
Blackburn South	2 Feb. 1954	- Was an unofficial office, raised to official status 2 September 1957.

Non-Official Offices.

Blackburn North	2 May 1955
Burwood East	Between 1906 and 1913 - Closed 5 July 1976
Forest Hill	1 July 1949, Closed 3 August 1976
Forest Hill Centre	15 November 1965
Kinkuna	1 October 1950
Laburnum	12 November 1962
Mitcham North	1 August 1960
Nunawading North	2 September 1963, closed 1967
Parkmore	1 November 1962
Rangeview	15 September 1955
Vermont East	1 June 1964
Vermont South	22 October 1974

MEMORIAL WINDOW

"Clink", the newsletter of the Inter-Church Council has a short history of Christ Church, Mitcham. It mentions a memorial window showing the birth of Christ, given in memory of John and Eliza McClelland, who came from Ireland, to settle in Box Hill in 1863. He selected 80 acres in White Horse Road, Mitcham about 1868, which he used as a market garden. They built a wattle and daub house which was extended as the family grew. The property was divided among the children and the house, known as "The Elms", which is more than 100 years old, has been moved to 113 Springfield Road.

K. A. PATTERSON.  
Editor.