

August Meeting - On our syllabus Mr Clive Manly was to speak on "Australiana". He is unable to come, so Mr Fred Payne, a member of a family long connected with this district, will speak on his memories of Burwood, Forest Hill and Vermont

September Meeting - There is a lot of interesting history in the development of the Post Office in Australia, and we will be told about it by Mr D Baker at our meeting in September. Mr. Baker is employed by the Post Office as its historian, keeping its records in order and answering questions from the general public

Visit to Colac - Colac's museum was a revelation to us when we saw it during our visit to the district. They were able to get a grant of \$50,000 and a great deal of other help, including show cases from a large store which was being re-modelled. The area is twice the size of our's and they have plenty of storage space. Many of the articles on display came from the old court house and shire office.

The Colac Historical Society provided us with a soup and casserole lunch, then conducted us around the district, including a visit to the home of the first doctor, which is being restored, and to Provan's museum of old cars and steam engines. We thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the hospitality they provided, and perhaps best of all, found ourselves so well off financially we were able to refund \$1 to everyone on the excursion.

New Life Member - At the June meeting we decided to give a life membership to Mrs Jean Field, one of the first and most active of our membership. Mrs Field has now gone to live in Sorrento

Sailing on the Maribyrnong - The Eastern Historical Societies are arranging a river trip up the Maribyrnong river on 11 November. The cost will be \$2, provided enough people are interested. They would like to know who expect to go

#### Interesting Items in Box Hill History

The history of Box Hill by Andrew Lemon has now been published and as we were so closely connected with it during the early years, some of the facts he has discovered are just as interesting to us. Among them :-

Old Names of Roads Middleborough road was known as Britnell's road, south of White Horse road and Boardman's road in the north. Canterbury road was known as Delaney's road. Both were re-named in 1883.

Burwood was known as Ballyshannessy or Bennett's road.

Highbury road was known as South Boundary or Harkaway road.

W.H.Slater a Council Candidate - William Slater, better-known as a herb grower, was a Council candidate twice. In 1883 he lost to William Ellingworth, an outstanding personality of Box Hill. Three years later he opposed, with Ellingworth's support, another outstanding personality, Alfred Rawlings. The vote was tied, and Ellingworth, as returning officer, tossed a coin, which was won by Rawlings.

Slater in Box Hill - William Slater was, in 1863, renting land from the Toogoods, west of Middleborough road

Another Eucalyptus Distiller - Pierce Boardman distilled eucalyptus, carraway, melaleuca and peppermint oils in 1863, on land east of Middleborough road, on Koomung Creek

Both Slater and Boardman won prizes in the Dublin Exhibition of 1865.

July Newsletter - We apologise for our failure to send out the Newsletter for July. The duplication problem

Crazy Whist - Mrs Webster has made her home available for a Crazy Whist Night on 14 October. Cost £1 a head, plus a small plate of supper

Case For Clothes - Clothes on display in the museum are in danger of deterioration because they have no protection against dust. We intend to have a glass case made to protect them. The cost is likely to be at least £500 and plans are being prepared.

Trading Table - A reminder We have a trading table at each meeting. Cakes, pot-plants, etc are the items we would like to have each month

Sorrento Celebrations - It is just 175 years since the first attempted settlement in Victoria and Sorrento is celebrating in style on Saturday and Sunday 14 and 15 October. Proceedings will begin at 8.30 a.m. on Saturday, when a Colonial Market will open in the Town Centre. This will be followed by a Commemoration Ceremony at noon. After that, there will be time for refreshments, meeting old friends and reminiscing before a return of direct descendants of the first settlers to the Collins Memorial at 3.30 p.m. After that, prepare for the First Settlers Ball, from 8.30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday will be a quieter day because the only event on the official programme is a Thanksgiving Service at Collins Memorial at 2 p.m.

Trip Up The Meribyrnong - The cost of the river trip on 11 November has been revised. It will now be £5.50. The voyage will start in the city at 9 a.m. and is expected to return about 1 p.m.

It Was a Stick-Up - Regrettably, because of our lack of romantic tales, we have no bushrangers in Lunawading, but Ringwood has discovered some sort of imitation of one. It has a copy of the "Herald" 7 March 1867, containing an account of an armed hold-up. The previous Monday morning a young man, William Parsons, 18 years described as "of rather foolish appearance", held up a dray near the Ringwood Arms and robbed the driver of £1. He got nothing from another dray man, only 50 yards away and a third shored fight. In a scuffle Parsons shot himself in the chin, then was chased and caught. Mounted Constable Purcell, of Lunawading placed him under arrest. Parsons had said he intended to hold up every dray from Ringwood to Woods Point. It seems Parsons was not enough of a professional to be a good bushranger. Constable Purcell was the first constable in Lunawading, and had his headquarters where the Box Hill High School and Cemetery are now. Ringwood to Box Hill is a long way to go for a policeman, so Parsons should have been reasonably safe. He must have been a bungling amateur. Pity, but the drivers of the drays were probably relieved that his career was so short.

Tax Dodging - Another report in the same Herald reads:- "Several parties were summoned by the Lunawading Road Board for evading the toll on Ballyshanassy road. The first case was dismissed for want of sufficient evidence. In the second case a conviction was obtained, but as the affair appeared to be merely a dispute between the local body and certain of the ratepayers, a nominal fine of 5/- was imposed. The remaining charges were withdrawn."

August Meeting - On our syllabus Mr Clive Manly was to speak on "Australiana". He is unable to come, so Mr Fred Payne, a member of a family long connected with this district, will speak on his memories of Burwood, Forest Hill and Vermont

September Meeting - There is a lot of interesting history in the development of the Post Office in Australia, and we will be told about it by Mr D Baker at our meeting in September. Mr. Baker is employed by the Post Office as its historian, keeping its records in order and answering questions from the general public.

Visit to Colac - Colac's museum was a revelation to us when we saw it during our visit to the district. They were able to get a grant of \$50,000 and a great deal of other help, including show cases from a large store which was being re-modelled. The area is twice the size of our's and they have plenty of storage space. Many of the articles on display came from the old court house and shire office.

The Colac Historical Society provided us with a soup and casserole lunch, then conducted us around the district, including a visit to the home of the first doctor, which is being restored, and to Provan's museum of old cars and steam engines. We thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the hospitality they provided, and perhaps best of all, found ourselves so well off financially we were able to refund \$1 to everyone on the excursion.

New Life Member - At the June meeting we decided to give a life membership to Mrs Jean Field, one of the first and most active of our membership. Mrs Field has now gone to live in Sorrento

Sailing on the Maribyrnong - The Eastern Historical Societies are arranging a river trip up the Maribyrnong river on 11 November. The cost will be \$2, provided enough people are interested. They would like to know who expect to go

#### Interesting Items in Box Hill History

The history of Box Hill by Andrew Lemon has now been published and as we were so closely connected with it during the early years, some of the facts he has discovered are just as interesting to us. Among them :-

Old Names of Roads Middleborough road was known as Britnell's road, south of White Horse road and Boardman's road in the north. Canterbury road was known as Delaney's road. Both were re-named in 1885.

Burwood was known as Ballyshannessy or Bennett's road. Highbury road was known as South Boundary or Harkaway road.

W.H.Slater a Council Candidate - William Slater, better-known as a herb grower, was a Council candidate twice. In 1883 he lost to William Ellingworth, an outstanding personality of Box Hill. Three years later he opposed, with Ellingworth's support, another outstanding personality, Alfred Rawlings. The vote was tied, and Ellingworth, as returning officer, tossed a coin, which was won by Rawlings.

Slater in Box Hill - William Slater was, in 1863, renting land from the Toogoods, west of Middleborough road

Another Eucalyptus Distiller - Pierce Boardman distilled eucalyptus, carraway, melaleuca and peppermint oils in 1863, on land east of Middleborough road, on Koonung Creek

Both Slater and Boardman won prizes in the Dublin Exhibition of 1865.

July Newsletter - We apologise for our failure to send out the Newsletter for July. The duplicating machine was out of order and it was impossible to produce it

Crazy Whist - Mrs Webster has made her home available for a Crazy Whist Night on 14 October. Cost £1 a head, plus a small plate of supper

Case For Clothes - Clothes on display in the museum are in danger of deterioration because they have no protection against dust. We intend to have a glass case made to protect them. The cost is likely to be at least £500 and plans are being prepared.

Trading Table - A reminder We have a trading table at each meeting. Cakes, pot-plants, etc are the items we would like to have each month

Sorrento Celebrations - It is just 175 years since the first attempted settlement in Victoria and Sorrento is celebrating in style on Saturday and Sunday 14 and 15 October. Proceedings will begin at 8.30 a.m. on Saturday, when a Colonial Market will open in the Town Centre. This will be followed by a Commemoration Ceremony at noon. After that, there will be time for refreshments, meeting old friends and reminiscing before a return of direct descendants of the first settlers to the Collins Memorial at 3.30 p.m. After that, prepare for the First Settlers Ball, from 8.30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday will be a quieter day because the only event on the official programme is a Thanksgiving Service at Collins Memorial at 2 p.m.

Trip Up The Meribyrnong - The cost of the river trip on 11 November has been revised. It will now be £5.50. The voyage will start in the city at 9 a.m. and is expected to return about 1 p.m.

It Was a Stick-Up - Regrettably, because of our lack of romantic tales, we have no bushrangers in Lunawading, but Ringwood has discovered some sort of imitation of one. It was a copy of the "Herald" 7 March 1867, containing an account of an armed hold-up. The previous Monday morning a young man, William Parsons, 18 years described as "of rather foolish appearance", held up a dray near the Ringwood Arms and robbed the driver of £1. He got nothing from another dray man, only 50 yards away and a third showed fight. In a scuffle Parsons shot himself in the chin, then was chased and caught. Mounted Constable Purcell, of Lunawading placed him under arrest. Parsons had said he intended to hold up every dray from Ringwood to Woods Point. It seems Parsons was not enough of a professional to be a good bushranger. Constable Purcell was the first constable in Lunawading, and had his headquarters where the Box Hill High School and Cemetery are now. Ringwood to Box Hill is a long way to go for a policeman, so Parsons should have been reasonably safe. He must have been a bungling amateur. Pity, but the drivers of the drays were probably relieved that his career was so short.

Tax Dodging - Another report in the same Herald reads:- "Several parties were summoned by the Lunawading Road Board for evading the toll on Ballyshanassy road. The first case was dismissed for want of sufficient evidence. In the second case a conviction was obtained, but as the affair appeared to be merely a dispute between the local body and certain of the ratepayers, a nominal fine of 5/- was imposed. The remaining charges were withdrawn."

878-2880.

NUNAVADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

August 1978

Price 5 cents

Number 73

Registered for transmission by post as a periodical Category B

Pres. - Mr W. Shortland    Sec. - Mrs A Poole    Treas. - Mrs S. Barker  
96 Loughnan road    6 Lernes st.,    14 Tortice Ave  
Ringwood, 3134    Forest Hill, 3131    Nunavading 3131

"Polly Woodside" - The ship "Polly Woodside", now being restored in Melbourne, was a priceless technical example, said Mr Darroch of the National Trust, at our June meeting. Its restoration had revived old crafts, such as rigging and rope-splicing, which were in danger of being forgotten. Possibly they may be revived if a shortage of oil forces a return to some form of sail. The ship was of outstanding beauty, built of iron in Belfast in 1885 when building of such ships was at its peak. The British merchant fleet was the world leader because of its well-built ships and highly-trained crews.

Mrs. Marianne Woodside (known as "Polly") launched the ship, which was designed for the River Plate trade, being small enough to sail up the river. Until 1904 it remained in British ownership, and rounded Cape Horn 16 times. It was then sold to New Zealand, and re-named the Rona. It usually traded between New Zealand and Australia, sometimes also to the U.S.A., where it lost its figurehead in a collision.

In 1925 it was towed to Melbourne as a dismantled hulk. After some years coaling and bunkering ships in Melbourne it was sent to New Guinea in 1943 as an oil bunker.

After another 22 years in Melbourne as a hulk it was given to the National Trust in 1968.

When the Trust began to restore the ship it found all plans, ~~where~~ plans and logs had disappeared and all previous captains were dead, so it had only very sketchy information to work with.

Virtually the whole ship had to be re-built and re-designed. A lot of the work had to be experimental as they ~~were~~ worked out how decks and fittings were joined together. Men with normally conflicting interests worked together, notably big companies and seamen, as they adapted modern techniques and methods to the shape and size of the hull, or recalling half-forgotten skill and knowledge about fitting and rigging sailing ships. Voluntary work on the ship was estimated to be worth \$2,000,000.

Conditions for crews on such ships were very hard. The trade was highly competitive, and ships were designed to carry crews as small as possible in conditions of accommodation and victualling which were the minimum allowed by law.

"White Australia" - The H.S.C. night in July was different from any other we have had. Mr. Don Gibb, of Rusden State College, speaking about the development of the White Australia policy, illustrated his talk with slides of cartoons in the "Bulletin" and "Boomerang", showing how Australians thought about Chinese who came to the gold fields. He emphasised that although both were radical journals representing a working men's point of view, they were expressing ideas which were to be found in the community as a whole.

878-2820.

NUMAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

August 1978

Price 5 cents

Number 73

Registered for transmission by post as a periodical Category B

Pres - Mr W. Shortland   Sec. - Mrs A Poole   Treas. - Mrs S. Barker  
96 Loughnan road   6 Lernes st.,   14 Tortice Ave  
Ringwood, 3134   Forest Hill, 3131   Nunawading 3131

"Polly Woodside" - The ship "Polly Woodside", now being restored in Melbourne, was a priceless technical example, said Mr Darroch of the National Trust, at our June meeting. Its restoration had revived old crafts, such as rigging and rope-splicing, which were in danger of being forgotten. Possibly they may be revived if a shortage of oil forces a return to some form of sail. The ship was of outstanding beauty, built of iron in Belfast in 1885 when building of such ships was at its peak. The British merchant fleet was the world leader because of its well-built ships and highly-trained crews.

Mrs. Marianne Woodside (known as "Polly") launched the ship, which was designed for the River Plate trade, being small enough to sail up the river. Until 1904 it remained in British ownership, and rounded Cape Horn 16 times. It was then sold to New Zealand, and re-named the Rona. It usually traded between New Zealand and Australia, sometimes also to the U.S.A., where it lost its figurehead in a collision.

In 1925 it was towed to Melbourne as a dismantled hulk. After some years coaling and bunkering ships in Melbourne it was sent to New Guinea in 1943 as an oil bunker.

After another 22 years in Melbourne as a hulk it was given to the National Trust in 1968.

When the Trust began to restore the ship it found all plans, ~~XXXXX~~ papers and logs had disappeared and all previous captains were dead, so it had only very sketchy information to work with. Virtually the whole ship had to be re-built and re-designed. A lot of the work had to be experimental as they ~~XXXX~~ worked out how decks and fittings were joined together. Men with normally conflicting interests worked together, notably big companies and seamen, as they adapted modern techniques and methods to the shape and size of the hull, or recalling half-forgotten skill and knowledge about fitting and rigging sailing ships. Voluntary work on the ship was estimated to be worth \$2,000,000. Conditions for crews on such ships were very hard. The trade was highly competitive, and ships were designed to carry crews as small as possible in conditions of accommodation and victualling which were the minimum allowed by law.

"White Australia" - The H.S.C. night in July was different from any other we have had. Mr. Don Gibb, of Rusden State College, speaking about the development of the White Australia policy, illustrated his talk with slides of cartoons in the "Bulletin" and "Doomerang", showing how Australians thought about Chinese who came to the gold fields. He emphasised that although both were radical journals representing a working men's point of view, they were expressing ideas which were to be found in the community as a whole.