

NUNAWADING HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 1978.

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SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Annual General Meeting of the Nunawading Historical Society was held on Wednesday, 11th October in the Coffee Shop at the Civic Centre, Nunawading. The following members were duly elected as the Office Bearers and Committee for the ensuing year:-

PRESIDENT:	(Mrs) Jean Webster	874-4210	
VICE-PRESIDENT:	(Mrs) S. Jones		
SECRETARY:	(Mrs) E. Poole	878-2880	
TREASURER:	(Mrs) S. Barker		
COMMITTEE:	Mrs. N. Leach	Mrs. P. Johnson	Mr. K. Patterson
	Mr. M. Chatwin	Mr. W. Spooner	
ARCHIVIST:	Mr. Keith Patterson		
NEWS LETTER EDITOR:	Mrs. Jean Webster		
REPRESENTATIVE TO EASTERN HISTORICAL SOCIETIES:	Mr. M. Chatwin		
MUSEUM COMMITTEE:	Mrs. D. Mattingley,	Mr. M. Chatwin,	Mr. K. Patterson

Mr. Maurie Chatwin chaired the meeting for the election of the above and at the same time proposed a vote of thanks to all outgoing office bearers. Special reference was made to the work of the outgoing President, Mr. Warwick Shortland, who had ably led the Society for the past 2 years, particularly as he carried out these duties for quite some time without the assistance of a Secretary. The vote of thanks to Warwick was carried with acclamation.

We were all sorry to hear of the argument Harold Bates had with a saw, and hope he will soon be fully recovered.

Your Secretary would like to wish all members a Happy and Healthy Christmas.

Talking of Christmas brings to mind presents. Things to buy, things to sell and that brings me in mind of our TRADING TABLE. It operates at every meeting and any donation of saleable items is greatly appreciated.

Dear Members,

In undertaking the preparation of your Newsletter I am so fully aware that I lack the background knowledge of our previous editor. Mr. Keith Patterson is a hard act to follow and so I ask you to bear with me while the new newsletter takes shape. At the same time I seek your assistance.

Have you recently visited a place of Historical interest?

Have you read a book, article, etc. about some character from History? Would you like to share your enjoyment with fellow members?

Perhaps you have a pet historic interest and would be prepared to do some research, and then write an article for one of our future issues.

This is your newsletter and the greatest number of contributors the greater the interest for us all.

Sincerely,

Jean Webster.

T H E A . N . A .

Turn on your T.V. or radio and likely as not you'll hear a commercial for A.N.A., no doubt most of you know that these initials stand for the Australian Natives Association, but what of its history?

In 1880 no matter how rich, how powerful, or famous a man may be, unless he was a "native born" Australian, he was not eligible for membership of the Australian Natives Association. This rigid rule was upsetting to many colonists, especially those who had arrived in the colony as very young children, but the many attempts made to modify this rule were defeated. The Association was devoted to the cultivation of an Australian way of life, and, therefore, they must awake a national consciousness in those who knew no other mother land.

The high birthrate in the 1860's made possible the massive recruitment that took place 20 years later. Membership and the number of branches increased from 654 members in 14 branches in 1882 to 4,414 members in the 586 branches in 1886. Its greatest membership was in Victoria, particularly in the old gold mining areas, such as Ballarat. The "generation gap", as we would call it today, was so noticeable that it was perhaps natural for the "natives" to join together in an association. It differed from English Friendly Societies in that it had no regalia, no secret signs or password and all its meetings were open to the public.

The Association's first article was that "it was an Association for moral, social, and intellectual improvement", and at its meetings ambitious young men were encouraged to read and speak in public. The topics were rarely different from those debated in other English and Australian improvement societies and no doubt included the great events of the period. Federation, and the development of colonial and Commonwealth immigration restriction policies in the period 1885 to 1901 I'm sure would have been two topics very much to the fore.

The A.N.A. became a political training ground with many of its members moving into local government. A number stood for parliament; among these was the Chief President of the Association in 1883, R. H. Hart. Although the Board of Directors continually denied that the Association was a political organ, it could not be denied that its members were politically minded, and through the Association they gained the confidence and developed the necessary skills to ensure that they were not only heard but listened to. Men with strong associations with the "Natives" spoke and wrote on issues of the day. In 1882 George Mendall wrote an article "Australia for the Australians" and this became the slogan adopted by the "Bulletin" in 1888.

During 1887 there was a strong surge of public feeling, a pride in Australia and in the people who were identifying themselves as Australians. There was also a growing criticism of the country's relationship with Britain. The young men of the Association were looking for ways of expressing their Australian distinctiveness. More stories and poems with Australian themes were read and published. For instance, Henry Lawson's 'Faces in the Street', which exposed the social injustices of the late 1880's. Branch socials of the Association featured all Australian programmes, ballrooms were decorated with gum tips, Australian flags, wild flowers and Aboriginal relics. An Australian anthem was being discussed and January 26th was promoted as the national holiday.

Overall the Association respected the British Empire and were proud of being Australians of "solid British stock". However, the British heritage was the glorious past, the Australian nationality the glorious future. By 1890 this concept was beginning to be accepted throughout the whole of our continent.

FAMILY HISTORY.

Many of our members are preparing their family histories. Are you? Perhaps you are not really interested and so have tended to overlook the recording of your family history as you know it. You may not be interested now, but what of later? What of your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews. Most of us have a budding historian lurking in the background. Why not sit down and write out the details of your family, your parents and even grandparents. Do the same for your husband/wife's side of the family. Start with yourself.

Full name
 Place and Date of Birth.....
 Any brothers or sisters (names, etc.)
 Your Parents Name
 Place and Date of Birth
 Place and Date of Marriage

(Make a special note if it is a second marriage, especially if there are children by this marriage. Personally I found this most confusing when I discovered three lots of grandparents had been married twice!)

If deceased, Place, Date of Death & place of Burial.

File the information with your other personal papers for further reference. Who knows! In preparing this information you may become involved in what can prove to be an absorbing hobby. For those already involved I found a card system, with a card for each family member of great value.

LOOK AT MELBOURNE.

The site of Melbourne was first seen by white men when a survey party led by Grimes in 1803 mapped the shore of Port Phillip Bay. One member of the party noted that it was a good site for a town.

In 1835 John Batman rowed by the Maribyrnong River, thinking it was the main stream. He explored the Yarra up to the bar of rock which formed a small waterfall at the foot of what is now Queen Street. Boats and small ships could ascend the river to that point, and as the falls stopped the tide, fresh water was readily available.

Owing to the geography of the area early developments were all in the present western part of the city. The central and eastern parts did not develop until the building of Prince's Bridge in the early 1850's. Its site was determined partly by the character of the grounds south of the river, where large areas were swampy, and partly by the importance of the direct route to the important settlement of Brighton.

ELIZABETH STREET was known to the colonists of the 1830's as River Townsend. For here a creek flowed along the path of the present roadway on its way to the Yarra in the vicinity of the present Flinders Street intersection. Flooding was a constant problem and many people and cattle were drowned. Even today, basements of some of our city buildings are sometimes flooded after torrential rain. The water in the Yarra above the falls was the only fresh water available but especially high tides would at times make this salt water. So, in 1840, Melbourne Waterworks sank wells at the end of Elizabeth Street and some private wells were put there also. Water sellers became a common sight. By 1849, Jas. Blackburn established pumps and filter beds near Elizabeth Street intersection which produced bulk quantities of purer water. In 1857, his Yan Yean scheme began to operate and the opening was celebrated by a procession of temperance societies, plumbers and firemen.

SAMUEL BUTLER, 1833 - 1902, said:-

*God cannot alter the past:
 That is why he is obliged to connive
 at the existence of historians.*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

13th December:

General Meeting - Coffee Shop.

Slides on "Oberammergau Passion Play"
to be shown by Mrs. I. Lang.

1979.

14th February:

General Meeting - Coffee Shop.

Miss Bronwyn Jones to show slides on
"Inca Ruins in South America".

18th February:

Display and Sale of Paintings by
Mitcham Arts Group in the grounds of
"Schwerkolt Cottage".

14th March:

General Meeting - Coffee Shop.

Mr. Maurie Chatwin to speak on
"Welsh Castles".

NOTICE OF MOTION to alter the Constitution of the Nunawading
Historical Society is hereby given:

The Motion reads:-

*"That the immediate Past President of the Nunawading Historical
Society be eligible to sit on the Committee for a period of 12 months,
if he/she so desires".*

Any objection to this motion must be made in writing to the Secretary
at least 3 days before the next general meeting on 13th December, 1978.

The Committee and Office Bearers extend to all members and
readers the Compliments of the Season.

THE NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/9/78.

<u>RECEIPTS</u>		<u>PAYMENTS</u>	
	\$ C		\$ C
SCRIPTIONS (FAMILY 16, ADULTS 18)	104.50	HIRE OF HALLS (MEETINGS)	95.50
SCRIPTIONS IN ADVANCE FOR 1978-9 -2 ADULTS	5.00	NEWSLETTER (PRINTING \$26.38, POSTAGE \$41.60)	67.98
UAL GRANT FROM CITY OF NUNAWADING	250.00	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA	10.00
ES AT MUSEUM	275.05	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS EASTERN DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETIES	3.00
ATION TO MUSEUM	55.00	ADVERTISING OF MUSEUM EAST. DIST. HIST. PAMPHLET	10.00
E OF BOOKS (HISTORIES OF NUNAWADING & BLACKBURN)	25.90	DELEGATES EXPENSES TO REGIONAL SEMINAR	10.00
E OF BOOKS "FOLLY WOODSIDE"	60.00	STATIONARY, PHONE, STAMPS	66.53
CEEDS FROM TRADING TABLE	13.85	MUSEUM EXPENSES	
CEEDS FROM SPECIAL EFFORT	119.00	SHOWCASES, DISPLAY CABINETS & NAME BOARDS	300.96
TOUR TO MORNINGTON	137.70	ITEMS FOR SALE AT MUSEUM (FROM NATIONAL GALLERY & LIBRARY COUNCIL, NATIONAL MUSEUM)	130.74
TOUR TO COLAC	393.65	CHAIRS, CROCKERY, CUTLERY, CATERING	73.82
FIT FROM MITCHAM REP. VISIT	31.20	LOWDEN PUBLISHING "FOLLY WOODSIDE" BOOKS	39.85
ANK INTEREST	4.38	CITY OF NUNAWADING - COPIES "HISTORY OF NUNAWADING" - "HISTORY OF BLACKBURN"	48.00
		BUS TOUR OF MORNINGTON	
		DRIVERS BUS SERVICE	165.00
		ENTRANCE FEES, NATIONAL TRUST	12.80
		DONATION, MORNINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY	10.00
		BUS TOUR OF COLAC	
		WILLIS BUS SERVICE	230.00
		REFUNDS, LUNCH, MUSEUM ENTRANCE FEES & EXPENSES	107.00
		BANK INTEREST CHARGE ON SHORT-TERM LOAN (MUSEUM OPENING)	2.00
		EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	92.05
			<u>1475.23</u>

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SUBSCRIPTIONS IN ADVANCE FOR 1978-9 -2 ADULTS	5.00	
ANNUAL GRANT FROM CITY OF NUNAWADING	250.00	
SALES AT MUSEUM	275.05	
DONATION TO MUSEUM	55.00	
SALE OF BOOKS (HISTORIES OF NUNAWADING & BLACKBURN)	25.90	
SALE OF BOOKS "FOLLY WOODSIDE"	60.00	
PROCEEDS FROM TRADING TABLE	13.85	
PROCEEDS FROM SPECIAL EFFORT	119.00	
BUS TOUR TO MORNINGTON	137.70	
BUS TOUR TO COLAC	393.65	
PROFIT FROM MITCHAM REP. VISIT	31.20	
BANK INTEREST	4.38	
	1475.23	

THE NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1978.

BALANCE B/F 1ST OCTOBER, 1977	252.05		CASH AT BANK	640.18
			PLUS DEPOSIT NOT CREDITED	<u>12.00</u>
PLUS SURPLUS FOR CURRENT YEAR	92.05			652.18
			LESS UNPRESENTED CHEQUES	<u>308.08</u>
				<u>\$344.10</u>

(Sgd.) I. BARKER.
Hon. Treasurer.

Kevin P. Neander, being the Auditor duly appointed, hereby certify that I have examined the books, vouchers and accounts of the above named Society, and, in my opinion, the above statement of Receipts and Expenditure reflects a true and fair view of the affairs of the Society at that date.

ladburn, 6th October, 1978.

(Sgd.) (K.F. NEANDER)
A.A.S.A., R.C.A., M.A.T.A.,
Hon. Auditor.