

NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

NEWSLETTER.  
MAY - JUNE, 1980.

Price, 5c.  
Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission by post  
as a Periodical. Category "B".

PRESIDENT & EDITOR.

Mrs. Jean Webster,  
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874-4210

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NUNAWADING.  
878-4086

TREASURER.

Mrs. S. Barker  
14 Tortice St.,  
NUNAWADING.

The next meeting of the Nunawading Historical Society will be held on  
14th May at 8 p.m. in the Willis Room, Civic Centre, Nunawading.  
Our Guest Speaker will be:-

Mr. Ken Ince, a foundation Vice-President of this Society,  
and his subject "The History of Military Medals".

11th JUNE: Mr. Keith Patterson will tell us of his research into the  
"Land Booms".

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WELCOMED AT ANY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY.

At the April meeting of the Society Mr. Clive Tilson offered to act as  
Secretary of the Society for the remainder of this year. His offer was gratefully  
accepted and he was officially voted into Office.

A small presentation was made to Teddy and Allan Poole as a thank you  
for Teddy's work as Secretary and to Allan for his unfailing support. We are going  
to miss them both during their stay overseas but I know all our members join with me  
in wishing them a wonderful holiday and look forward to hearing all about it on their  
return.

We were pleased to welcome 2 new members at the April Meeting, Jan  
Mitchell and Judy Robley.

A great deal of discussion was stimulated by the beautiful clothing pre-  
sented to the Society by Mrs. Dewhurst. Everything was in excellent condition and  
included Edwardian Night attire - Camisoles (a woman's loose underwaist or corset  
cover) and baby's wear. There was also an attractive Parasol and two crystal  
Dressing Table pieces among the collection which had belonged to Mrs. Dewhurst's mother.  
We are most grateful for such a lovely donation to our Society and would remind other  
members of the community that donations of suitable items are sort continually.

R E S E A R C H.

Could all members please return the "Family Research Forms" no later  
than the MAY MEETING so that these can be returned to the Royal Historical Society  
of Victoria.

THE VICTORIAN MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY AND GAZETTEER FOR 1879 gives us some interesting  
facts and describes the following places as they were then:-

NUNAWADING SHIRE.

County Bourke, Electoral District, South Bourke; Proclaimed a District, 7th Aug. 1857;  
a Shire, 4th May, 1872.

Area: 24 square miles; Population, 1391; Ratepayers on Roll, 360;  
Annual Value, 12,715 pounds; Revenue 2,492 pounds; Rate 1 shilling in the Pound.  
Revenue from licences, 156 pounds.

President: William Ellingsworth, J.P.

Councillors:

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<u>North Riding</u>	<u>Retires</u>	<u>Centre Riding</u>	<u>Retires</u>
George G. Miller	Aug. 1879	Ellis Collings	Aug. 1879
Edward Crossman	Aug. 1880	Samuel Pope	Aug. 1880
Wm. Ellingsworth	Aug. 1881	P. J. Delany	Aug. 1881

Council meets at Shire Hall on Mondays once a month at 5 p.m. Secretary attends at Shire Hall on Wednesdays and Saturdays.



NUNAWADING SHIRE (Cont.)Officers.

Secretary, Collector and Collector of Statistics -	P. McCormick
Treasurer -	John Toon
Engineer -	H. N. Bride
Government Auditor -	J. G. Dare
Local Auditor -	Alfred Padgham
Standing Counsel -	W. J. Gilchrist
Bankers -	English, Scottish and Australian Chartered Bank.
Post Master -	W. F. Clarke, Ballyshanassy
Post Town -	Ballyshanassy
Magistrates -	Wm. Ellingsworth, William Witt and J. Keogh, J.P's.
Sessions -	Hawthorn and Kew
Electoral Registrar -	William Clisby
Nature of Country -	Agricultural
Townships in Shire -	Nunawading and Ballyshanassy.

Nunawading is an agricultural district about 11 miles East of Melbourne. It has a Post Office and a branch of an insurance company. 1373 acres are under tillage.

Ballyshanassy, a postal village, 9½ miles East of Melbourne. It is environed by farms and has a state school, a tannery and brick and tile works. There is one hotel. Villa residences are rapidly springing up in the neighbourhood. Population 106.

LILLYDALE SHIRE.

Counties, Evelyn and Mornington; Electoral Districts, Evelyn and Mornington; Proclaimed a District, 19th September, 1856; A Shire, 16th February, 1872.

Area, 200 square miles, Population, 2000; Ratepayers on Roll, 433; Ratepayers in Rate Book, 656; Annual Value, 21,450 pounds; Revenue, 3470 pounds; Rate, 1s.3d. in the Pound; Revenue from Licences, 160 pounds.

LILLYDALE, the largest township in the county of Evelyn, a telegraph, saving's bank and money order office, is situated on the Olinda or Running Creek, 25 miles east of Melbourne, on the direct coach route to Healesville, Fernshaw and Marysville, also to Wandin and Woori Yallock. Regular daily communication with Melbourne via antimony mines, Ringwood and Kew, by two lines of coaches. The district generally is of a hilly nature, interspersed with flats, those situated in the valley of the Running Creek and Yarra being of a rich alluvial nature. The lime kilns recently built by an enterprising landowner have produced lime pronounced to be of a quality superior to anything in the colony. The limestone is quarried from the side of a hill half a mile distant from the township, the whole hill covering an area of about 60 acres, is considered to be one solid mass of limestone; near the foot of the hill is situated a natural cave 130 feet in depth to where the water is reached, consisting of limestone only, from top to bottom. The antimony mines are situated near the main road in Ringwood. There is not much land under cultivation, grazing and dairy farming being the principal occupations followed. There is a branch of one bank in the town, three hotels, also four churches, English, Wesleyan, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic, a State School and a saw mill. The district is mainly a grain, potato, and vine-growing one; of the last mentioned 450 acres are under cultivation. Population, 350.

COLLINGWOOD CITY.

County, East Bourke; Electoral Districts, Collingwood and North Fitzroy; Proclaimed, April, 1855.

COLLINGWOOD is a municipality and suburb of Melbourne, lying between the city and the Yarra Yarra river, to the N.E. It has now arrived at the dignity of a city, having a council chamber, banks, numerous churches and public buildings. It is known as the Pioneer municipality of Victoria, having been the first local body incorporated after Melbourne and Geelong. The city has a frontage to the River Yarra Yarra of about five miles. Although there is still a considerable extent of unoccupied land, the locality is yearly improving, and the wooden buildings of early days are fast giving way to more substantial structures. Smith Street is the principal business



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COLLINGWOOD (Cont.).

There are two local papers. The Royal Albert Institute and Free Library, the foundation stone of which was laid by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, are possessed of 1952 volumes. There is a telegraph, money order and savings bank office there.

FITZROY CITY.

County Bourne, Electoral District, Fitzroy; Proclaimed a Municipality, 9th Sept. 1858  
Town, 23rd Dec., 1870, City, 1st Feb. 1878.

FITZROY, one of the most important suburban cities, is situated N. E. of Melbourne, adjoining Collingwood. One of the pleasantest parts of the city are the gardens bearing the same name. On the south side, a spacious reserve that, under judicious treatment, has been transformed from a waste place of earth to a garden of roses, and water-courses throughout the undulating land have been utilized and now present a most pleasing appearance. There are also the Duke of Edinburgh Gardens, cricket and bowling grounds, etc. There are 400 dwellings, numerous churches, including a convent, two local papers, 4 banks, gas works supplying an extensive district, factories of all types. A New Town Hall, Corinthian style, is a commanding and ornamental addition to the city. The replacement of the obnoxious channel running through the north of the city, the Reilly Street Drain, is now Alexandra Pde., and likely to become one of the ornaments of the City.

HOUSING TYPES from "TRUST NEWS"

It is becoming increasingly popular for the young and not so young to seek a home in the inner suburbs. Not for them the frustrations of train travel. Despite the hard work of restoration they see the rewards as well worth while. These suburbs have an atmosphere that cannot be repeated in outer suburbs. Theatres, restaurants, are all within walking distance.

It was in 1870's that housing entered a new phase in the Australian colonies. With the arrival of railway transport, working class people spread further from the heart of the cities and towns and no longer could dwelling areas be simply divided into town or country. The suburban home had come into existence and the surveyors drew up row after row of ¼ acre allotments, sometimes without even having seen the land. The new dwellings were cheaper, smaller versions of those residences the owners saw, but could never hope to own. The land usually cost around 20 pounds, and the house as little as 120 pounds. Most new homes were built on a 12 metre frontage and 6 metres from the street; a depressing sameness about it all. Most cottages consisted of 4 rooms, timber frame, weatherboard walls and iron roof. Tradesmen received about 15 pence an hour, and there was plenty of work available.

The succession of gold rushes and resulting wealth encouraged an air of permanence. Cities began to plan parks, public gardens, squares and boulevards. Migration after the 1850's brought an influx of professional people, whose talents were needed to translate the aspirations of the well-to-do into bricks, stone and mortar. Houses of the wealthy were designed to impress the passers by of the owner's success. Gas lighting arrived, and this changed the interior painting of houses from white to pastel colours. Verandahs were almost universal, as was cast-iron "lacework". In 1870, cast iron patterns were registered and protected by copyright. Building materials changed too, cement coming into use for foundations only until the turn of the century. Bricks came available to most people as the price dropped as the manufacturing processes improved.

Builders adapted their designs to cope with special problems, e.g. the E.S. & A. Bank in Darwin constructed a building with a cement slab, with corrugated iron walls on an iron frame in 1870. This survived high winds several years later which flattened most other buildings. In Queensland, sea-weed and tan bark was used for insulation in houses built on stilts; builders showing initiative in coping with the Australian climate. The Italian Style was predominant in Victoria, 1860 - 1880; characterised by its decoration using classically derived architectural motifs in stucco. Eaves, windows, door surrounds, chimneys and quoins are the principal areas of decoration and became increasingly elaborate with the passage of time. Cast iron verandahs, bay windows and roofs clad in slate and walls in brick became common. The Boom Style, 1880 - 1890's, the use of stuccoed ornament became unrestrained and extraordinarily elaborate. Parapets are the most distinctive element and are frequently balustraded and crowned by urns. Concurrent with the use of stucco, quite



adjoining Collingwood. One of the pleasantest parts of the city are the gardens bearing the same name. On the south side, a spacious reserve that, under judicious treatment, has been transformed from a waste place of earth to a garden of roses, and water-courses throughout the undulating land have been utilized and now present a most pleasing appearance. There are also the Duke of Edinburgh Gardens, cricket and bowling grounds, etc. There are 400 dwellings, numerous churches, including a convent, two local papers, 4 banks, gas works supplying an extensive district, factories of all types. A New Town Hall, Corinthian style, is a commanding and ornamental addition to the city. The replacement of the obnoxious channel running through the north of the city, the Reilly Street Drain, is now Alexandra Pde., and likely to become one of the ornaments of the City.

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The Boom Style, 1880 - 1890's, the use of stuccoed ornament became unrestrained and extraordinarily elaborate. Parapets are the most distinctive element and are frequently balustraded and crowned by urns. Concurrent with the use of stucco, quite extensive use was also made of polychrome brickwork, a technique of construction in use since the 1860's. Towards the end of the 1880's the prominence of the parapet became increasingly marked and the verandah roofs were often bullnose in form.



PHILLIP ISLAND'S PENGUIN PARADE celebrates it's 50th Anniversary in 1980. To celebrate this occasion the Premier of Victoria, the Right Honourable, E. J. Hamer, E.D.M.P. unveiled a plaque and flag at the Penguin Parade Reserve, Summerlands Beach, Phillip Island on Friday, 8th February.

In the beginning the visitors at the reserve area would ride in hire cars provided by Bert West, Bern Denham and Herbert Watchorn, after crossing to Phillip Island on a ferry or punt which first ran in 1928. Small groups would hide behind the tussocks of grass, trying not to make any sound that might scare off the extremely shy birds. Hire cars took visitors to the Parade only during the holiday season, but Bern Denham and Herbert Watchorn would often go out to Summerland Beach to convince the tiny birds that humans and torches would not harm them. By 1931, Mr. West was appointed Honorary Wildlife Officer of Phillip Island. He said there were 400 to 500 penguins at Summerland Beach and that Fisheries and Wildlife appointed him to control the ever increasing number of people visiting the rookery. About this time the 10 acre reserve was given to the "People of Victoria" by Mr. and Mrs. Stenton Jackson.

The bridge between the mainland and Phillip Island was built in 1939 and the 1940's and 1950's saw hordes of people trample across the breeding area to get to the beach, with a great deal of damage being done through ignorance.

In 1961, the Shire of Phillip Island, through its Committee of Management, took over the development, control and maintenance of Summerlands Penguin Reserve. During this period the changes in environmental control and wildlife protection are testified to by the decrease in erosion in the foreshore and rookeries area and the increase in population of the fairy penguins themselves. By installing tourist control entrances, viewing areas and fencing boundaries the risk of beach erosion has been drastically reduced. Whilst the Committee has the interests of the visitors in mind, its main endeavour is to the protection and maintenance of the habitat of the unique wildlife. Up to 2500 penguins now parade as against 400 - 500 prior to the Shire managing the reserve. Current facilities include an information booth; kiosk; toilets; theatre and administration offices. To cater for the large number of overseas visitors the broadcast description during the parade is now done in four languages.

Nowhere else in the world can this fascinating creature be viewed in such numbers on every day of the year. Eudyptula Minor - the Fairy Penguin - of Southern Australia and New Zealand is one of the world's smallest penguins. Most other penguins live in sub-antarctic regions and have grown large in adapting to life in the intense cold of those areas, but the Fairy Penguin inhabiting milder waters has remained small. It is approximately 16" tall.

Life on islands away from predators has enabled penguins to dispense with the power of flight in return for specialised adaption for a life in the sea. Penguins as a family now use their wings as flippers for underwater flight, and the Fairy Penguin capitalises on its small size and manoeuvrability in catching small fish and crustaceans which it hunts close to the surface of the seas around our coast, and they can swim up to 40 kilometres in an hour.

A visit to the penguins is an experience long remembered. So many of them have distinct characters of their own, the proud; the shy; the ones who cannot parade without the support of their companions. One could not help feel at one with nature.