

NUNAWADING HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
[SOCIETY INCORPORATED - DECEMBER 1986]

Series 2. No. 13.



NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 1993 - JANUARY 1994

CORRECTION: - last Newsletter.

The extract from Patsy Adam Smith's book: 'Romance of the Victorian Railways' was actually written by Mary Hansen (nee McLean). 'Digging for Gold': This archaeology took place 30 kms. from Ballarat, not three.

NEXT MEETING: ANNUAL MEETING - election of office-bearers.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9th, at the Archival Annexe
at 1.30 p.m. Nomination form on page 3.

PAST MEETINGS: At the June meeting the report from the Council on the Site Management Review of the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Area was the subject of much discussion and a motion was passed stating the Society's views on the review and subsequently was presented to Council. However, due to current financial stringencies, the Council will not be adopting the review in full. However, the Society will need to consult with Council further on this matter.

14th August Meeting: Thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Keith Rooney, who held open house for us to see Keith's fantastic collection of treasures. Impossible to describe it all in a short paragraph - it ranges from a cherished family player piano through to such smaller relics of the former State Bank - bank books, cheques etc. and elaborate door-pulls formerly in use for years, then wartime ration books, year books 1966-1971 (fascinating in themselves for any reader), medals of various events, an Upper Murray River flag, Brockhoff's 1983 Calendar and so on, endlessly.

Many thanks to the Rooneys - our only regret was that several members were unavoidably absent.

The Society has been given several items from the now closed Forest Hill Primary School.

The Society showed six secondary students from Hamburg, Germany and two local teachers through the Museum recently. The girls were on a 6 weeks exchange with Mullauna College students.

On Friday, September 9th at 6.30 p.m. the Committee of Eastern Historical Societies held their meeting in the Archival Annexe. The Society provided a light meal and supper. After the meeting members were shown over the Museum.

Recently a brass plaque was placed on our Honor Board for Shirley Jones, an active member for many years and an office-bearer. Shirley lives at Croydon and is still interested in our research and archival studies.

All nomination forms to be forwarded to the Secretary, 10a Alexander St., Altonham, 3132.

Our sympathy to the families of several members recently deceased.

Mrs. Phyl Bakes - we all know Harold and the fantastic work accomplished by him in our museum. While still in good health, Phyl was always a regular attender at our meetings and a friend of all.

Mr. Harry Gorsuch - Judy's father - always a pleasure to have had his company when his health permitted, and we enjoy having Mrs. Gorsuch with us.

Mr. Bill Leach - perhaps not as well-known as wife Nancy (our first secretary and a keen member and researcher for years), but he was an interested supporter of our work at all times.

Mr. Os Green, formerly a Primary H.T. with a lifelong interest in history, had several published books to his credit. While his time was mainly given to his original group, Box Hill Historical Society, he was always ready to assist and support us in any way he could.

JOTTINGS FROM R.H.S.V. HISTORY NEWS of AUGUST 1993

EXHIBITIONS:

Australian Gallery of Sport and Olympic Museum:
Trials, Training and Treasures - throughout 1993

Lilydale Museum Current Exhibitions:

'It's Monday Again: Work in the Home 1880-1910' [All 1993]
'A Sentimental Journey: Melba in Australia' [All 1993]

The History of the Chinese in Australasia and the South Pacific Conference. 8-10th October at Chinese Museum, Melbourne. Contact - Curator - 662 2888.

'SULLIVAN BAY 190 YEARS ON' 7-10 October, 1993.
Celebrations over several days. Enquiries from The Secretary, PO Box 61 Sorrento 3943.

150th Anniversary of the Launching "S.S. Great Britain"
Until end 1993 at the 'Polly Woodside' Museum

Dutch Community Exhibition at Heritage Hill, Dandenong
until November 1993. Exhibition highlights migration experiences of the Dutch community after the Second World War.

Our July-September 1987 Newsletter printed the history of Blackburn South Primary School from 1920, and 1923 when it occupied its final permanent site in Canterbury Road, Blackburn South. After many years of successful schooling for local students, this set-up became a multi-education centre. In 1975 the Blackburn South Remedial Physical Education Centre began here, catering for all children not coping with normal physical education programs (eastern regions), and with sixty students of various nationalities. Then in 1980 the Blackburn South Language Centre began, its aim to teach English to newly-arrived non-English speaking students.

Alas - gone is this school and the area is now cleared and subdivided, and new houses have appeared. Numbers of local people who were former pupils were saddened at this latest happening.

PRESIDENT'S REMINDER:

Under the Incorporation Act a Society such as ours is required to hold Annual General Meetings, at which, inter alia, an audited General Financial Report is received and adopted, as is a General Report covering the past year's activities. These documents then must, within a short period, be forwarded (plus a fee) to the Associations Incorporation Branch of the State Justice Department.

Another essential feature of an Annual Meeting is the election of office bearers for the forthcoming year. Hopefully such an election enables people with fresh minds and ideas to take their place on the Society executive and committee. It is hoped members will consider this and attend the Annual Meeting having used the nomination form attached to the newsletter to ensure the Committee and its executive are fully representative of the Society, as a whole. Nominations are required for the positions of President, Vice-President (2), Secretary, Asst. Secretary, Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer, at least 6 Committee members and Editor of the Newsletter.

Both our present Treasurer, Mrs. Shirley Barker, and the Editor of our "Newsletter" have given very many years of effective service to the Nunawading Historical Society, but now feel it is necessary to relinquish their positions. The Society is most thankful and grateful to these two ladies for all they have done to help make the Society useful and effective. (See Doris' note below)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Working Bee - Wednesday, 20th October, 1993 from 10 a.m. at the Museum.

Meetings: 11th December 1993 at noon at the Annexe. Please bring a plate of food to share.

12th February, 1994 at the Annexe at 1.30 p.m.

BLACKBURN & MITCHAM REPORTER 12/8/1927

Station Street Level Crossing.....in response to the Council's agitation to bring about some scheme whereby the level crossing in Station Street could be abolished, the Railways Commissioners would visit Box Hill on Monday 15th August to confer with the Council on the matter.....Cr. Murphy moved that the Council urge upon the Commissioners the necessity of re-opening the whole question of level crossings, and formulating a policy of dealing satisfactorily with the problem throughout the metropolitan area.

With this issue of our newsletter, I am leaving the editorial chair after some years there. An enjoyable time for me, but eventually changes are desirable in such a job.

Doris Mattingley

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Prepared for posting by Beryl Gray and Val Riches

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Secretary: Mrs. Judith Fry Tel. 874-4220

Treasurer: Mrs. Shirley Barker Tel. 878-3987

OUR September - November 1987 Newsletter had an article by Miss K.M. Gregory, in charge for many years of the Forest Hill Kindergaretn Home. Children over the years benefited from a healthy stay here after illness. A new building was opened in 1937. After the 1939-45 War, the needs had changed and the centre became the Forest Hill Home for Emergency Care and this continued for sometime.

Alas, after more than sixty years of service this place has vanished, the area is cleared and subdivided and new houses appear all the time.

Two disappointing local stories.

'AND TIME REMEMBERED IS GRIEF FORGOTTEN: THE STORY OF THE GOODWINS OF BLACKBURN AND TOONGABBIE' by Patricia E. Turner

This detailed family history begins with the journey from London to South Australia in 1848 by Robert and Mary Goodwin.

After time there and in Melbourne and Toongabbie, George Goodwin [son] applied for a land grant in L.L. Vale Road, and the family remained in this Nunawading district permanently.

Later George Augustus became an agent and manager for the Freehold Banking Co. Ltd's new development of 'Blackburn Park' - he visualised an attractive village of parks, recreation facilities with local flora and fauna retained.

And so on.....The story of this family is continued over the years, with the beginning of the Church of England in Blackburn and the establishment of Blackburn Primary School in detail.

A copy of this book is in our archival library and Blackburn and Central Libraries also have this book.

Copy can be obtained from Mrs. Helen M. Young, 16 Eileen Street, Mount Waverley, 3149 at a cost of \$25 plus subsidised postage and packing \$5.00.

Mrs. Pat Turner has kindly donated to our Archives a copy of the following -

1. Subdivision plan of portion of 'Blackburn Park'
2. Certificate of Title of land purchased on 8 Nov 1890 by George Augustus Goodwin, with frontages on Whitehorse and Railway Roads, Blackburn. The land had several owners before Cottee's Passiona Limited bought the property on 19 June 1946.
3. Certificate of Title of land on L.L. Vale Road (now Boronia Rd) consisting of 25 acres 3 roods and 4 perches purchased by George Augustus Goodwin for £26 on 1 May 1877.

REMINDER: Subscriptions are due and payable to the Treasurer, Mrs. I. Barker, 14 Tortice St., Nunawading, 3131. Family \$8, Single \$5.

NOMINATION FORM

NOMINATION For

PROPOSER:

SECONDER:

NOMINEE'S SIGNATURE

All nomination forms to be forwarded to the Secretary, 10a Alexander St., Mitcham, 3132.