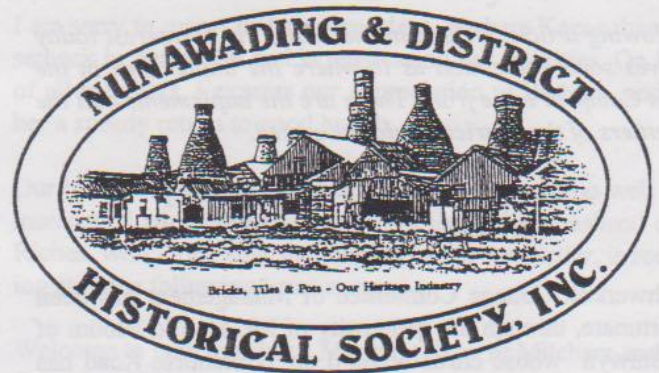


# **NUNAWADING & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. NEWSLETTER**

President - Barbara Keene 9874 4919  
Secretary - Barbara Gardiner 9874 6592  
Treasurer - Barbara Rogalski 9874 4668



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All mail to be addressed to P.O. Box 272 Mitcham 3132 - Museum Telephone 9873 4946

## *From the President*

You will notice that there is an amended Mission Statement and Policies accompanying your newsletter. These have been recommended to you by your Committee and we are asking you to read them before the meeting on 14th August. They will be considered at the General Meeting following the Annual General Meeting. These must be enclosed with our Accreditation Submission in October and our August Meeting is the last chance we have of gaining membership approval. Would you please read these carefully and if you have any alterations which you feel should be made, could you write them down and give them to Secretary, Barb, so they can be presented to the Meeting.

We are now in the process of "fine tuning" our Accreditation Submission to the Museums Accreditation Program and are into our third draft. It is amazing that something which appears to be fine one week, can be so full of mistakes and omissions a week later. Still, we feel that the proverbial "light is at the end of the tunnel" can at last be faintly seen.

Your Committee will be elected at the Annual General Meeting and I do urge you to consider standing. It is an interesting and enjoyable experience shared with some very nice people! If you are interested in nominating, please complete the enclosed nomination form and forward it to the Secretary, Barbara Gardiner at 7 May Court, Mitcham.

A small group enjoyed the visit to the Immigration Museum on the 11th July and if you haven't visited this interesting Museum I can highly recommend it to you.

Nepean Historical Society have extended an invitation our Society members to visit them and perhaps we can arrange this for later in the year when we can expect

better weather.

Our working Bee on 26th June was attended by extremely hard working volunteers and we thank them for their efforts. At the end of the day, Ted Arrowsmith stated "that was an excellent working bee" and indeed it was, with all rooms and outbuildings in the Complex being thoroughly cleaned. It is vitally important that the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex be kept spotlessly clean, not only for the enjoyment of visitors, but most importantly, for the conservation of the items on display, which are in the Society's trust.

Our next working bee will be held prior to our Accreditation Inspection day in November, and I would recommend to you the old adage "many hands make light work"

Barbara Keene

## **STOP PRESS**

### **Notice of Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the Nunawading and District Historical Society Inc. will be held on:

**Saturday 14th August 1999 at 1.30 pm**

In the Local History Room, Schwerkolt Cottage Museum Complex, Deep Creek Road, Mitcham.

If you are unable to attend please ring  
Barbara Gardiner, on 9874 6592 or  
Valda Arrowsmith on 98741414.

**Please find a nomination form and the policies to be considered at the Annual General**

## From the Archives

*The following article, written in the 1970s, is of interest today as it gives some indication as to where the implements in the Museum Complex came from. These are the implements that the early settlers of the district would have used.*

### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AT SCHWERKOLT COTTAGE.

The Schwerkolt Cottage Committee of Management has been most fortunate, through the generosity of Mr. Harold Bloom of North Balwyn whose citrus orchard on Whitehorse Road has been sold, and Mr. Stevens of Vermont, to have acquired an almost complete set of agricultural implements once used by orchardists and farmers in this district.

There are single and double furrow hand ploughs - the single furrow plough is pulled by one draught horse, the double by two. An orchard plough which has a series of discs set out from the main body of the plough, enables the orchardist to plough under the trees without endangering the trees themselves - this is pulled by two strong draught horses.

There is also what is known in agricultural circles as a scoop which was used for making dams and drains. This has handles which the farmer holds to guide it; as well, he holds a rein in each hand to steady the horse - a strong draught horse is needed here, as clay is heavy and when the scoop is tilted forward by the drivers it digs into the ground and fills with earth which is then carried to the edge of the dam and tipped off. Horses working with agricultural implements become very intelligent and can do the work needed with only a command from their drivers.

Vine growers also used small cultivators which fitted neatly between the rows. These have a series of fingers which break up the soil finely.

There is also at the Cottage a set of harrows used usually in pairs of 2 or 4 and pulled by 1, 2 or 3 horses, according to the number of harrows joined together. These are usually used to make the earth fine and friable for the sowing of crops. On large properties, one might have seen a large set of harrows joined by what is known as a seeder drill and would probably be pulled by 6 to 8 horses - a fine sight.

On wheat properties today and on any farm where there are large acres to be sown, a disc plough is used. The discs are large circular concave circles, set in rows as many as 8 wide. This plough would be drawn by about 6 to 8 horses in the olden days - now of course, it is tractor drawn.

The breeding of heavy and strong horses for farm work used at one time to be very profitable, as a well bred Clydesdale for instance, would bring about £80, £90 or £120 ( \$100, \$180 or \$240) each, now most farms are mechanical.

This breed of horse can be seen at the Royal Show in the Grand Parade - his colour ranges from dark Bay to Strawberry Roan. The Clydesdale was originally a Scottish breed, but was so popular with everyone that he has become world famous for his good temper, intelligence and strength.

There is also another breed of draught horse, an English one called the Shire - he too is a splendid animal but longer in the leg and not quite as stockily built as his famous counterpart, and his colour is usually brown-black.

The Suffolk Punch, a strong short legged horse with very heavy neck and large head - his colour dark chestnut, was once very popular in the fine County of Suffolk in England, but his popularity in general appears to have somewhat diminished. One does not see many of this breed in Australia today, although, in my opinion, he is a splendid horse and extremely strong and enduring for his size.

When crops are grown, the land is often rolled when the seed has been sown and amongst the implements to be seen at the Cottage at a later date, will be a roller made from a natural log. It is not complete yet, but we hope soon to be able to furnish it with the lost parts. Housed in the same building will be Mr. Steven's farm waggon which has been in use on his property for over 60 years.

So as you look at these relics of early agriculture and rural industry in the district, you may compare them with the up-to-date modern versions of the same thing displayed in the Royal Show, and see for yourselves how progress has revolutionized agriculture in Australia today.

*All of these implements are now on display in the Outdoor area behind the Museum with the exception of the roller referred to in the second last paragraph. It was either not completed or has since rotted away*

*Mr Bloom's Citrus Orchard was on the corner of Cochrane Street and Whitehorse Road where the light industrial area is located. Mr Stevens, a former councillor, had an orchard in Forest Hill where we now have Brentford Square.*

*Ted Arrowsmith.*

#### **Unveiling of Headstone on Joy Hester's grave. Saturday, 28th August at 2 pm at Box Hill Cemetery**

Members have been invited by the Box Hill and District Historical Society to attend this unveiling. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion. To assist in catering please ring 03 9897 4167 Tuesdays, 11am or leave a message on the answering machine at other times.

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.**

**Monday, 16 August at 8 pm** at the Surrey Hills Historical Society, Union Road, Surrey Hills, Bernie Nitschke and some of his students at Luther College will give a talk on "Soldiers of the Shrine".

**Thursday, 19th August at 8 pm** at the Strabane Chapel, 29 Strabane Ave, Surrey Hills, Janine Burke will speak about the artist Joy Hester at the Box Hill Historical Society.

**Saturday, 9th October** at 1.30pm at our next General Meeting, Robyn Caddy will speak to members on "Collecting Buttons as a Hobby"

**Sunday, 10 October 2 pm Wisteria Party. Don't forget!**

## General Law Crown Grants in the Parish of Nunawading

A new addition to the resources of the Society is a register of the General Law Crown Grants in the Parish of Nunawading for the area east of Middleborough Road.

Prior to 1862 in Victoria, land dealings were recorded under the General Law (or Old Law) System..

Compiled using the database at the Land and Survey Information Centre, the entries, listed alphabetically by Crown Grantee contains a description of the land by portion, section, allotment, lot number, acreage,, number in the register and the year. The register also contains a map.

### Old Law Land Records

Knowing the year and the register no. it is then possible to get a copy of the memorial of the Crown Grant. Further, if the property has since been brought under the *Transfer of Land Act* (the "Torrens System") the conversion application number will be written in the top left corner on the memorial of the Crown Grant. From this number you can trace the early ownership of the land in the Register General's Department records and later ownership through the Land Titles Office. Prior to the *Accelerated Conversion Act* searches of land under General Law for conversion to the *Transfer of Land Act* were undertaken by staff of the Register Generals Office. This resulted in these "search notes" which document the dealings relating to the land from Crown Grant to the time of application for conversion. The notes will list the various dealings since the Crown Grant together with memorial numbers. It is then possible to get out each memorial in the chain.

A Crown Grant Index and a vendors indexes for land already alienated from the crown prior to 1862 are available in the Register Generals Office search room.

Searching in the Register Generals Office is a do-it-yourself system and staff will be helpful in getting you started.

Address: 5th Floor  
Register Generals Office  
456 Lonsdale Street  
Melbourne

Telephone: 9603 5260

Cost: Search \$7.50 /day or \$2.50 /hour  
Photocopy 20cents/copy

## Notes from the Secretary

I am sorry to report that our President, Barbara Keene, has had a setback in her health and is reassessing her priorities. On behalf of all members, I express our appreciation to Barbara and wish her a speedy return to good health.

Our best wishes go to other members who are not so well at the moment. I am pleased to report that Ed Riches, husband of Val Riches, who looks after the mailing of the newsletter, is recovering at home following heart surgery.

Welcome to new members, Margaret Skey of Mitcham and Luke Savage of Vermont and we welcome again Susan Errey of Blackburn who has rejoined the society.

Our thanks to Mr. Robert Morgan, who entertained members at our June meeting speaking about the characters of the sideshow alley at the Royal Melbourne Show.

Guest speaker at our August meeting will be Mrs. Alice Tucker, who with the assistance of Bruce Reynolds will display and talk about some of her collection of fans.

### Cataloguing and Database

The cataloguing and data entry teams continue with their important work. Currently 4916 items have been entered into the computer database; 2389 artefacts, 1186 documents and 1341 photographs. A total of 5450 items have been catalogued leaving approximately 500 items awaiting to be entered into the database. There are still many artefacts and photographs, and literally 1000s of documents to be re-catalogued and entered.

### Acquisition Committee

The committee met on 5th July, and acquired some 50 items, including three evening frocks of the 1930s/1940s, a man's suit, two cameras, and some fur pieces to add to the fur collection.

Barbara Gardiner

### FRIENDS OF SCHWERKOLT COTTAGE

The friends have met and decided on 10th October for the annual Wisteria Garden Party when, we hope, the wisteria will be in glorious bloom. The animal farm which was so popular two years ago will once again be the main feature and we are asking the children to dress as fairies and pirates. Expect to see lots of tulle, eye patches and swords. This is the day after our October meeting, which makes for a busy weekend, but the Garden Party is such a delightful, fun day and we look forward to seeing you on both days. Bring the children, grand-children, friends and neighbours!

### BLACKBURN and DISTRICT TREE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Our congratulations to the executive and members of this group on their 40 years of hard work making our city a better place to live in. Their efforts in making our municipality more pleasant with their encouragement to plant native trees and the plantings they have carried out themselves is greatly appreciated.

**KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.**



## LESSONS FROM GEESE.

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the birds that follow. By flying in a "V" formation, the flock adds 71 % greater flying range than if each the bird flew alone.

*Lesson: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are travelling on the trust of one another.*

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone. It quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

*Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose we stay in formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.*

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies to the point position

*Lesson: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and share the leadership. As with geese, people are interdependent on each other's skills, capabilities and unique arrangements of gifts, talents or resources.*

The geese flying in formation 'honk' to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

*Lesson: We need to make sure our 'honking' is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement, productivity is much greater.*

When a goose gets sick, wounded or shot down. two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again . Then they launch out again with another formation, or catch up with the flock

*Lesson: If we had as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.*

Anonymous

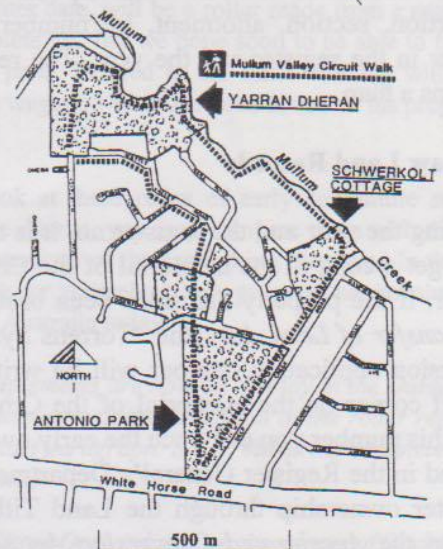
### REMEMBER

**Street Name Project** - contact Anne Jones 9893 5274 with any details. Searches also Available.

**Box Hill Cemetery Records and Nunawading Gazette 1964-1974** available on microfiche for research.

**Nunawading and District Historical Society Local History Collection** - open from 10.30 am to 2.30 pm on Wednesday Visitors welcomed. Ring 9873 4946 for an appointment at other times.

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*MAR MAR MAR*

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