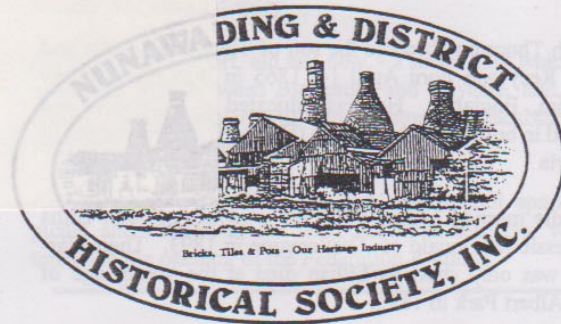


**NUNAWADING & DISTRICT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INC.
NEWS LETTER**

Mr. Peter Simmenauer
6 Stewart Avenue,
Blackburn South
3130



President - Valda Arrowsmith 9874 1414
Secretary - Barbara Gardiner 9874 6592
Treasurer - Barbara Rogalski 9874 4668

Series 9. No.1 .

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February 2000

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

From the President

Here is our first Newsletter for 2000. I hope you all have enjoyed the festive season.

Regarding accreditation for the Schwerkolt Cottage and Museum Complex, we have received the report from the Museum Accreditation Program (M.A.P.) assessment panel in which they commended the work we have done in the majority of the areas assessed. However they now require us to look at four areas of concern. These are:-

- the high humidity levels in both the Cottage and Museum - this is in the province of the Whitehorse Council's responsibility.
- A statement of fire safety - again a Whitehorse Council responsibility
- A policy relating to the operation of machinery - as none of the machinery in our collection is used this becomes a responsibility of the City of Whitehorse when they bring machinery etc for display.
- The Society is required to have a policy for access to the document collection.

The Accreditation Working Party plans to meet soon to work towards satisfying the Panel's requirements.

I'm sorry to report that several of our long time members are suffering from poor health.

Noel and Jean Webster were innocently involved in a car crash in which Noel received serious injuries from which his recovery is very poor. Some members will recall Jean as President of the Society when much work was done to keep the Society continuing. Rupert Muckleston is in St Vincents Hospital recovering from an operation. Rae Matthews is in Peter McCallum Hospital.

We are grateful for the contributions made to the Society by these members and our sincere best wishes go to them.

The Wednesday working group has resumed and we are always needing more help. If you or anyone you know is looking to give some volunteer time we will happily show the cataloguing system or other areas where help is needed.

Looking forward to seeing you at our February 12th meeting when our Mayor, Cr. Peter Allan will be the speaker.

Valda Arrowsmith

HERITAGE FESTIVAL - 2000

Our Open Day as part of the National Trust Heritage Festival will be conducted on Sunday March 26th, with all the usual attractions and more! We will need lots of help on this important day, so please keep it free!

As an additional attraction we are mounting a patchwork and quilt display in the Local History room. Barbara Keene will demonstrate this craft. If you have a piece you would like to include, please contact Valda or Barbara G.

During March, we will have displays of "Our Sporting Heritage" in the Nunawading and Vermont Libraries. There will be other events offered by the City of Whitehorse and the Box Hill Historical Society. These will be advised in the local papers.

April will see a display of Olympic memorabilia, loaned by the Gardiner Family, in the foyer of the Whitehorse Civic Centre.

Bob Gardiner, who represented Australia at the 1964 and 1968 Olympics, will be our guest speaker at our meeting on Saturday, April 8th.

GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 12th February, 2000 at 1.30 pm

Speaker will be the Mayor of the City of Whitehorse,
Cr. Peter Allan

JOSEPH THORNTON TWEDDLE

Joseph Thornton Tweddle the son of Thomas Tweddle and Mary Reay was born April 14, 1865 in Winlton, County Durham, England. He was educated at Winlton and worked in business in Newcastle (England) before coming to Victoria

Tweddle married Lillian Billis the daughter of John Billis and Jessie McDonald of Castlemaine in 1893. Their marriage was only short as Lillian died at the young age of 28 at Albert Park in 1895.

In 1896 Tweddle joined the Melbourne firm of Andrew Bros. Pty Ltd. as an accountant. He did well becoming Director in 1899, Managing Director in 1915 and Chairman of Directors in 1933.

In 1904 Tweddle had remarried. His second wife was Isabel May Hunter daughter of Henry William Hunter and Emma Louise Peers of Deniliquin, New South Wales.

Joseph and Isabel came to Nunawading in 1909 and built a large house, 'Winlton' in Springvale Road south of the railway station at Tunstall (Nunawading). Two of Isabel's sisters also lived in the area. Fanny Louisa married Algeron Elmore and lived in Laburnum St Blackburn, and Emma Lillian Hunter was living in Mitcham.

Tweddle was a man rapidly making his fortune and his social dominance was immediately accepted. He was particularly active in the Mount Pleasant Methodist Church and was soon giving advice on such matters as the purchase of an organ (which he played) and he quickly became Mount Pleasant's contact with the eminent, obtaining the Anniversary preachers and speakers.

By 1913 he was a trustee and with the confidence inspired by his presence, plans were underway for a new Church. In January 1916 the foundation stone was laid by Mrs Tweddle on the site of the old tennis court. Tweddle was responsible for the selection of design for the building inside and out, from the clinker bricks to the shape of the pulpit and the selection with Mrs Tweddle, of the carpets.

The exact amount given by Joseph Tweddle for the new church is not clear. It seems that he gave at least half the cost, and certainly made the project possible, not only by the sums he donated but by his customary promise to donate a given sum if an equal amount could be raised by the Trust.¹

After only 10 years in Nunawading, the Tweddles left the district for Hawthorn in 1919.

Tweddle is perhaps best remembered for financing the Tweddle Hospital for Babies and School of Mothercraft - a babies' hospital and mothercraft school run on the Truby King system which opened in Gordon Street Footscray March 10 1924.ⁱⁱ

Joseph and Isabel had three children, one son and two daughters. He died at Richmond in 1943 and Isabel at Toorak in 1945.

Note:
Their property 'Winlton' on Springvale Road became the Winlton Youth

Residential Centre. In 1956 it was described as a showpiece institution accommodating 120 young women. Until September 1991, Winlton only catered for young women, most on care and protection orders. It incorporated a school and an active support group which encouraged community involvement. For a time a youth employment plant nursery also operated on the site. Boys aged 10 to 14 were introduced to the campus in 1991 and Winlton became known as the Nunawading Youth Residential Centre a correctional centre for young offenders of both sexes. In June, 1993 Winlton was closed. Part of the site was bought by the Seventh Day Adventist Churchⁱⁱⁱ and the remainder subdivided for residential housing as the Candlebark Estate.

ⁱG. C. Fendley, A Centenary History of the Mount Pleasant Methodist Church, Forest Hill, 1865-1965, pp. 25-6.

ⁱⁱJack Lack, A History of Footscray, Hargreen Publishing Co.

ⁱⁱⁱNunawading Gazette, 30 June 1993.

Anne Jones January 2000

COWNCH FEDERATION HISTORICAL REFLECTIONS PROJECT Federation Grants - Celebrating 1901 - 2001

The Collective of 10 Neighbourhood and Community Houses in the City of Whitehorse has been successful in attracting Federal Government funds for the purpose of Celebrating 100 years since Federation - January, 1901 - January, 2001.

The project aims to:

Record memories of people associated with the City of Whitehorse over the past century.

Involve as many people as possible and to increase community awareness about celebrating the centenary of Federation. We want people to be involved in reflecting, collecting and writing memoirs and taking an interest generally in recording our history in terms of human experience.

The celebration of the Centenary of Federation is a most exciting highlight of the new millennium for Australia and we look forward to your involvement.

For further information or to register your interest in this project please phone Margaret Banks at Vermont Community House on 9803 2335.

Schwerkolt Cottage - Recent Donation

The Society recently received a donation of papers and photographs from Mrs. Jean Field, former member of the Society now living in Sorrento. The items relate to the acquisition of Schwerkolt Cottage by the former Council of the City of Nunawading, its appointment of a Committee of Management (of which Mrs. Field was Secretary), drawings and plans of the cottage used in its restoration and furnishing, together with newspaper articles on the opening of the Cottage following its restoration, and further articles and photographs of the Cottage and its site in the 1960s.

A most interesting collection of items, which throws light on the considerable efforts of the Committee members and the former Nunawading Council to make the Cottage and the Deep Creek Reserve accessible to the public.

Peter Simmenauer January 2000

FROM THE ARCHIVES

BLACKBURN LAKE.

Researched and written by Doris Mattingly in the May/June 1979 Society's Newsletter.

That old and oft-repeated query - Exactly how and when was Blackburn Lake made? After much research on the subject, it seems that we must accept, several pieces of information which do fit together reasonably well; and this is as far as we are likely to be able to go.

The Nunawading City Council has in its archives notes stating that an orchardist in the early days here had a dam in the vicinity.

Newsletter No. 40 states that in the obituary of T. R. B. Morton in 1923 the Freehold Investment Banking Co. was credited with having made Blackburn Lake. While in the "Eastern Times" of 28/2/1962, a brief history of the McClare family stated that Thomas McClare (1870-1956) had worked on the construction of Blackburn Lake in 1888. This certainly fits into the era of the Company's activities.

Newsletter No. 58 quoted an article from the "Leader" 9/9/1916 about the Deaf and Dumb Flower Farm at Blackburn. This described Blackburn Lake as being, 23 feet deep in one place, where an old clay pit was included.

A former resident of Blackburn reported that there had been an antimony mine in the vicinity of the present lake, and that several uncovered shafts were left when work ceased. Because of the potential danger, the local Council diverted the creek into these holes and incorporated the old dam, thus forming a lake. Some years ago, Dr. J. McAndrew, a local geologist very interested in our research, searched mining records for confirmation of this story. He found that there had been various trials or tests for antimony - which was mined for some years not far away at Ringwood - but not enough was discovered to justify further work. He explained that these 'tests' (to miners and geologists) would doubtless be known to the public as 'mines'. He thought that this information went far to justify the story told by the local man. He had a map from the Mines Department of 1800 with the lake in it, and we know, of course, that people went boating there and picnicking on the banks of the Lake some years after that. According to Mrs. Zerbe, a local resident, vandals eventually moved in and began to destroy the boats and consequently boating ceased.

An extremely interesting supplement to the above was published in Newsletter No. 63. Ringwood people, enquiring about their former antimony mine, found a report submitted to Parliament in 1878, containing a note in the statistics of antimony ore raised: 'From a mine at Nunawading, 930 ton 17 cwt. were obtained'.

Even if we do not find any more information about the beginnings of our lake, we may well continue to be proud of it and to feel we are indeed fortunate to live near it.

FEDERATION CELEBRATION - GRAND PICNIC DAY BLACKBURN LAKE

On Sunday 19th March, 2000 the Blackburn Chamber of Commerce & Industry will host a grand picnic day and open a Federation Rotunda at the Blackburn Lake to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Federation, the birth of the nation of Australia.

The activities will be centred around Blackburn Lake although there will be displays in Blackburn Shopping Centre where the Society will have a display

All forms of transport, old and new, - a steam train which will make two trips between Blackburn and Lilydale, and, horse drawn buggies - which will bring visitors to Blackburn for a wonderful day of community events.

Activities will include an old fashioned school sports day, picnic and concert at the lake, historical displays, walking tours and the opening of the Federation Rotunda.

Launch of the WHITEHORSE MANNINGHAM LOCAL HISTORY DATA BASE

You are invited to the launch of this project on Thursday, 24 February from 5 - 6.30pm in the Genealogy Room, Nunawading Library 379 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading.

A short demonstration will be presented. Entry is free, but phone 9890 1005 to book. Light refreshments will be served.

Membership Application

New Member Renewal

Surname _____

First Name _____

Mr Mrs Miss Ms

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

Phone _____

Enclosed is the appropriate membership fee :-

Individual \$10 \$ _____

Family \$15 \$ _____

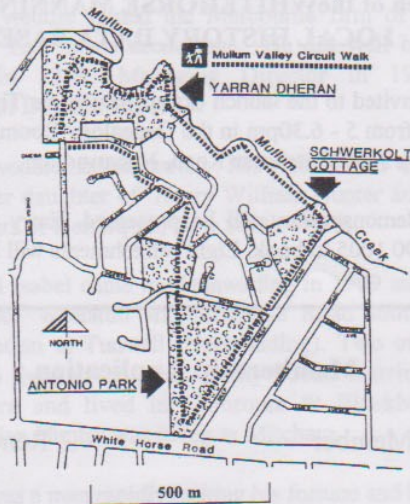
Donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Forward to: Treasurer
Nunawading and District Society Inc.
PO Box 272
Mitcham. Vic.3132

Telephone: (03) 9873 4946 Reg. No A0012235J

Nunawading & District
 Historical Society Inc.
 Schwerkolt Cottage
 Museum Complex
 Deep Creek Road
 Mitcham 3132
 PO Box 272
 Mitcham 3132
 Telephone: 9873 4946
 (Melway Ref 49 D7)



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Editors

Barbara Gardiner
 Ted Arrowsmith.

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Val Riches

REMEMBER

Street Name Project - contact Anne Jones 9893 5274 with any details. Searches also Available.
Box Hill Cemetery Records and Nunawading Gazette for 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.

SECRETARY 'S NOTES

Happy New Year to all - I hope everyone has enjoyed the holiday period and feel refreshed for the coming year.

Our thanks to Max Grant whose talk to the December meeting about his experiences with the Mitcham Repertory Group and other theatrical groups, was enjoyed by members. Max has had an interesting life and has made a major contribution to the community.

The Wednesday Working Group resumed on January 12th. The cataloguing of artefacts is almost up to date, and by the time you read this, the document cataloguing group will have completed 2000 documents in the new system. Joy Kenny and Gordon Bate continue with the database entries. We send our best wishes to Rae Matthews and Norm Foun who are not well at the moment.

Our guest speaker at our February 12th meeting will be the Mayor of the City of Whitehorse, Cr. Peter Allan, who will talk about his year as Mayor of our City and the plans for our City.

We have included an Membership Application Form for readers of this Newsletter who may wish to become a member.

Our Committee has suggested that we conduct regular **short** working bees which will concentrate of one area of the complex, on the first Saturday of each month, so that the standard we attained as part of our accreditation preparation will be maintained. We look forward to seeing you there.

Working Bees - for one hour only.

Saturday 5th February, at 10 a.m.

Saturday 4th March, at 10 a.m.

Barbara Gardiner

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 5th February - 10 am Working Bee (for one hour only) X

Saturday 12th February - 1.30 pm Meeting - Speaker, Cr. Peter Allan, Mayor of City of Whitehorse.

Thursday 24th February, 5 - 6.30 pm Launch of Whitehorse Manningham Heritage Local History Data Base.

Saturday 4th March, - 10 am Working Bee (one hour only) X

Sunday 26th March, - noon to 5 pm Heritage Open Day, Schwerkolt Cottage & Museum Complex

Saturday 8th April, 1.30 pm Meeting - Speaker Bob Gardiner, Australian Olympian 1964, 1968